

Fall 2010

## UNLV Magazine

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# UNLV

MAGAZINE

FALL 2010

+TARK, 20 YEARS LATER  
BE MORE: STUDENT VETERAN  
FIGHTS FOR REFORM OF GI BILL  
GOTHIC HORROR IN FINLAND



## Giving Business a Helping Hand

- UNLV puts its valuable resources to work for start-ups
- Energy companies find their proving ground for solar technology on campus
- Modern-day prospectors discover renewable treasures in Nevada's hot springs



fall '10  
volume 18 • number 2

# UNLV MAGAZINE

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### Inside

Learn how UNLV is using homecoming to inspire kids to go to college -->> **page 4**  
Check out the UNLV Alumni Association's annual award winners -->> **page 30**





## Homecoming Glow

Before the big football game, the grounds surrounding Sam Boyd Stadium fill with alumni and their families. Join us at this year's homecoming festivities, which include the pre-game Rebel Experience tailgate, Alumni Association dinner, and parade. [homecoming.unlv.edu](http://homecoming.unlv.edu) [Photo by Aaron Mayes]





# More than numbers

**A**s a scientist, I've spent my career evaluating data. Numbers. Facts. Metrics. They are critical to an academic and provide a solid basis for analysis. As a new president, however, I must argue that they tell only part of the story of a university's success. For instance, take the following nuggets:

→ UNLV's Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach helps 24,000 disadvantaged middle and high school students stay in school and aim for college.

→ Our dental school provides low-cost dental care to 57,000 area residents.

→ More than 60,000 people take special-interest, noncredit classes in everything from photography to ballroom dancing to software training through our Division of Educational Outreach.

→ More than 350,000 patrons attend Performing Arts Center and UNLV-produced dance, theater, and music performances.

→ Last year the Nevada Small Business Development Center offered classes and free business consulting to more than 2,000 clients.

Do these figures give you insight into our university? Certainly. Are they interesting glimpses into how we fulfill our mission? Absolutely. But they aren't telling the whole story. Who we are. What we dream. Why we are important.

Our university is so much more than those statistics or even the number of students enrolled (more than 28,000), the number of faculty (984), or the size of our alumni base (90,000 plus, with more than 60,000 who still call Southern Nevada home).

Each of our students, our graduates, our professors, our donors, and our friends has his or her own story — reasons they chose UNLV and how those decisions affected their lives and dreams and, ultimately, our community.

UNLV has graduated thousands of business executives, teachers, hospitality industry leaders, nurses, accountants, scientists, communicators, and social workers who were taught by a talented and dedicated faculty. Engineering graduates developed our region's infrastructure



as it grew at a rapid rate. Our health care professionals work tirelessly to take care of us. Our concerts, lectures, exhibitions, performances, and athletic events entertain and educate. But our impact extends far beyond our graduates and the not inconsiderable \$1.2 billion economic impact of the university itself.

It's about more than numbers. UNLV is woven into every aspect of our community. We're here, right in the heart of Las Vegas. We host 40,000 Clark County School District students who showcase their talents in UNLV facilities each year. We offer marriage and family counseling, legal assistance, and conflict resolution. We bring fresh perspectives to the challenges facing our community and state. We're investigating the next generation of innovative technologies such as solar and renewable energies, photovoltaics, and biofuels.

UNLV is a magnet that will attract more students, talent, businesses, and resources to our community. If higher education isn't going to lead the way into a better, brighter economic future, economic diversification, and work force production, who is? Let your friends, neighbors, and legislators know the value of UNLV. It is our past, present, and future students who reach into this community in thousands of ways to hasten economic recovery and build a better future for our state.

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# THE Flashlight

## Marine Biology in the Desert

UNLV students launch careers through unique internship with The Mirage's Dolphin Habitat

BY TONY ALLEN

Like most students, Shane Watson has to work long hours to pay his way through school. What sets him apart? His uniform: a wetsuit. And his closest colleague: a dolphin named Dutchess.

A first-generation college student, Watson is a dolphin trainer at The Mirage Dolphin Habitat. The biology major landed the job after completing a yearlong internship program between the resort and UNLV. The intensive program teaches the ins and outs of training dolphins.

The internship boosted his confidence as a researcher and opened his eyes to a career path, Watson says. Now he's hooked on marine mammals. "The dolphins, although very intelligent, can't tell you what they want or don't want to do," he says. "You have to learn to read and understand their body language to get them to respond positively — a process that can take months, if not years, to grasp."

UNLV interns carry out a research project under the guidance of a faculty member. During his internship, Watson studied behavioral interactions between a two-year-old male dolphin and Bella, the habitat's most recently born female.

Dolphins are matriarchal, meaning females rule the pool, so to speak. Watson wanted to find out if Bella would outrank the precocious young male. It turns out the male was given more latitude than expected, adding to the growing base of research knowledge of play behavior in dolphins.

A Las Vegas native, Watson had no experience with marine life prior to applying for the internship (other than a visit to The Dolphin Habitat once as a child). The same is true for many of his classmates. "Students are typically thrown back because they don't realize they can get into this field of study in the middle of the desert," Watson says. "But they can, and they can do it right here at UNLV."

Watson isn't the first UNLV intern to land a job in the field since the program started in 1992. Program alumni are employed at marine habitats all around the world — and many still call Las Vegas home.

Monica Brazel, the program's first alum, is now in charge of the Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay. Its second, Missy Giannantonio, is the curator of animal care education for The Mirage. She's also responsible



for the continued success of the internship partnership.

"What makes the program so great is that students learn through immersion," says Giannantonio. "Interns don't just hang in the background, observing and watching; they're out there doing the work."

Internships also give students experience in presenting to elementary, middle, and high school students. They share what makes dolphins so unique and why it's important to understand animal behavior. "This is the first chance for many young students in Nevada to see marine mammals up close in person and learn about the importance of our ocean ecosystems," says Giannantonio.

Shane Watson (and Dutchess) at The Mirage Dolphin Habitat. UNLV's partnership with The Mirage links students to jobs and research projects.

### DON'T MISS IT

> **"Homecoming 2010"** Nov. 8-13. Get out your scarlet and gray, gather your family and friends, and join us for a host of homecoming events. The annual alumni homecoming dinner is Nov. 10 (check out this year's honorees beginning on Page 30). [homecoming.unlv.edu](http://homecoming.unlv.edu).

> **Chef Artist Series** Nov. 16. The 11th installment of this Harrah Hotel College event features chefs Joël Robuchon and Claude Le Tohic of Joël Robuchon; Matt Seeber of Tom Colicchio's Craftsteak; and Steve Hopcraft of Michael Mina's Seablue. The event raises money to fund student scholarships and professional development needs for professors. [hotel.unlv.edu](http://hotel.unlv.edu)



BRIEFLY  
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## Talk Radio

Award-winning journalist Dave Berns now hosts "Nevada Today," a one-hour news program on the university's KUNV station. The show airs live at 5 p.m. weekdays and can be heard at 91.5 FM. Listeners can join the discussions by calling into the program or e-mailing during the program.

Berns previously hosted an in-depth radio show for KNPR and was a business journalist.

Nevada Today is underwritten by community supporters including Tom and Mary Gallagher.

**PLUS:** Tune in at 6 p.m. Tuesdays for "Our Metropolis," a weekly half-hour community affairs program hosted by the Greenspun Media Group's entertainment columnist John Katsilometes.

## UNLVtube

Catch up with UNLV through its YouTube channel. The official channel features videos of lecture series, profiles of students and their activities outside the classroom, interviews with professors, and an ongoing chat with President Neal Smatresk.

The two most-watched videos? For the serious-minded, there's Smatresk's State of the University address. For a little entertainment, check out the UNLV band and cheerleaders on "Live with Regis and Kelly."  
[www.youtube.com/unlv](http://www.youtube.com/unlv)



# Big Smiles for Small Fries

Student-athletes and the Rebel cheerleaders visited Cunningham Elementary before homecoming last year as part of UNLV's Adopt-A-School program.

A little recognition can make a big difference for a child. That's why UNLV is expanding its Adopt-A-School program, which rewards elementary school students for excelling academically. It gives the UNLV community an opportunity to mentor and engage at-risk students in the Clark County School District.

The program, launched last year, introduces the children to UNLV through school rallies and with football ticket rewards for high achievers. This year's participating schools are Fyfe, Gragson, and Cunningham elementary schools and Peterson Development School.

"This year, after receiving generous support from UNLV Athletics and The Lincy Institute, we were able to keep the program alive," said Earnest Phillips, senior director of UNLV marketing and public relations. "We've now set our sights on expanding the program and showering more students with the Rebel spirit."

**How to Participate:** The quickest and easiest way to help is to donate a ticket to the Nov. 13 homecoming game. UNLV Athletics is donating

300 football tickets to the game against Wyoming and is challenging the community to match its donation. Vouchers for food and drinks will be provided to the kids and their families and they will be given special recognition during halftime.

You also can donate materials or volunteer at a school. One of the most important aspects of the Adopt-A-School program is the time spent mentoring and guiding elementary students on the path to higher education.

**About the Program:** The Adopt-A-School program began in 2009 as an offshoot of UNLV's homecoming festivities with the belief that removing the mystery of higher education would lead to future college graduates. In 2010, the program's goals were revised to strengthen the link to academics. Schools are selected based on their at-risk status and the rate of students receiving free and reduced lunches.

**More info:** Get details on how to get involved by visiting [unlv.edu/adopt-a-school](http://unlv.edu/adopt-a-school)





# Finding Order in the Court

## Free classes to help you navigate legal issues

With the high cost of legal services, many people can't afford a lawyer and therefore lack the basic information needed to help them make an informed decision. To help, the William S. Boyd School of Law provides free legal education classes for community members.

"While the classes aren't designed to address each person's individual case, they do provide them with a general understanding about that particular area of law," says Christine Smith, law school associate dean of administration and student affairs.

Attendees leave with enough knowledge to decide if they can handle the process themselves or if they need an attorney, Smith says.

### CLASSES COVER SUCH TOPICS AS:

- **Bankruptcy** — This class helps attendees discover whether bankruptcy is right for them, or if there is a less drastic alternative such as credit counseling.
- **Family Law** — This class covers the basic legal forms and family court processes. Attendees will learn about joint petitions, the proper way to complete an individual or joint petition, and the process for filing forms.
- **Foreclosure Mediation** — This new class prepares homeowners who have been served with a notice of default on their home mortgages for the mediation process.

Law students teach the courses as part of their degree requirements. Because of the fine line between legal education and legal advice, a licensed attorney always is present to assist, Smith says.

The classes have assisted more than 30,000 people since the law school opened in 1998. In a typical semester, approximately 50 students teach between 1,200 and 1,500 attendees.

"The students really love to apply what they have been learning in class to a real-life situation," Smith says. "Also, when the attendees leave and are so appreciative, it is really rewarding for the students. We hope that by doing this, the students will continue to be involved in giving back to their communities as professionals."

The law school's community partners in the community legal education program and the Pro Bono Partners program include the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada and Nevada Legal Services.

—SHANE BEVELL

**More:** To check the schedule of upcoming classes, visit [www.law.unlv.edu/communityService](http://www.law.unlv.edu/communityService)



## New Transit Center

**Parking** — everyone's favorite complaint on campus — won't be so bad once UNLV gets a new transit center. In July, the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada received a \$2.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation to build the transit center on Maryland Parkway and University Road. The RTC made UNLV a priority location for the transit center. Several RTC routes currently serve the campus, though the various stops along the exterior of the campus can create long walks for students and faculty. The center also will reduce congestion during major campus events. Construction is expected to begin in 2011.

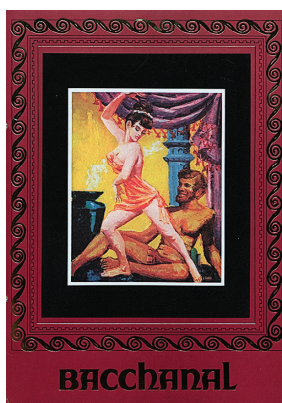
### DON'T MISS IT



**"Viva Frida!"** Through Dec. 18. Frida Kahlo has become a cultural icon and arguably the face of the Mexican folk art movement since her death in 1954. This exhibit, presented by the Consulate of Mexico in Las Vegas, offers a unique glimpse into her mind. Also on display will be pieces from the Barrick Museum's Pre-Colombian and Ethnographic Art Collection that are directly reflected in Frida's painting. Also: On Nov. 20, the museum will host family story time with a bilingual reading of Jonah Winter's *Frida*, a playful story about the artist's life and work. [barrickmuseum.unlv.edu](http://barrickmuseum.unlv.edu)

**"Too Much Homework?"** Nov. 18, 5:30 p.m. The popular press and best-selling books frequently decry the heavy homework burden of American students. But do students really have too much homework? Learn more during this Brookings Mountain West lecture. [brookingsmtnwest.unlv.edu](http://brookingsmtnwest.unlv.edu)

Diners allotted three hours for the extravagant experience of the Bacchanal Room. The concept was conceived by Nat Hart, considered one of Las Vegas' first celebrity chefs.



Inside the Painted Desert Room's menu is a lovely mix of dishes — some perhaps a little heavy for July (turkey and giblet gravy, anyone?) — and that evening's featured performer: Mr. Schnozzola himself, Jimmy Durante.

# WHET YOUR APPETITE

**UNLV Libraries' extensive collection of vintage menus now featured in online exhibit**

BY AFSHA BAWANY

If Claude Lambertz could bring back one food fad of 1970s Las Vegas, it would be... "Sweetbreads. Sweetbreads and mushrooms."

Lambertz, lecturer emeritus of the Harrah College of Hotel Administration, fawns over the dish that kept him going back to the Dunes Hotel and Casino in the late 1970s and '80s. Rarely offered today, the delicacy (made of the thymus glands of beef, lamb, or pork) was among the gourmet dishes offered at fine restaurants across Las Vegas decades ago.

That's right — fine dining had a place in Las Vegas resorts long before celebrity chefs brought their famed restaurants to the Strip. For evidence, just check out UNLV Libraries' new online collection, "Menus: The Art of Dining." The digital archive includes 1,500 menus dating back to 1969. They were culled from the Libraries' full collection of 5,000 menus. Clicking through the archive shows the influence of chefs who came to Las Vegas from European cooking schools, says Su Kim Chung, a manuscripts librarian.

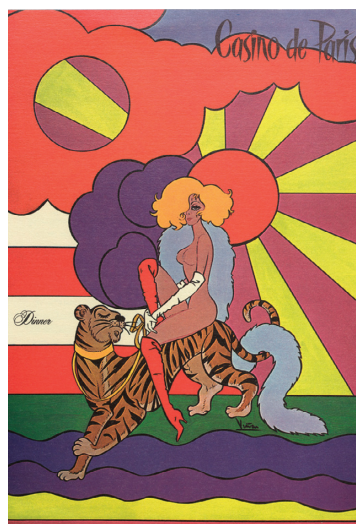
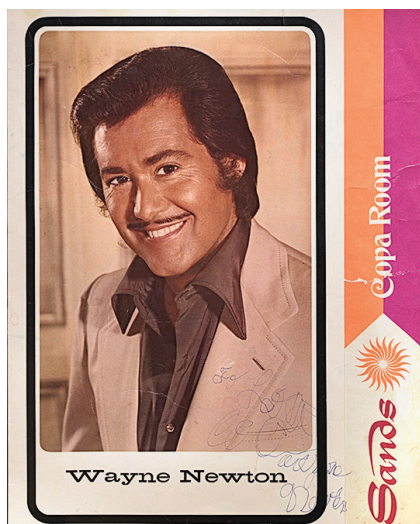
"There's a sense of nostalgia (in the collection) that resonates with any of us who want to relive the experiences we had at a particular hotel or restaurant," Chung says. "For Las Vegas, the menus illustrate a rich culinary history and the way people dined out and were entertained."

Among the places to see and be seen were the Dome of The Sea Restaurant at the Dunes and the Las Vegas Country Club, popular 1960s spots for socialites. Also creating a buzz was Caesars Palace's Bacchanal Room, where diners allotted three hours for the gourmet dining experience, menus were written partially in Latin, and wait staff dressed in togas.

A night on the town then wasn't a quick bite to eat before a concert or movie — eating out was the show. Your rainbow trout smothered in capers and shrimp came with a side order of musician Wayne Newton, who entertained while you ate. Mr. Las Vegas graced the cover of several menus at the Sands Hotel's Copa Showroom as did Phyllis Diller, Robert Goulet, and Bob Newhart.

Off the Strip, Las Vegas' craving for the exotic can be seen in menus from neighborhood eateries run by an influx of immigrants who

Wayne Newton graced the menu cover in the Sands Hotel's Copa Room, as did Phyllis Diller, Robert Goulet, and Bob Newhart.



The Casino de Paris menu is one of the most risqué in the collection. Cover artist Jose Luis Vinas was a costume designer, and he had a distinct flair in his illustrations.



brought with them culture, unique ingredients, and new cooking techniques. The city's resorts picked up on these influences, says Jean Hertzman, professor of food and beverage management.

#### AFFORDABLE GLAMOUR

Early Las Vegas dishes were heavy, cream-based, and mostly affordable. Dining out was an intimate and leisurely experience. Wait staff turned over a restaurant maybe twice in the evening and chefs carved duck and deboned fish tableside.

The history found in the menu collection might offer restaurant professionals perspective on what's next in Strip dining, Lambertz says. In the 1970s, he was executive sous chef for the Riviera Hotel and Strip properties and has seen the dining here evolve over the last 30 years.

The food is great today, Lambertz says, due to the availability of fresh and exotic ingredients, a culture that's willing to try new foods, and a growing interest in cooking, thanks in part to TV cooking shows. "There's no doubt we have become prominent all over the world because of our food," he says. "Now, the food has become the superstar."

But, something's missing. Bring back the glamour and spectacle of the Las Vegas dining experience, and do it at an affordable price, Lambertz says. He misses the thrill of watching waiters fumbling a flambé, lighting a table on fire, and then throwing everything into the pool — a story Lambertz likes to tell of the Bacchanal. Though he doesn't advocate starting fires, showmanship is the kind of thing that creates memories for diners and keeps them coming back.

"As far as Las Vegas being something for everyone — that's gone. We once had a level of exceptional dining that people could afford. Then we got into high-end foods that cost a lot of money. There is no perceived value anymore," Lambertz says.

The online menu project was funded through a \$50,000 grant from the federal Library Services and Technology Act. It features just part of UNLV Libraries' archive of 5,000 menus. The archive began in 1969 and includes menus from American, European, and Canadian restaurants from 1870 through today. It is an integral part of the Harrah Hotel College's curriculum for menu-writing techniques and also is used to illustrate graphic design particular to historical time periods.

**Share Your Experience:** Visit [library.unlv.edu](http://library.unlv.edu) to browse the extensive digital collection, "Menus: The Art of Dining." The site includes a bulletin board for restaurant-goers to share their experiences. The stories will be stored in a database for the benefit of researchers (while entertaining the rest of us).

#### NEWSMAKERS



**Upbeat News:** UNLV's top jazz ensemble was recognized as the nation's best graduate college ensemble in the DownBeat Awards. *DownBeat* magazine established the new division for universities with graduate programs in music, and UNLV competed against

such jazz program stalwarts as the University of North Texas and the University of Miami. Dave Loeb, director of jazz studies, noted that UNLV's ensemble has only two graduate students among its 17 members. UNLV's Ensemble I has increasingly won honors at such prestigious festivals as the Reno and the Monterey Next Generation jazz festivals and toured in Europe, Japan, Morocco, and throughout the U.S.

**Emerging Leader:** UNLV's Women's Research Institute of Nevada received the notable Emerging Center Award from the National Council for Research on Women. The award acknowledges the institute's work to foster leadership and social development in Nevada through the collection, preservation, and analysis of information on women. The institute is supported through grants funding.



**Top Chef:** Food and beverage management professor Jean Hertzman, '06 PhD Hotel Administration, was inducted into the Las Vegas Fraternity of Executive Chefs Hall of Fame. She is the youngest person and the first woman to receive the honor from

the 20,000-member organization. In addition to serving as department chair, Hertzman mentors students for the Almost Famous Chef Competition, is advisor for the Beverage Management Club, and works with a number of local community groups, including Opportunity Village and Chefs for Kids.

#### DON'T MISS IT

**Spring's Awakening** Nov. 19-Dec. 5. Nevada Conservatory Theatre at UNLV presents Frank Wedekind's play, which closed after one night in New York in 1917 amid public outrage and charges of obscenity. The story traces the dawning sexual awareness of four teenagers who, in their painfully funny contradictions, are at once too innocent and not remotely innocent at all. Upcoming Performing Arts Center events include *Tango Buenos Aires*, jazz performer Wynton Marsalis, and UNLV's annual One-Act Plays Festival. [pac.unlv.edu](http://pac.unlv.edu)

**"Bargaining with the Devil"** Feb. 25. At this lecture, Harvard Law professor Robert Mnookin discusses his latest book, which combines business, history, philosophy, and psychology to offer readers a complete set of tools to use when confronting harmful adversaries. [law.unlv.edu](http://law.unlv.edu)

**Desert Blooms** Daily. Located at the entrance to the Marjorie Barrick Museum, the Donald H. Baepler Xeric Garden demonstrates how drought-tolerant plants and an efficient irrigation system combine to save water and create an attractive landscape. UNLV has designated 11 collections of living plants for special management and created a website for the community to learn more. [barrickmuseum.unlv.edu/xeric](http://barrickmuseum.unlv.edu/xeric)

**More:** UNLV hosts a wide variety of exhibits, performances, and educational activities for the general public. Visit [www.unlv.edu](http://www.unlv.edu) to learn more.



BRIEFLY  
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## Rising Up

UNLV added some new names to its coaching staffs this summer.

## BASEBALL:

## Tim Chambers

UNLV snatched Chambers from the College of Southern Nevada (CSN). He had coached CSN for 11 seasons, leading the school to the 2003 Junior College World Series Championship. Last year he coached local phenom Bryce Harper, who was Major League Baseball's top draft pick this year.



## WOMEN'S SOCCER:

## Jen Klein

At just age 26, Klein holds the distinction as the youngest Division I head women's soccer coach. She served as a UNLV assistant coach the last three years. She is also a graduate student, working toward her master's degree in athletic administration.



## Gearing Up

## Equipment manager Paul "Pooch" Pucciarelli takes us into the locker room

BY SHANE BEVELL

A day before kickoff, Paul "Pooch" Pucciarelli helps unload 75 player bags in Sam Boyd Stadium's locker room. Piece by piece, his crew sets out everything that each player needs — from socks to jocks and wristbands to ankle braces. The jerseys are hung facing out. Pads and cleats go on the floor in front of the benches; helmets on a shelf above.

There's a lot of fuss for the seemingly ho-hum task of getting gear in the right place. Can't the players just unpack their bags themselves?

No, says Pooch. He's gotta put his stamp on it.

"A lot of schools just put each player's bag in front of their respective locker on game day,"

says Pucciarelli, equipment manager for all Rebel sports. "But I want our players to feel important on game days. Being a college athlete is a big deal, so I like to take the extra few minutes to set everything out."

This is quite the task for football since Sam Boyd Stadium is off campus. Uniforms and equipment must be packed in individual player bags, and then in trunks that are shuttled from campus to the stadium. Every game is a road game for Pucciarelli and his staff of three full-time workers, nine student workers, and a volunteer. Most universities have on-campus stadiums, so the gear stays when the game is over.





At least the weather in town generally cooperates, Pucciarelli says. For true road games, the team loads an 18-wheeler with all the regular equipment as well as inclement weather gear and an array of cleats. "Because the weather can be so unpredictable in a lot of places we play, we hope for the best and pack for the worst," Pucciarelli says.

While he admits there isn't a right or wrong way to set up a locker room, Pucciarelli likes to place uniforms and gear in lockers before games for all sports. He has been doing it since 1972,

when he was a student worker at Citrus Junior College in California. Then, uniforms were baggy with big sleeves. Today, the same jerseys are tight and have short sleeves while helmets and shoulder pads are lighter and more protective.

#### LOADS OF LAUNDRY

For all the time football requires, it is only one of 16 sports that Pucciarelli deals with at UNLV. And his job goes well beyond stocking the locker rooms to include overseeing all equipment purchases. The most hectic time of the year is September. Football, volleyball, soccer, and cross country are in full swing. Plus, the tennis, softball, and baseball teams need things from Pooch.

Part of the maintenance is to make sure the players' practice gear and game uniforms are cleaned and, more important, sanitized. Pucciarelli can't stand the thought of student-athletes getting staph and other infections.

That means washing and drying laundry for more than 400 student athletes daily in addition to all the coaches' clothes and a mountain of towels. UNLV's industrial-sized washing machines are computerized to measure out the appropriate amounts of detergent and sanitizer.

Each machine handles 125 pounds of laundry. That is equal to the practice gear (jerseys, shorts, compression shorts, padded girdle, and socks) of 55 players or 100 pairs of pants at a time.

When the Oct. 2 game against rival UNR was over, it was 11:30 p.m. by the time the trunks were packed and loaded onto the truck. Back on campus, the helmets and shoulder pads were sprayed with disinfectant and put back in lockers. Once the laundry is done, jerseys are inspected for tears and set aside for a seamstress. It was 2:30 a.m. when the lights were turned out.

While the laundry can often lead to long nights and busy weekends, Pucciarelli wouldn't have it any other way. "For me, this isn't just a job but a way of life."

**More:** View a slideshow of the behind-the-scenes action in the equipment room at [cms.unlv.edu/newscenter](http://cms.unlv.edu/newscenter).

#### BRIEFLY

##### MEN'S SOCCER:

###### Rich Ryerson

Alumnus Ryerson started all 84 games as a defender/midfielder for the Rebels



from 1983-86, leading the team to three conference championships and NCAA tournament

appearances. He is one of four Ryerson brothers (along with Rob, Kenny, and Tim) to play for UNLV. Rich earned family bragging rights this fall when his Rebels squad beat the Mount St. Mary's team coached by Rob.

##### WOMEN'S GOLF:

###### Amy Bush

Bush spent the last three years as the Rebels' top



assistant. In 2008, UNLV finished a program-best 16<sup>th</sup> at the NCAA Championships. The PGA

named Bush the 2009 Bill Strausbaugh Award winner for community service.

#### Free Fun

Who said taking your kids to the ballpark is expensive? Home games are a great activity. Visit [unlvrebels.com](http://unlvrebels.com) for schedules.

**Children 12 and under free** (and mom or dad usually pays just \$7) for: • men's soccer • women's soccer • volleyball • women's basketball • softball • baseball.

**Free for the whole family:** swimming and diving meets • tennis matches • golf tournaments • cross-country/track and field meets. No tickets required; just show up.



UNLV's English department continues to rack up accolades through the products of its talented students. The latest comes from Maile Chapman, whose work as a doctoral student was funded in part by a Shaeffer Fellowship. Her first novel is set in Finland, where she spent a year as a Fulbright scholar. It has been featured in The New York Times' Sunday Book Review, The New Yorker, and Publishers Weekly. This review by **Susan Salter Reynolds** originally was printed in the May 30 Los Angeles Times.

**YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED AT SUVANTO** is eerie for three reasons. First: It is Maile Chapman's first novel, and it is shockingly, bracingly good. One expects a little more wobble in a first novel. Second: Reduced to its naked parts (plot, character, setting), it is a cinematically, unforgettably strange, Poe-faced tale (if writers still took laudanum, one might suspect, but no). Third: Chapman has created, above all, an atmosphere, a biosphere, a climate utterly unlike the one any of us readers live

## Gothic Horror in a Finnish Sanitorium

in, and made it familiar. Now we know intimately, for better or worse, what it feels like to live and work in an institution for patients with female troubles (hysteria, syphilis, gonorrhea, unnamed fears, and womb-related maladies) deep in the woods in Finland in some numberless year in the not-too-distant past.

How does she do it? More importantly, is this any way to read a novel, always peering behind the curtain? In the case of *Your Presence Is Requested at Suvanto*, we must, if only to peel it off our skin. A Greek chorus begins and ends the novel, the voices of the





## Heretical Fictions: Religion in the Literature of Mark Twain

University of Iowa Press, 2010

**Joseph Csicsila**, '98 PhD

English, challenges the prevailing belief that Mark Twain viewed religion with skepticism, if not outright disdain. He and co-author Lawrence Berkove conclude that Twain brought Calvinism's views of free will and human nature to his works. Csicsila is a professor at Eastern Michigan University.



## A Companion to Los Angeles

Wiley/Blackwell, 2010

Co-authored by history professor **Greg Wise**, this *Companion* contains 25 original essays by writers and scholars and presents an expert assessment of the most important work to date on the complex history of Los Angeles. The work covers the key topics in demography, social unrest, politics, popular culture, architecture, and urban studies.

## Both Sides Now: The Story of School Desegregation's Graduates

University of California Press, 2009

Many authors have attempted to define desegregation as either a success or a failure; surprisingly few have examined the experiences of the students who lived through it. Co-authored by women's studies professor **Anita Tijerina Revilla**, this work offers accounts from blacks, whites, and Latinos and explores their experiences in high school and the effects later in life. It also provides perspective on the current backlash against desegregation policies.

patients: "We love these memories because pain is a haunting beyond the muscles," they chant, "and repetition serves a purpose. We are happy that we're happy now, and happy that we're safe now, and so we'll repeat this for you: we are safe and happy now, and this is what we wanted."

Suvanto is a retreat where "English-speaking wives hide from the frozen streets and golden buildings of the Finnish cities and the darkness and silence of the outlying timber towns." These women turn themselves over to the nurses and orderlies and the presiding doctor, Peter Weber. There is occasional violence — an arm squeezed too tightly, a patient fastened to her bed with boards and locks. There is the violence of the long winter outside the windows, the deep darkness. There is the violence of the marriages left behind — so much is unspoken. There is the violence of so many wounded women: "Every day there are moments in which strange feelings color the walls and floors and we find ourselves standing at windows, at junctures, standing at the doors and looking out. Because we don't know how much time has passed, or indeed whether any time has passed."

Some of the women, like Julia, once a beautiful dancer, have been abandoned by their husbands, packed and shipped, arriving by taxi, deposited on the steps like unwanted children. At Suvanto, they fold into their grievances; they disintegrate; their physical and emotional deterioration is foul and off-putting: "Her nightstand is already cluttered with lotions and moisturizers, acrid-smelling earplugs and the wisps of cotton they arrive in, water glasses, tissues." They think too much, especially about themselves.

Sunny is the young head nurse. She works hard to be controlled, calm, and soothing. She is frighteningly competent, American. But the longer she stays, the more she is dragged into the patients' diseases. Despite daily bicycle rides and rigorous attention to detail, it gets harder to maintain her professional distance, "paradoxically above and yet in service to the other women." Sunny knows how to do everything, but her standards for herself are crushing, and there is the utter loneliness

of her position. "Sunny stands, stricken by the potential for anonymity, for losing oneself in the silence, in the cold, in the trees that had earlier seemed tame."

Chapman brings us further under the skin of her characters than we would normally care to go. And yet it is all the unspoken things that move the novel forward. There is so much we don't know about what really goes on in the hospital (especially at night). There is so much we don't know about the lives of these unreliable characters.

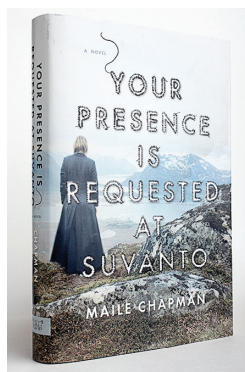
We do know there is a kind of cultish alchemy; some kind of magic. And we know that the doctor is perfecting and experimenting with various treatments: hysterectomies, cesarean births for younger patients in another ward. When a patient dies after a surgery that Peter performs, we can feel her comrades' fury, just under the ice. They go out into the night after she dies to watch a comet; in their nightgowns with their coats thrown over: "There is a collar of clouds waiting on the horizon. Two of the ladies bring out binoculars from coat pockets, and these are passed from hand to hand so that all can look at the comet above, visible now and moving so slowly that

it seems motionless in the dark sky. As motionless as the persuasively scarred face of the bright, nearly full moon."

Something terrible happens at Suvanto, but I can't tell you what it is. You can know that afterward routine sews over the ripped lives. The institution itself goes on, a monument to hubris; the arrogance of medicine. "A building shows its character when seen standing in the midst of swirling snow, with a pale blue wind scraping around the corners and lights from within showing a conviction of permanence. The black trees beyond the northwestern corner are turning silver again under a renewed freeze."

Chapman shows a kind of fearless momentum. Who knows where it will lead her next?

*Chapman is now working on a novel about Alzheimer's disease and the ways in which fear of illness can outweigh seemingly self-evident scientific fact.*



## Your Presence Is Requested at Suvanto

BY MAILE CHAPMAN  
Graywolf Press, 2010



## BRIEFLY

## The Nuclear Option

UNLV is one of just 23 universities nationwide to earn funding under a U.S. Department of Energy program to advance nuclear energy sciences. UNLV research teams were awarded more than \$1.4 million.

"We are taking action to restart the nuclear industry as part of a broad approach to cut carbon pollution and create new clean energy jobs," U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu said when announcing the awards.

UNLV chemistry professor Paul Forster is leading one team focused on minimizing the amount of radioactive gases that must be stored when processing spent nuclear fuel. The team hopes to separate xenon — a useful and stable byproduct — from the radioactive gases that must be stored. Forster's collaborators include fellow chemistry professors Ken Czerwinski and Balakrishnan Naduvalath.

Engineering professor Yingtao Jiang's team is developing sensors to better measure the flow of liquid or gas coolant in a nuclear reactor. Extreme radiation and temperature levels inside a reactor make it difficult for existing measurement tools to function, a problem that could affect reactor performance. Jian Ma, a research professor in the College of Engineering and Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies, will work with Jiang on the grant.



# Wrangling with Policy

## Great Basin's ranchers contend with land management decisions made thousands of miles away

Nevada ranchers are attracting attention from an unusual ranch hand. Doctoral student Leisl Carr Childers' work has taken her to the most remote regions of Nevada to study the frequently contentious relationship between the federal government and ranchers in the state.

One question at the heart of her investigation: What is the significance of ranching to the Great Basin? Childers' answer isn't tied to the economic impact. "Rather, ranchers are the custodians of some of the last open spaces in the country. They live and work in places most of us only drive through, and their presence is essential to maintaining the integrity of the Great Basin environment."

Childers is examining the toll that federal programs have taken on ranching families. She started by researching the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934 and then traced subsequent events and policies related to ranching. Her interviews took her to Garden, Coal, and Railroad valleys. She examined constituent letters in the Howard Cannon Senatorial Papers and delved into the Nevada State Archives in Carson City.

She is finding that although federal policies were enacted for the greater good, the results have been mixed, with rural populations feeling marginalized and frustrated by the policies.

Nevada ranchers offer a baseline for evaluating federal land policy across the nation, Childers says. The Great Basin has a vast quantity of public land governed by federal law. "Because Nevada has such a limited state government, you can really see how federal laws impact these ranchers' lives," she says.

In 2005, Childers came to UNLV to pursue a doctoral degree under the late Hal Rothman, an expert on Western history. Her studies led to working for the Nevada Test Site Oral History Project at UNLV. An interview with one particular rancher affected by Cold War-era nuclear testing offered a glimmer into the issues for rural Nevadans. "He talked about wild horses, nuclear testing, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Atomic Energy Commission all with the same frustration," Childers says. "He ran all these subjects together, and I wanted to know why."

Childers, who will finish her American history doctoral degree program in the spring, says she is pursuing this research on behalf of the ranchers as well as for the leaders in Washington. She hopes the result will be better federal policy for the people living in the often-neglected area. "As a historian, my job is to take data from the past and help make sense of it for use now."

Childers has received funding from a UNLV President Graduate Research Fellowship, which are funded through private donations.

— Shane Bevell

# Fire Damage

Wildfires blaze through the American Southwest each summer, threatening homes and scarring majestic public lands that attract tourists from around the world. According to a recent study by UNLV ecologist Scott Abella, full recovery of desert ecosystems after a wildfire can take up to 65 years and is often complicated by climatic shifts and an assault from invasive plants and grasses.

Abella examined 47 instances of fire, land clearing or road building in the Mojave and Sonoran deserts. He measured how long each disturbed area took to fully re-establish and identified which plant species were among the first to appear and which were unable to recover.

“As fires burn through arid lands, fast-growing invasive grasses like red brome tend to repopulate post-fire sites faster than native plants and trees,” says Abella, who heads the UNLV desert and dryland forest research group. “Subsequently, invasive plants and fire management practices have led to fires where they’re not historically likely or more severe fires in predisposed areas.”

The average recovery time for all disturbed areas was 76 years. Desert vegetation in wildfire-prone areas, such as creosote and blackbrush, were able to recover. Saguaro cacti and Joshua trees, which reside in areas not historically susceptible to fire, were not likely to reappear.

Sites damaged by wildfires also recovered faster than those affected by other disturbances. Though



Joshua trees, which are native to areas not historically susceptible to fire, are not likely to recover from land disturbances.

fire influences the chemical properties of soil, the soils themselves remain intact, leaving roots and seeds that enhance the recovery process.

Climate also changes the makeup of recovery, as shifts in temperature and the appearance of non-native plant species provide a much different ecological picture today than when the original landscapes were established. For example, Southern Nevada’s Spring Mountains — due to both climate change and fire suppression practices — have seen a dramatic increase in white fir, a ladder fuel that can carry surface fires up into taller pines.

“Large fires in our deserts and forests are becoming more frequent and severe, which makes aggressive post-fire establishment of native vegetation critical to ecosystem recovery,” says Abella. “The more we understand about how natural recovery works, the better able we’ll be to introduce successful and cost-effective management strategies.”

—Tony Allen

## BRIEFLY

### The nurse is in, and staying

Residency programs aren’t just for doctors — turns out they work quite well for nurses, too. New nurses in a one-year residency program at a Las Vegas hospital were less stressed, more clinically savvy, and much more likely than their peers to stick with their jobs after the first year, a new UNLV study finds.

Nursing professor Susan Kowalski developed the program in 2007 to combat the rising first-year turnover rate in Nevada hospitals. In a two-year period, retention rates for new nurses in the study jumped to 96 percent, from 78 percent.

“Residency programs result in more confident and successful nurses, but they also positively affect the bottom line,” says Kowalski. Nurse recruitment and training can run employers up to \$10,000 per nurse, driving up health care costs for the patient.



#### THIS JUST IN

**3** factors that make latex paint useful in concrete for bridges: strength, resistance to permeability, and rapid cure time

**10%** amount of latex paint purchased in the U.S. that goes unused

**\$8/gallon** cost to dispose of or recycle latex paint

**\$200 million annually** needed to manage leftover latex paint through specialized disposal processes

— From a UNLV engineering study that evaluated various formulas for using latex paint in concrete bridge overlays. One mixture the researchers developed met performance standards and will be tested further as an environmentally friendly substitute for the more expensive latex-modified concretes currently on the market.

Michael Dakduk could've coasted into college with the help of the Millennium Scholarship. But the first-generation college student was eager to explore the world (he'd never been outside the West). And he wanted "to do something meaningful, something beyond myself." After two Middle Eastern tours, he returned to his hometown college. He helped launch UNLV's student veterans group and now serves as vice president of the national organization. In the spring, he landed the prestigious Truman Scholarship, which provides \$30,000 for graduate studies. Once again, though, he's thinking of deferring school to serve once again.

# BEING MORE NOW

**Michael Dakduk**, Public Administration major and student veteran leader

**I WAS INSPIRED** by teachers at Rancho (High School) who had served in the military. There was something about the way they carried themselves. Even after they left the military, they were still leaders, and they were still serving others.

Everyone has a funny way of trying to define leadership. I don't think you can give it a Webster's dictionary definition. You see a leader and you know it. Doesn't matter their rank or status; it's about the way they influence others.

## Tough Transitions

I researched every branch of the military before I enlisted. The Marines offered the smallest sign-on bonus but the biggest challenge.

I served in Iraq in '05 as a junior-level supervisor in communications for combat operations. By 19, I was responsible for the lives of six people. Where do you get that opportunity anywhere else in life?

I volunteered for a special operations unit knowing I'd have to deploy a second time. That didn't bother me; I figured

that's my job, that's what I was supposed to be doing.

Afghanistan was much more intense. The world's focus was on Iraq when I served there. We rolled in a convoy of 50 vehicles. In Afghanistan there were maybe nine. There was so much less support. We felt much more isolated and vulnerable.

One day we were preparing the incoming unit to take over, just driving along in the Helmand Province to show them the lay of the land. A roadside bomb went off and one of my fellow communicators died. He was just 20 and that was our last mission. That's part of what motivated me to get involved in veterans affairs. I think we should be living memorials to the people who have made more sacrifices.

The transition from military to civilian life can be really hard. Take getting a job. There's a perception that the only skill that a person who served their country has is to hold a gun. When I got out, the only job I quote qualified for was at the Palms (casino) in security. I mean, really? My leadership skills, my aptitude for learning didn't matter to a lot of employers.

## Leaving a Legacy on Campus

I had no aspirations to be president of UNLV's veterans group, but no one was raising their hand, so I did. The group gives us a common bond and a way to tackle challenges together. We wanted to establish ourselves by doing something meaningful. Can you believe that Las Vegas was one of the only major U.S. cities without a veteran's monument?

[UNLV's monument was dedicated on Sept. 11.] It took a year and a half, which to me was a long time. I definitely got a lesson in diplomacy. It didn't occur to me that there'd be so many differing views, especially over the design. Finally, Tony (Montenegro, then vice president of the student group) said, "Let's take it to the seventh floor," meaning, the president's office in the Dungan Humanities Building. Then it got done.

Fundraising wasn't that hard. One in nine Nevadans have served at some point, so we started with the local veterans organizations. As an institution, I think UNLV has done a good thing in starting the RebelVets office. I hope it evolves as a major

resource for students. I've had to learn to look at things in steps. I know what I want it to be, but it all takes time.

The gap between 18 and 22 (years old) isn't major. But 22 with two combat deployments is another story. It makes you different. It makes your needs and priorities different.

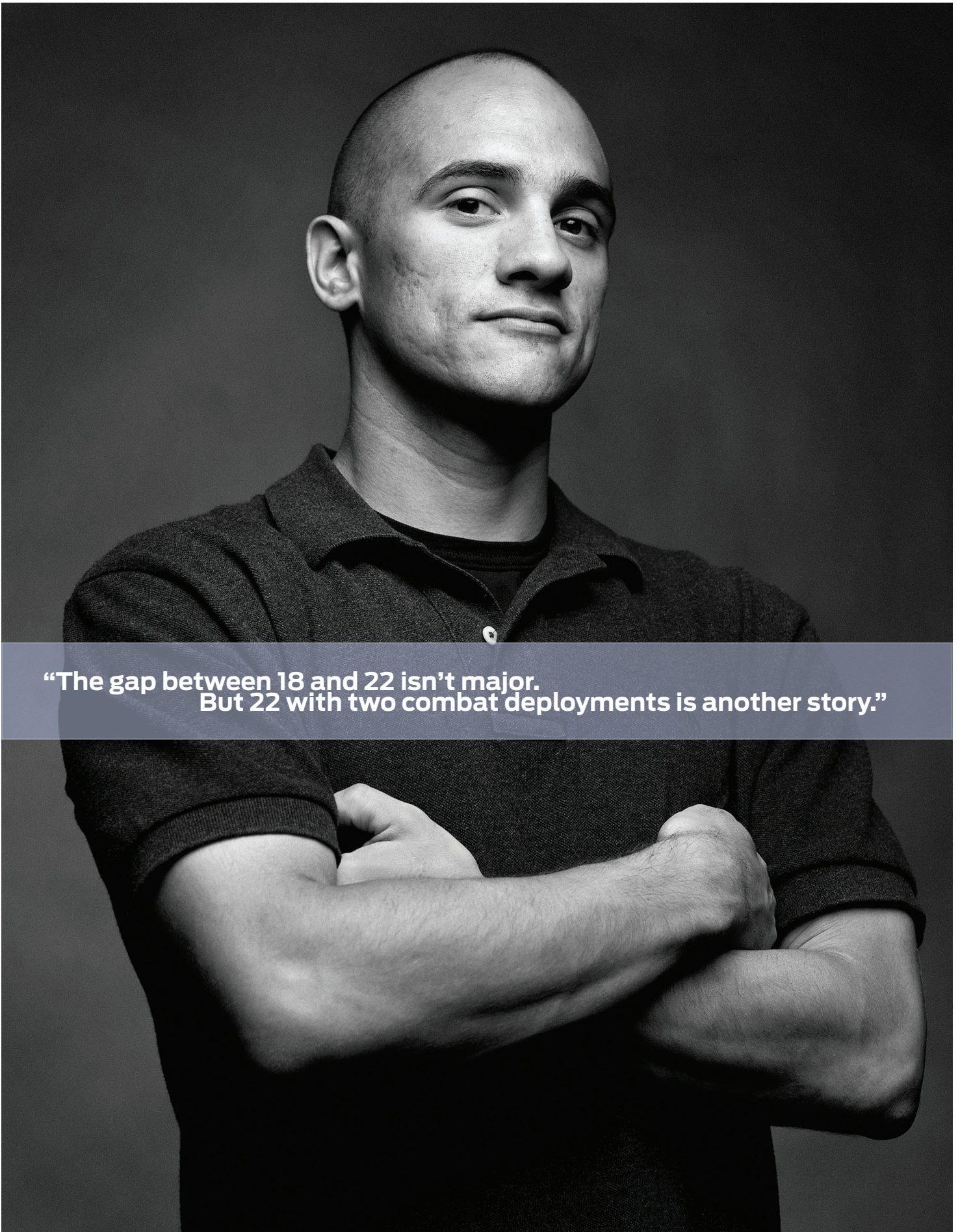
## Challenges for this Generation's Vets

There are going to be a lot of veterans with access to the new GI Bill. That will bring federal dollars to campuses, to Nevada. But universities have to understand that a lot of these guys will come with issues — physical disabilities, traumatic brain injury, PTSD. You can't just take their scholarship dollars and not provide services they need to succeed.

I've now moved on to be vice president of the national student veterans organization. Our legislative agenda includes the topic of my Truman Scholarship proposal: discriminatory clauses in the new GI Bill. For example, if a wounded warrior has trouble attending college in person and chooses an online institution, he won't qualify for the housing allowance. That







**“The gap between 18 and 22 isn’t major.  
But 22 with two combat deployments is another story.”**



# Soldiers' Smiles

## Nationally recognized clinic helps veterans and Guardsmen access dental care

Local veterans and National Guard soldiers now have something to smile about — literally. Many are getting free dental care thanks to a UNLV program honoring a fallen soldier.

The Sergeant Clint Ferrin Memorial Clinic began two years ago to treat National Guard troops who could not be deployed because of poor oral health. It now also serves veterans who can't afford dental care.

Soldiers often neglect their oral health during deployments, says John Ferrin, a

UNLV dental student and Army National Guard member who started the clinic. "The last thing they are thinking about (on their mission) is brushing and flossing."

Ferrin was inspired to start the clinic by his brother, Clint, who was killed in Iraq in 2004 while leading his Army platoon in a mission. Clint had several teeth that caused him pain, and he eventually lost a tooth during training. It took him two years to get a temporary prosthetic, which wasn't worn often because of its poor fit. "Unfortunately, Clint never had the opportunity to get an implant to help restore not only his smile but also his self-confidence."

Dental students, supervised by licensed faculty-dentists, provide free treatments such as cleanings, restorations, extractions, and crowns.

Ferrin hopes other schools will launch services similar to UNLV's award-winning program. The American Dental Association Foundation awarded the program its



Dental medicine student John Ferrin

2009 Bud Tarrson Dental School Student Community Leadership Award. The award recognizes one exemplary volunteer community service project developed by dental students. — *By Shane Bevell*

## Michael Dakduk continued from page 14

↓ makes no sense to me. He still has to live somewhere.

Another issue is that many university programs don't accept military credits. Shouldn't the studies you do overseas in the military at least fulfill your international studies requirement?

I will always be very involved in community leadership. I wanted to do that in Nevada, but the economy, both in terms of being in a recession and not being (economically) diverse, means there is really no job I would love to do here. I think a lot of young people face the same situation. It makes me sad for my state.

The lack of support for higher education is sad, too. Nevada needs UNLV to be a great school, but it can't achieve that with only the people within these walls working at it. We need our political and business leaders,



UNLV's Veterans Memorial was dedicated Sept. 11. It sits at the base of the stairs near the Ham Fine Arts Building.

especially those who are alumni, to support education too.

### 'Be More'

I applied for the Truman Scholarship because I saw the words "public service" in the criteria. The Honors College dean (Peter Starkweather) helped me put together my application. He said, "Well, your GPA is a lot lower than a typical Truman Scholar, but don't get discouraged."

I think (Starkweather) might have thought I was a little arro-

gant. I told him, if I could get past the paper application to the finalist interview, I knew I'd get the scholarship. I was that confident. I knew I could win them over.

My GPA is higher now, by the way.

I graduate in December. I'm actually considering doing one more tour under a special program where you go back just for one more deployment.

People ask why I'd do that. I'm not surprised they ask, but I

stopped explaining it. The discussion always turns political — if we should be there or not. At the end of the day, though, young men and women are there, regardless of your view or my view. They are there because of decisions made by the past couple of administrations. Someone has to put on the uniform; why not me?

I kind of have this idea that I don't want to get big-headed. I figure, how much more of a leader will I be if I can say, "Right now I'm here with you. Then I'm going to grad school — and so can you."

I just can't see doing an internship in the time between commencement and grad school. I don't want to say it's menial, but after what I've already done, is an internship really for me? I mean, filing paperwork or leading men? There's really no comparison on where I can achieve more, where I can be more.



# TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

**Whether it's a two-person start-up or a partnership with a corporation employing thousands of people in several states, UNLV puts its valuable resources to work for the business community. The university's many centers and outreach programs help companies large and small analyze trends, create business plans, start up operations, and adapt to an evolving marketplace.** BY DONNA MCALEER

## INSURING SUCCESS

**I**nsureMonkey? Think Expedia for health insurance. Co-founders Alex Rivlin and Kurt Jarcik came up with the concept for InsureMonkey in 2006 "to eliminate the mystery and confusion in getting quality, affordable health insurance." But it took some time to formulate the business plan, build a complex technological infrastructure, test the site, and wait out the uncertainties of health care reform. InsureMonkey secured its first round of investors in October 2008, finally launched in 2009, and added a second investor group in April. To get through the process, they turned to Rivlin's alma mater.

"The Nevada Small Business Development Center (NSBDC) helped us establish a credible business plan and kept us going

down the right path," says Rivlin, chief executive officer. "They helped us see the reality that there would be no bank financing right away, so we adapted our plans to the business environment."

The company, now operating in 43 states, developed its website to make it easy to compare pricing and plans. Service at InsureMonkey doesn't stop at the sale. "We are your advocates, we will help you if there is a problem with your claim," says Rivlin, who adds that the company name is designed to make people feel more at ease while shopping for a notoriously complicated product. [www.insuremonkey.com](http://www.insuremonkey.com)

## SUNSHINE MOVERS

Danny and Trish Ives had a dream to open their own home-based business. But start-

ing a local moving company was more complicated than they first realized, especially during a recession. They knew their idea — a mover who paid extraordinary attention to detail — was solid and their work ethic strong, but they needed help maneuvering in the heavily regulated transportation industry. And that's when the NSBDC moved in.

"We would never have gotten all our licenses without the guidance of the NSBDC. It took more than a year," says Danny Ives. It helped the couple complete business forecasts, checked their balance sheets, and guided them through the licensing bureaucracy. "The NSBDC has given us an opportunity to own and open our business. They were absolutely wonderful."

And, according to customer reviews on the Internet, so are Sunshine Movers.



Danny Ives, center, overcame the challenges of launching a business during a recession when he opened Sunshine Movers. He is pictured with employees Travis Turpin, left, and Steve Minuskin.

Danny oversees daily operations and ensures clients are happy with his crew's service. Trish, who still works at a local resort, takes care of the office duties after hours. [www.sunshinemoverslv.com](http://www.sunshinemoverslv.com)

### BOYD GAMING

When a company experiences unprecedented growth, expanding from four local casinos in 1993 to 16 casinos in six states today, where does it go to meet the challenge of providing effective employee training programs across a wide spectrum? For Boyd Gaming, the answer is the Professional Development Center, a part of UNLV's Division of Educational Outreach.

The center first started working with Boyd Gaming to certify in-house training programs for continuing education credits (CEUs). "Now about 80 percent of our leadership development courses and 100 percent of our desktop application courses have CEUs awarded upon completion," says Paul Chakmak, vice president and chief operating officer for Boyd Gaming. "Most of the training we provide is created and disseminated in-house, but when specialized training is needed, we go to a trusted source."

Boyd Gaming worked with the center when its managers wanted to improve written communication throughout the

organization. The division's professional development team developed a custom curriculum for a six-week Business Writing class designed to meet the company's needs. Says Chakmak, "We have found that training to develop more effective business writing skills can help all of our employees enjoy greater success. Staffers at the Professional Development Center have been great partners in this effort."

### PRUDENT KIDS

Nils Goldschmidt, a recent MBA graduate from UNLV, is the very definition of entrepreneur, and one of his strengths is that he's not afraid to ask questions. He has worked with both the Center for Entrepreneurship and the NSBDC several times to explore different business opportunities.

One of his more intriguing ideas promotes financial literacy in young people. His start-up, Prudent Kids, educates middle and high school students about financial management. Goldschmidt employs UNLV graduate and law students to talk frankly to younger students about such financial realities as buying a car, handling credit cards, avoiding scams, and protecting financial privacy.

Goldschmidt now is thinking of selling the concept since he recently moved to Los Angeles, where he's launching a distribution company for South American fruits and vegetables. "The support and coaching I received from the Center for Entrepreneurship and the NSBDC was incredible. It never bothered them that I kept coming back with one more idea."

### CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH (CBER)

The CBER is considered the source for vital economic data in Southern Nevada. Business leaders and the media eagerly await CBER's Annual Economic Outlook, with its comprehensive statistical study of the local economy. The center also conducts surveys and economic impact studies, assembles data indices, and compiles and publishes Nevada Kids Count. Clients include local and state government entities, hotel-casinos, the U.S. Postal Service, the United Way, the Southern Nevada Water Authority, and the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association.

[cber.unlv.edu](http://cber.unlv.edu) | 702-895-3191

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

This unit in the UNLV Division of Educational Outreach customizes training programs for businesses. Its experts specialize in continuing education and adult learning, tailoring the curriculum to the specific needs of a company or industry group. Clients include Chevron, United Way of Southern Nevada, Boyd Gaming Corp., and National Security Technologies. The division also offers more than 20 certificate programs to enhance the professional skills of thousands of Nevadans. The division's Cannon Center for Survey Research also helps local businesses measure public opinion in the marketplace.

[edoutreach.unlv.edu](http://edoutreach.unlv.edu) | 702-895-3598

### LIED INSTITUTE FOR REAL ESTATE STUDIES

For the past 20 years, the institute has provided services to real estate professionals and the public sector in Southern Nevada. It also offers undergraduate and professional certification education. Recently, the local real estate climate has experienced great extremes, ranging from being the hottest market in the country to being the hardest hit by the housing market downturn. The current difficult times have created opportunities for the institute's new leadership team to partner with businesses and local communities to enhance real estate practices and public policy.

[liedinstitute.com](http://liedinstitute.com) | 702-895-4492



## ALL-STAR BUSINESS

Calvin “Tito” Hudson Jr. is a repeat customer at the Nevada Small Business Development Center. He and a partner originally sought the center’s guidance to open a barbershop in 1998. Later, when he decided to branch out on his own, he went back.

Classic Cuts Barbershop opened in 2006 with a basketball theme to appeal to his target customer base in North Las Vegas. Hudson has assembled a talented staff of seven barbers who know their art and their customers, and he uses social media tools to spread the word. His expansion plans call for shops themed around soccer and football. He also plans to start a barber academy, filling a niche in Las Vegas that salon academies do not fully address.

Hudson thinks so highly of Janis Stevenson, his NSBDC advisor, that he gives a shout out to the center on his website. “I still talk with Miss Janis all the time,” says Hudson. “I’ll run marketing ideas by her and have her look over my updated plans.”

But his barbershop is more than a business; it’s a community presence in North Las Vegas. It sponsors events like the “Throw It in the Bag” drive, which provides free haircuts and school supplies in the fall; “Sneakers for Christmas” during the holidays; and the “Remix Classic,” a high school all-star basketball game that awards scholarships to graduating seniors. [www.classiccutskoc.com](http://www.classiccutskoc.com)

Calvin Hudson Jr., left, has opened two barbershops with guidance from UNLV business advisors.



## NEVADA INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE

Formerly known as the Manufacturing Assistance Program, this office is part of the Nevada System of Higher Education and helps businesses in the manufacturing, construction, and mining sectors. Its Export Tech program links College of Business interns with companies seeking help with international marketing research. Its FOCUS training helps facility operators manage their physical plant more efficiently. Nevada Industry Excellence advises businesses on how to upgrade their buildings to get LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification, an international recognition for green construction and maintenance practices. It also sponsors events and training that bring the expertise of UNLV’s faculty and the resources of the Lied Library to commercial manufacturing and exporting businesses.

[www.nevadale.com](http://www.nevadale.com) | 702-895-4270

## NEVADA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER (NSBDC)

The NSBDC is a partnership between the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Nevada System of Higher Education. Housed at UNLV since 1986, the center has staffers who meet with clients one on one to help them create business plans, provide tactics to help secure loans, plot out marketing strategies, and provide guidance on how to do business in Nevada — all for free. Since the recession hit in 2007, the center has seen an increase in clients wanting to start businesses or revamp current operations. In the past academic year, more than 2,000 clients have sought advice and training. In addition, the NSBDC offers a regular schedule of classes.

[nsbdc.unlv.edu](http://nsbdc.unlv.edu) | 702-895-4270

## UNLV CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Housed within the College of Business, the center promotes business creation, innovation, and economic diversification in the region. The center offers entrepreneurship education, creates custom seminars, provides research grants to faculty, interacts with local investors, and cosponsors events like the Southern Nevada Business Plan Competition. Presented in cooperation with the *Las Vegas Business Press*, the competition gives Southern Nevada residents an opportunity to present their ideas to investors, faculty, and prominent members of the business community. Last year’s winner received more than \$95,000 in cash and in-kind prizes. The center also works closely with students, particularly in engineering, to help them develop real-world business plans for innovative technologies.

[entrepreneurship.unlv.edu](http://entrepreneurship.unlv.edu) | 702 895-0447



## Smart Building

Remember the Dungan Humanities Building? The narrow hallways were hardly conducive to collegial conversations. UNLV's newest research facility, on the other hand, was designed specifically to promote interdisciplinary collaboration. The Science and Engineering Building has a welcoming lobby and the walls and furnishings are movable for flexibility in lab and office configurations. The building has obtained a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver rating for its environmentally responsible and sustainable features. For example, a roof membrane reflects 92 percent of the solar energy striking the roof surface and incoming air is pre-cooled through evaporation, reducing air-conditioning needs. Sensors automatically turn off lights in unoccupied rooms. The building also captures the wastewater from its laboratory deionized water and humidification systems; this produces 750 gallons of wastewater daily, which is used for flushing toilets.

[Photo by R. Marsh Starks]













# Rising Sun

**Manufacturers turn to UNLV to help overcome the technological challenges of bringing new products to market and jobs to Nevada.**

stories by Tony Allen  
photos by Aaron Mayes  
and R. Marsh Starks



While local residents squawk at the prospect of yet another scorching, triple-digit summer day, engineering professor Bob Boehm basks in the rays.

Boehm (pronounced like sunbeam) leads UNLV's Center for Energy Research and its highly trained team of faculty and student researchers. Their outdoor laboratory along Flamingo Road offers an ideal proving ground for companies searching for better ways to harness the power of the sun's rays.

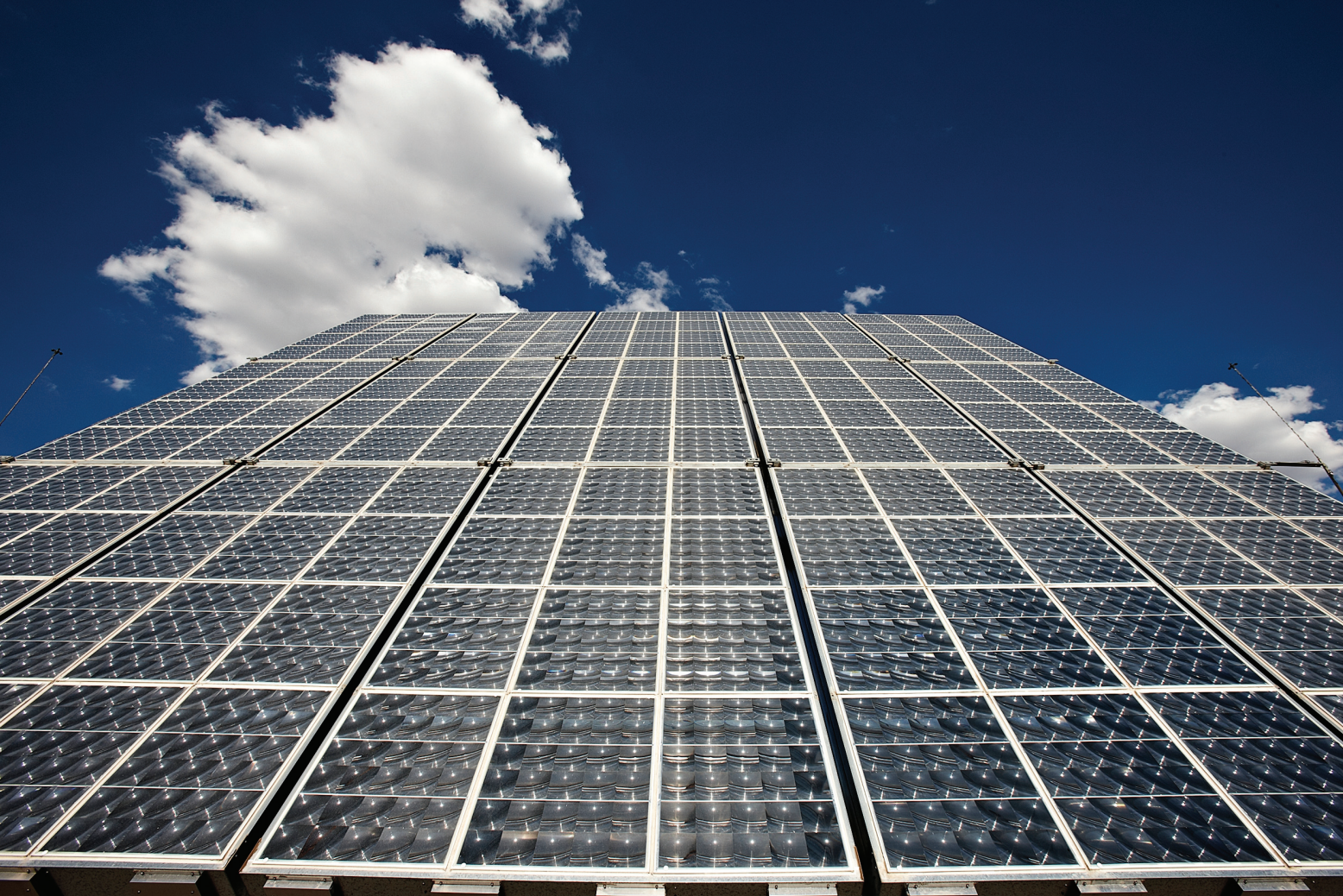
Partnerships with private manufacturers allow professors to fulfill their role in advancing science while enriching student learning. Developing industries, meanwhile, get the independent expertise needed to overcome the hurdles inherent in making technologies commercially viable.



**RENEWABLE  
ENERGY**  
"For the U.S. to achieve its quest for a clean, sustainable energy future, it should invest more heavily in ... research and innovation in Nevada."

BROOKINGS  
MOUNTAIN WEST  
REPORT





"In the solar industry — like many technology fields — private companies need to prove to investors and peers that their systems have a successful track record," says Boehm, who's been directing the center since its founding in 1993.

Take the example of Amonix, a manufacturer of utility-scale solar power systems. Company founder and chief technology officer Vahan Garboushian, says, flat out: "Without utilizing the center, Amonix technology would not be where it is today."

The company recently opened a North Las Vegas manufacturing facility, creating 278 green jobs. Working with UNLV, "further confirmed the need for solar technology in sunny and dry climates," Garboushian says. "Nevada has the ideal climate, environment, and local expertise for solar resources to be expanded."

The partnership began in 2003 when Boehm was awarded a contract from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory to measure the energy performance of Amonix's concentrated solar power system. The system was installed on the campus' solar site and modified as the technology developed. In 2009, the company installed its 7700 system, the world's largest pedestal-mounted solar system, on campus.

Engineering professors and students jumped at the chance to learn from the latest technology, and to advance it. A number of design changes resulted that "improved the performance, lowered the cost, and increased the reliability of our systems," says Amonix research scientist Ken Stone.

For example, much of the Amonix system hinges on its ability to concentrate sunlight with inexpensive lenses. Boehm and his staff helped pinpoint gaps in efficiency, such as dirt buildup, and tested ways to clean the lenses without interfering with production. They're also working with Amonix researchers to improve the way the units move with the sun and to prevent them from becoming overheated.

"Having the units on campus also provides a great show place for visitors to come and learn about Amonix technology," Stone says. That sort of show-and-tell can be important to attracting federal and private investment for the development of Nevada's solar infrastructure.

As a complement to the research partnership, center staff participate in the installation and maintenance of Amonix units in Nevada and neighboring states, giving the company needed manpower and giving UNLV students — who work on many Amonix projects — valuable experience. Amonix systems have been installed at a Southern Nevada Water Authority treatment facility and at Nevada Energy's Clark Generation Station.

"Students become well-versed in many aspects of the solar industry — not just research — as a result of working on these projects," says Boehm. "The opportunity to work with actual equipment on campus and off site is a valuable way for our students to learn about Amonix and for Amonix to learn about students who could potentially become employees."

According to Amonix's Stone, public/private partnerships do more than advance the individual goals of a private company or university; they move entire industries ahead.

"Partnerships between universities and industries are very important for the U.S. to maintain a world lead in technology development and implementation," he says. "Universities provide critical resources and conduct research and development that help small businesses develop, which ultimately accelerates the commercialization of technology."

And all that can lead to more jobs. "We are all hoping to see Las Vegas become a center for companies that develop solar systems," Boehm says. "This would provide both high-tech and manufacturing jobs."





|||||

**The UNLV team is working to identify a salt that can remain in a liquid state for longer periods — especially at night — and gather a larger amount of thermal heat.**

# Students of the Sun

**The university's partnerships with manufacturers of solar power systems means access to hands-on research opportunities for students. But their work isn't just low-level intern stuff; their ideas already are being implemented to bring these companies closer to launching economically viable alternative energy sources.**

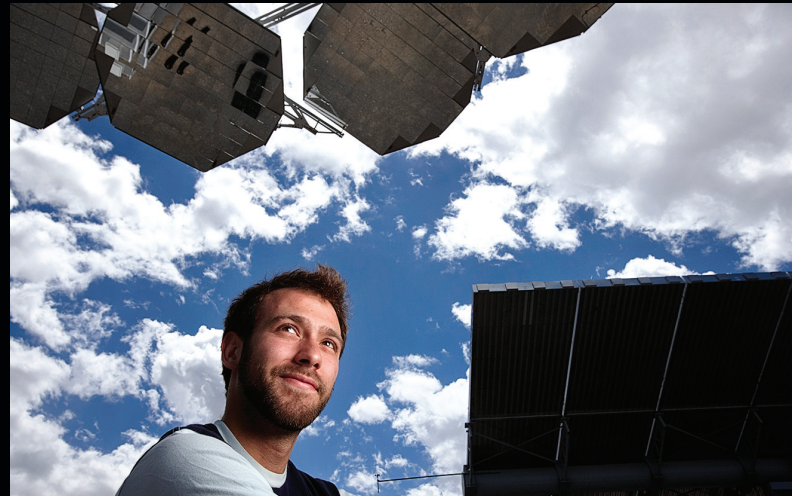
## A (Ful)bright Future

Ever wonder what happens to the efficiency of a solar panel when it gets dirty? Recent UNLV engineering graduate Leo Banchik did the dirty work for Amonix.

By testing the company's system on campus, Banchik found that dust on the system's Fresnel lenses decreases performance. As an undergraduate, he helped develop a procedure for monitoring the dirt buildup. He followed up that project by teaming with classmates to design and build an inexpensive device for small-scale solar generators that can improve efficiency by tracking the sun on two axes.

"It's all about leaving the world in a better place than I found it," Banchik says. "Coal's time is up as an energy source. We need to find ways to make clean energy more efficient, and that's what I plan to do."

Banchik recently earned a coveted Fulbright Scholarship, which took him to a top research lab in Madrid, Spain, to expand on his work with specialized solar cells.



## What's the Efficiency, Kenneth?

When Amonix needed to know the field efficiency of its latest generation of solar lenses, it turned to the UNLV Center for Energy Research (CER) and graduate research assistant Ken Hynes.

The mechanical engineer is young, but graduated at the top of his class in 2009 with several years of practical experience.

"There's currently no research pointing to a device that can measure overall optical efficiency of a Fresnel lens; so, being the first, there's a lot that goes into it," says Hynes, who designed and built a custom measurement system for the lenses used in the Amonix systems. "It's exciting to know that the company will be able to use the information we get to improve the efficiency of its lenses and its overall system."

Hynes' design uses a copper heat collector to capture light from the concentrating Fresnel lens. Water constantly flows through the system and removes the heat while inlet and outlet water temperatures are recorded. By capturing data from the system and running a few established formulas, Hynes is able to determine how much energy is transmitted through the lens and hits the solar cell.

Engineering graduate Leo Banchik is now working under a Fulbright Scholarship at a solar laboratory in Spain and furthering the research he did at UNLV's Center for Energy Research.

## Happiness is a Warm Sun

Remember the high school science project where you'd take a parabolic mirror out in the sun to see how fast you could cook a hot dog? Just south of Boulder City, Acciona Power's Nevada Solar One is using the same idea to generate enough electricity for more than 14,000 homes each year. The company's solar thermal power system uses more than 180,000 mirrors on the 400-acre site to produce electricity.







“Having the opportunity to work with people in the solar industry and get hands-on experience with utility-scale technology was extremely beneficial.”

ALLISON GRAY  
engineering student,  
pictured at the UNLV Center  
for Energy Research

UNLV’s Center for Energy Research has been involved with the project all along the way, from initial work on components that collect the solar radiation to finding better ways to store the heat when the sun’s not shining. The CER even set up shop in a 30-plus acre research facility next door to the site to conduct field research and test new technologies.

Currently, center co-director Yi-Tung Chen and engineering undergraduate Sarah Trabia are looking for alternatives to improve the system’s ability to store thermal energy. Key to Acciona’s system is a special mixture of liquid salts, which gather and store the heat captured from the sunlight. The liquid salts then generate steam to produce electricity.

The UNLV team is working to identify a salt that can remain in a liquid state for longer periods — especially at night — and gather a larger amount of thermal heat. Better salts mean better storage and more efficient and economical systems.

## Making Solar Research Cool

Not to sound too obvious, but solar panels can get hot. So hot, in fact, that they don’t work well. Allison Gray analyzed this issue for Amonix while working on her master’s thesis at UNLV and serving as a student research assistant. She helped come up with a simple fix to cool the system and improve performance.

Gray coupled specialized modeling software with onsite testing to isolate and analyze the temperature of an individual solar cell under different weather conditions. She found that more waste heat could be removed from the cell by reorienting the existing cooling units.

“Having the opportunity to work with people in the solar industry and get hands-on experience with utility-scale technology was extremely beneficial,” says Gray, now an engineer with the National Renewable Energy Lab in Colorado. “Participating in real solar energy projects gave me experience heading into my career that not a lot of entry-level engineers had.”



His success at bioprospecting for new hot springs organisms has earned Brian Hedlund major professional kudos.



Life sciences professor Brian Hedlund has become an international expert of the microscopic organisms found in hot springs.

# From Bacteria to Biofuels

Nevada is a hot spot for solar energy research, but another kind of native heat may one day quench the thirst for renewable fuels. ↴

**S**cattered across the state, pockets of boiling hot springs teem with organisms. Never having been “scientifically discovered,” these life forms don’t even have names. They just eat and multiply in there, surviving in temperatures that other creatures can’t.

Useful little buggers, thinks UNLV microbiologist Brian Hedlund.

Hedlund has made a career out of exploring what exists in the depths of Nevada’s hot springs. Unidentified organisms make up between 45 percent and 90 percent of what’s living in there. Such heat-loving bacteria and microorganisms, called thermophiles, are the darlings of the booming biotech industry now. The enzymes they throw off spark biochemical reactions and are key to a process that rapidly multiplies DNA.

There are hundreds of different species, and many thousands more that are yet to be





Chemical reactions occur faster when it's hot. So faster, more efficient processing could drive the cost of biofuels production down and make it more cost competitive.



discovered. Some are already used to convert corn to sugar for your soft drinks. Some can help make renewable fuels more efficiently. That's the kind that Hedlund and his team are searching for in Nevada's pools.

"We're finding an incredible abundance of new organisms in Nevada's hot springs, more so even than in Yellowstone National Park," says Hedlund. "These new lineages are pushing the limits of how life works."

## The Art of Science

Hedlund has become something of eco-prospecter, a harvester of hidden treasures. He leads his team on hiking trips hours into the field and far off the beaten path in search of new life forms. Just preserving the invisible organisms for a cross-state journey back to UNLV's lab is a difficult task. The organisms, unseen by the naked eye, are often frozen onsite in the Northern Nevada desert to be sure nothing changes between the time they leave the pool and are analyzed in the lab.

His success identifying and characterizing new hot springs organisms has earned Hedlund major professional kudos. After he arrived at UNLV in 2003, he earned the National Science Foundation's top award for young researchers. He's now recognized as a leading expert on this untapped but potentially rich renewable resource of Nevada's. His work also caught the attention of researchers at Lucigen, a Wisconsin-based biotechnology company.

"(Identifying new organisms) is a very complicated process that requires doing precisely the right thing, at the right time, to pull it off," says Lucigen's Tom Schoenfeld. "It's an art that Brian and his team are very experienced at."

Hedlund and Schoenfeld had one of those random meetings at a research conference in 2007. They realized they were both working on the same Nevada springs. Collectively, they figured, their data could offer a more complete picture of the science inside the hot springs.

"Brian's expertise with high-temperature ecosystems aligned perfectly with our work," says Schoenfeld. "We're just starting to explore Nevada's hot springs for useful enzymes that can move science forward."

The partnership grew as Hedlund and Lucigen teamed with University of Delaware scientist Eric Wommack on a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) project to sequence and analyze the DNA of microorganisms in Northern Nevada's Great Boiling Spring. Working with Lucigen gave Hedlund a chance to push his ongoing hot springs investigation in new directions. "For years I've focused on understanding nature," says Hedlund. Not exactly science for the sake of science, but the kind of academic research that seems far removed from everyday lives. "Working with industrial partners like Lucigen gives me a chance to pair that basic science with applied research in a way that gets useful discoveries quickly into the marketplace to solve problems."

Problems like clean energy.

## Biofuels: The Next Generation

During their work on the Great Boiling Spring, the team noticed several new organisms that could degrade plant material into simple sugars — the kind of process needed to produce biofuels. Spurred along by the DOE partnership and, more recently, funding from the Nevada Renewable Energy Consortium, Hedlund set his sights on discovering a creature that could make biofuels cheaper and easier to produce.

Biofuels production starts with a feedstock, most often corn kernels and sugar cane. Enzymes created by microorganisms consume that feedstock, breaking it down into simple sugars, which are then fermented into liquid fuels for vehicles. Hampering current biofuels production, though, is the so-called food vs. fuel debate. Biofuels require the same resources that food producers do. So, in the competition for limited water and land what wins out, food or fuel?

Hedlund's work circumvents that debate by advancing second-generation biofuels, made with agricultural wastes like corn stover and wood pulp instead of primary food sources like corn. The process is still the same, but agricultural wastes are much more challenging to turn into fuel, requiring more work to get the same result. The hurdle now is finding a way to more efficiently extract energy from these sources.

Enzymes from thermophiles are ideal because they perform well in high temperatures. Chemical reactions occur faster when it's hot. So faster, more efficient processing could drive the cost of biofuels production down and make it more cost competitive. As it turns out, the Great Boiling Spring is an ideal site for hungry thermophiles. "Hot springs don't have a large amount of biomass, so you wouldn't really expect to find microbes within the springs that can eat organic materials from plants," says David Mead, founder and CEO of Lucigen. "It's strange, but they're in there and in greater numbers than almost any other site."

Researchers think this could be due to the proximity of desert plants to Nevada's hot springs, which over time blew into the springs and may have given the organisms an opportunity to evolve into biomass munchers. Also, many Nevada springs flow a bit slower than their Yellowstone brethren, giving bacteria more opportunity to grow.

## Nevada's Newest Frontier

Hedlund's bioprospectors have already identified several new organisms. They are now testing to see how they break down agricultural wastes under different conditions. Once the UNLV team identifies a promising organism, Lucigen steps in. The company examines which enzymes it uses to break down feedstock and evaluates how fast that particular organism can accomplish the conversion to sugar.

"It's kind of like gambling," Lucigen's Mead says of the effort. "We regularly visit the same springs and sometimes we get back to the lab with high hopes and find nothing. Other times we're pleasantly surprised, which has been the case so far with the Great Boiling Spring."

The eventual success of second-generation biofuels — and freedom from our nation's dependence on foreign oil — could hinge on tiny, hyperactive microorganisms, some of which still may be anonymously floating around in Northern Nevada hot springs.

"I see this as a grand challenge," Hedlund says. "Nevada's hot springs are at a frontier of microbiology, and the search for organisms that can aid biofuels gives me a chance to dive into something important."

Though many states are more well-known as hot springs hot spots, Nevada leads the nation with more than 300.

# What's a Hot Spring?

From the aptly named city of Hot Springs, Ark., to vacation destinations like Yellowstone National Park, hot springs dot the nation. Most often, they are heralded as tranquil, therapeutic oases or bustling tourist traps. Though many states are more well-known as hot springs hot spots, Nevada leads the nation with more than 300.

So what are they and why are there so many in Nevada?

A hot spring is a naturally occurring body of water that's heated from below ground. A couple factors contribute to Nevada's hot water. First the state is undergoing tectonic extension, which means our land is being stretched by movement from the Pacific and North American plates (think San Andreas Fault). This process thins the earth's crust, bringing magma closer to the surface and making surface groundwater hotter. Second, the state's numerous faults also make for deeper, and thus hotter, paths for groundwater to flow.

Great Boiling Spring near the town of Gerlach in Northern Nevada has become the focus for biofuels research in part because of its accessibility (many hot springs can only be accessed after hours of hiking) and because of its high concentration of new and potentially beneficial microorganisms. Scientists from around the world think these organisms just might hold the key to better wastewater treatment, biofuels production, and who knows what else.



Nevada's Great Boiling Spring teems with microorganisms that are helping scientists develop the next generation of biofuels.

## Hot Springs From Here to China

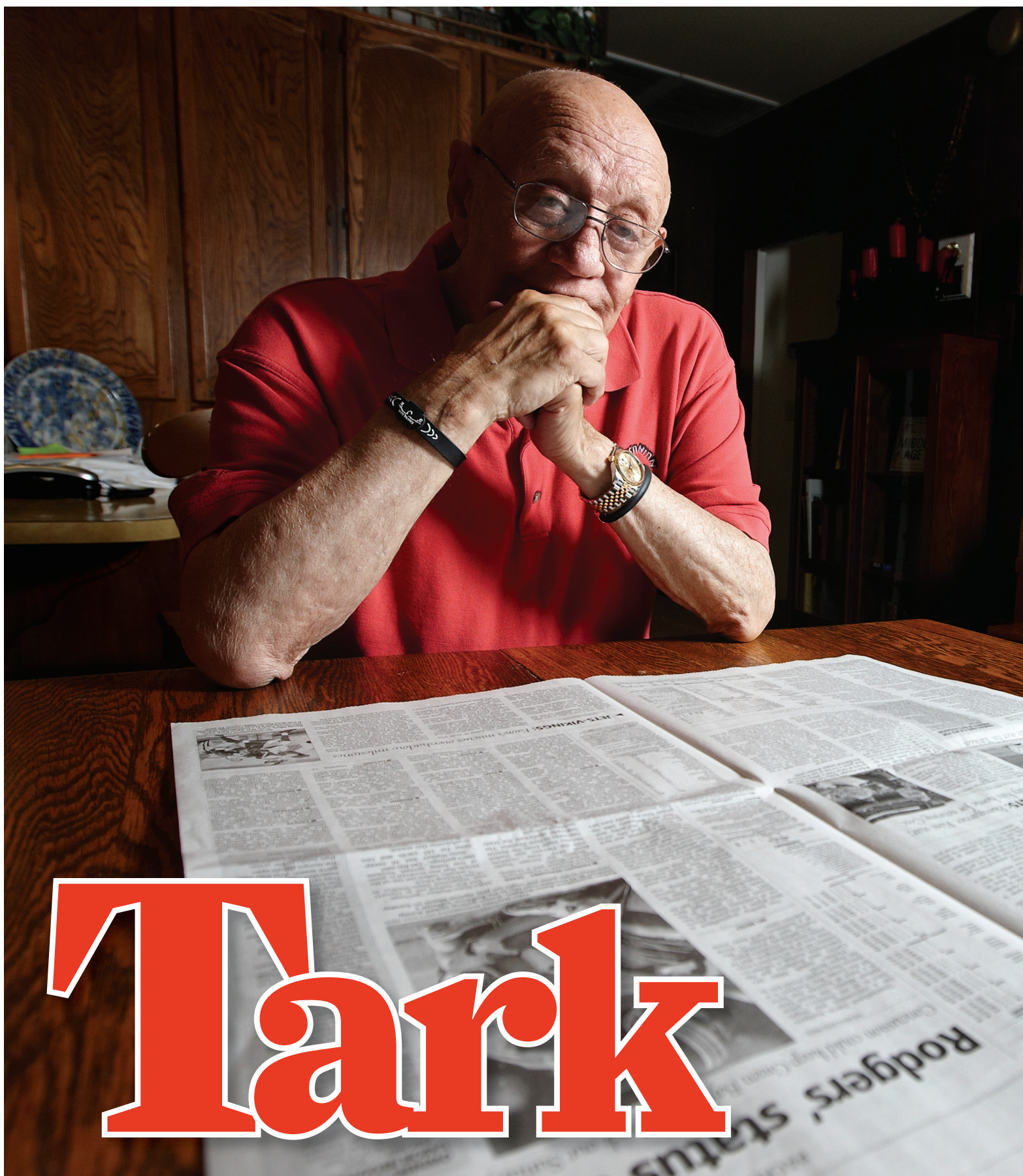
UNLV microbiologist Brian Hedlund is leading an international team of researchers to be the first to detail how life works in the largest system of hot springs in China.

Through a five-year, \$3.75 million grant from the National Science Foundation, Hedlund and scientists from eight U.S. and six Chinese universities will identify the microscopic organisms living within the Tengchong Geothermal Field in Southwest China and how they function and interact. The project is the largest of its kind and will build upon efforts under way in the U.S. to understand hot springs ecosystems and their potential contributions to biotechnology and renewable energy.

The project will strengthen scientific collaboration between U.S. and Chinese researchers and give UNLV students and local high school science teachers a chance to study abroad and participate in summer fieldwork.











Jerry Tarkanian, former Runnin' Rebels basketball coach, was named the 2010 recipient of the UNLV Alumni Association's Silver State Award for his contributions to the university and the community.

## Catching up with the legendary coach 20 years after his NCAA Championship season

BY CHED WHITNEY

**T**he trophies and photos from Jerry Tarkanian's 30-plus years of coaching sit off to the side in the family room of his home off Rancho and Alta drives. The focus is on the three scaled-down rocking chairs for the younger of his 11 grandkids. They all live within two miles of the two-story he has shared with his wife, Lois, since 1974. It hasn't changed much — with its wrought iron banisters and lava rock fireplace — and neither has Tark.

Sure, he's slowed by age — he is 80 now — but the Runnin' Rebels coach from 1973-1992 rattles off player names and moments from those glory days with ease.

There's the 1990 squad. Heading into that season, Tark expected them to be good. They had momentum after reaching the NCAA Tournament's Elite Eight the previous season. They returned all five starters in 1990, including future NBA players Stacey Augmon and Greg Anthony, and had signed junior college phenom Larry Johnson.

"You never know you'll win a national championship, but ...," he says.

The rest of that sentence is easily filled in by anyone with even a passing knowledge of the Runnin' Rebels. On April 2, 1990, the Rebels routed Duke University's Blue Devils, 103-73, and set a championship record for widest margin of victory that still stands today.

Great as they were, Tark says, the '90 team wasn't the greatest Rebels team ever. That honor goes to the next year's team. He throws out some more stats: "Our closest game was 7 points (a 112-105 win at Arkansas; the Razorbacks were No. 2 in the country at the time), and we led that game by 23 late." And: "We played Michigan State that year (a 95-75 win), we went to Louisville (97-85). We played everybody."

But one potential opponent concerned Tark: "Duke was the one team I didn't want to play."

UNLV was 34-0 and on a 45-game win streak when they met Duke in an NCAA Tournament rematch at the 1991 Final Four in Indianapolis. The Blue Devils beat UNLV, 77-75, spoiling dreams of an undefeated, two-time national champion.

Tarkanian is reluctant to say where the '91 Rebels fall in history's rankings. The coach mentions North Carolina's 1982 squad with James Worthy, Sam Perkins, and a certain shooting guard who would go on to some success with the NBA's Chicago Bulls. Still, coach says of his '91 team, they "probably *played* better than any other team."

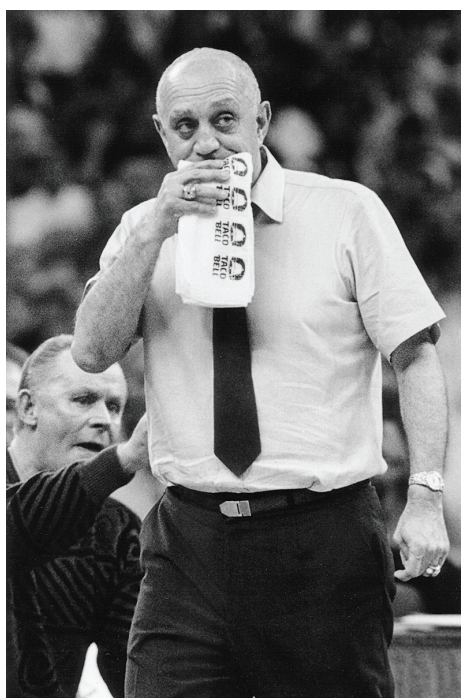
**TARK LEFT UNLV** at the end of the 1992 season. His battles with the NCAA already were well-publicized and dated back to his time at Long Beach State in the early '70s. Then, he felt the major institutions were treated different from up-and-coming small programs. "They had total immunity," he says. "I get older, but I still get upset when I really think about it."

Recent NCAA sanctions against schools such as Southern California have somewhat softened Tarkanian's views of the organization.

"I really believe the NCAA is fairer today than it's ever been."

In 1995, Tarkanian took over head coaching duties at his alma mater, Fresno State, and led the Bulldogs until his retirement in 2002.







He returned to his Las Vegas home after the Fresno stint and remains active in the community. In 2005, UNLV named the Thomas & Mack Center's court for him. At this year's homecoming — 20 years after bringing the NCAA title to Las Vegas — he's being honored with the UNLV Alumni Association Silver State Award. It's the top award given to a nonalumnus for contributions to UNLV and the community.

He spends his summers in Del Mar, Calif., in north San Diego County, where he has a condominium. Most days he heads to the racetrack. But he's not much of a horseplayer, he says: "Even when a wise guy gives me a tip, I still lose."

He keeps in touch with his former players. Greg Anthony also will be recognized at this year's homecoming with the association's Alumnus of the Year Award. He is now a college basketball analyst with CBS, and he's featured Tarkanian as a guest on his radio show.

Tarkanian calls Anthony his toughest player. His leadership on the court was solidified when Anthony broke his jaw in a February 1990 game against Fresno State. He played the rest of that championship season with his jaw wired shut. "The doctor said he'd probably be able to play 12 minutes a game. Greg played 32 minutes."

After a successful NBA career, Johnson returned to UNLV and finished his bachelor's degree in social sciences in 2007. He now splits his time between Dallas and Las Vegas. He and Tark frequently have lunch.

It is suggested to Tarkanian that his friendship with another basketball personality would surprise some longtime Las Vegas. "Coach K and I have been friends for years," he says.

Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski has a radio show, on which Tarkanian is a frequent guest. "He's a great coach and a great guy. We talk about basketball all the time," Tark says. "I tell him, 'My guys were better guys than your Duke guys.'"

The UNLV program, Tarkanian likes to say, was based on loyalty.

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The 1990 team still holds the record for widest margin of victory in an NCAA Championship final. Fans loved "Tark the Shark's" nervous towel-chewing during the games.



"Coach Tarkanian and his teams are at the heart of the tradition of UNLV basketball. He means everything to the program. He took it to another level."

— UNLV HEAD COACH LON KRUGER

**BACK IN HIS RANCHO NEVADA ESTATES** two-story, Tark spreads out the sports section at a small breakfast table off the kitchen. There's a story on the Runnin' Rebels prospects this season.

"I think he's done a heck of a job," Tark says of current coach Lon Kruger.

UNLV basketball has experienced something of a renaissance since Kruger arrived in 2004. The Rebels have made three trips to the NCAA Tournament, including a spot in the Sweet 16 in 2007 along with a 30-win season.

Kruger, for his part, is also appreciative of Tarkanian's legacy.

"Coach Tarkanian and his teams are at the heart of the tradition of UNLV basketball," Kruger says. "He means everything to the program. He took it to another level."

In its 2008 "Prestige Rankings" of basketball programs since 1984-85, ESPN ranked UNLV No. 8. (Topping the list is Duke.) Kruger's current student-athletes weren't yet born when Tarkanian's teams were establishing UNLV's place on the national stage, but his legacy continues to attract top players to the university.

"The national reputation (for the men's basketball program) at that time was as

## Walk Like a ...

Got that song stuck in your head now? The "Walk Like A Tarkanian" spoof, based on a Bangles song, was played on local radio stations when the Runnin' Rebels won the national championship in 1990. UNLV Athletics frequently has received requests for the song.

**John Murtaugh**, '09 BA Film Studies, who worked in the Thomas & Mack Center's multimedia department, uploaded it on YouTube. His page also features a number of other videos he put together on Rebel sports. He now lives in San Francisco.

Check it out at [www.youtube.com/JohnMurtaugh](http://www.youtube.com/JohnMurtaugh)

good as any in the country. It (still) has a huge impact on recruiting efforts."

*Ched Whitney is art director at the Las Vegas Review-Journal. He covered UNLV basketball as a member of The Rebel Yell staff from 1990-92.*



















NOTES  
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## 1950-70s

**Robert Keenan**, '88 BS Math and Biology, is vice president of clinical research for A.H. Robins Co. He patented an anti-emetic drug for treatment of nausea and vomiting in patients receiving chemotherapy. He is married with three children. His hobbies are tennis, writing, and parochial research. He lives in Richmond, Va.

**Robert Brooker**, '71 BS Accounting, is a senior gaming executive who recently returned from Colorado after 13 years as president of a gaming company there. He has served as general manager of the Marina, Landmark, and Showboat casinos. His hobbies are boating, fishing, and ice hockey.

**Robert Bruno**, '71 BA English, is a retired flight attendant. He lives in Los Angeles.

**Obie Amacker**, '75 BS Business Administration, is director of the national Security Technology and Policy Division of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. He lives in Richland, Wash.

**Daphne Prochaska Burbach**, '77 BA Psychology, '84 Master of Psychology, is retired from the federal government. Her last job was in Austin, Texas, where she worked in personnel management. Her hobbies include collecting vintage dolls, traveling, reading, and taking care of two beagles. She lives in Reno.

**Randy Garcia**, '77 BS Accounting, was named by *Barron's* as the top financial advisor in Nevada. He is the chief executive officer of the Investment Counsel Co., which he founded in 1987. He is the first Nevadan to earn both the certified investment management analyst and the accredited investment fiduciary analyst professional qualifications.

**Alan Kilker**, '78 BS Hotel Administration, is director of national accounts for JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa. He lives in Scottsdale, Ariz.

**Frances Theus Carroll McAfee-Roth Rosenberger**, '78 AA Nursing, is a registered nurse in the office of Dr. V.M. Bornmann. She lives in Nacogdoches, Texas.

**Hugo Cascos**, '79 BS Accounting, is director of accounting and human resources for Dr. Dagoberto Martinez. He lives in Brownsville, Texas.

**Jayne Garrett**, '79 BS Hotel Administration, has written a book, *Know Your ZOWN & Make It Your Own: Creating Life Harmony*, which helps readers deal with life's highs and lows in their personal and professional lives. A self-dubbed "Recovering Serious Person," she says she is a firm believer in finding moments of joy and harmony. She lives in San Antonio.

**Kathryn Loo**, '79 BS Business Administration, is senior vice president of global assurance and control for Penson Worldwide. She lives in Plano, Texas.

## 2010 UNLV ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR



**Greg C. Anthony**, a Las Vegas native, began his college career at the University of Portland. He transferred to UNLV after his freshman season and led the UNLV Runnin' Rebels to the 1990 NCAA National Championship. After graduating with a political science degree, Anthony was selected 12th by the New York Knicks in the 1991 NBA draft. His 12-year professional basketball career includes stints at Vancouver, Seattle, Portland, Chicago, and Milwaukee. After retiring in 2002, Anthony became an NBA analyst on ESPN and ABC. In 2008, he debuted as the college basketball analyst for CBS. In 1993, Anthony established a foundation bearing his name to fund scholarships at 18 local schools and to fight multiple sclerosis. He is still the university's all-time assist leader and shares the No. 1 spot in steals. He was inducted into the UNLV Athletic Hall of Fame in 2002.

## 2010 COLLEGE ALUMNI OF THE YEAR HONOREES

The UNLV Alumni Association will recognize its annual award winners during homecoming week. Its top awards will go to alumnus Greg Anthony and former basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian (see story, page 30).



**Law: Sean K. Claggett**, '00 BA Political Science, '03 JD, owns Claggett & Associates, a law firm he opened in 2005 focusing on personal injury, civil, and criminal defense. His firm has obtained more than \$30 million in judgments and millions more in settlements for its clients.

Claggett has remained involved with UNLV by hosting mentoring dinners for students, judging moot court arguments, guest lecturing, and serving on the law school's alumni board. He is also an avid bicyclist who has raised more than \$10,000 by participating in charity rides. He advises fellow graduates to seek balance between their professional and personal lives: "If you work for a firm that has a problem with you taking time to be with your wife and kids, it is probably not the place you want to grow old working."



**Business: Richard A. Dar-nold**, '85 BS Accounting, is vice president for strategic sourcing for Boyd Gaming Corp. The native Las Vegas worked in finance before moving to management of the company's procurement of goods and services. He is the former chair of the

American Gaming Association's Tax and Finance Council. He serves on the board for the Huntridge Teen Clinic and is a supporter of many community organizations. A lecturer at the College of Southern Nevada and UNLV, he tells his students, "College provides the technical skills for a particular field, (but) I firmly believe that attitude is the big differentiator. Look for those people that are successful in your field and emulate them."



**Fine Arts: Timothy A. Jones**, '00 Master of Music, '03 PhD Percussion, is a professor of percussion at UNLV. He also coordinates the History of Rock Program, which attracts 1,500 students each academic year. As a professional percussionist, Jones has performed with the Las

Vegas Philharmonic, Opera Las Vegas, the Southern Nevada Musical Arts Society, Mary Wilson, Sarah Brightman, the Killers, the Drifters, Michael Bublé, and many more. He has toured extensively in Australia, Europe, the United Kingdom, and the United States. He is author of two editions of the book, *Rock 'n' Roll: Origins and Innovators*, and is vice president of the Nevada chapter of Percussive Arts Society. He was named the UNLV College of Fine Arts Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 2009.



**Honors: Judy A. Jenner**, '98 BS Business Administration, '01 MBA, co-owns Twin Translations, a boutique translation, interpretation, and copywriting business she launched with her twin sister, Dagmar. Her firm helps businesses across three continents. She is a columnist for the world's

largest translation magazine, vice president of the Nevada Interpreters and Translators Association, and a frequent speaker at conferences for linguists in both Europe and the United States. She recently authored *The Entrepreneurial Linguist: The Business-School Approach to Freelance Translation*. "Being perfectly bilingual is the absolute minimum requirement," Jenner says of her field. "It doesn't qualify you to translate a multinational contract on labor laws into Spanish. For that, you need in-depth legal knowledge in both



languages (and of the legal systems of both countries), and a lot of experience and education.”



**Liberal Arts: Kara Kelley**, '92 BA Communication Studies, '98 MA Political Science, is a senior executive with marketing, operational, finance, and executive leadership experience. As former CEO of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, Kelley was responsible for strategic direction of the

third largest metropolitan chamber of commerce in the nation. She noted, “The most challenging time of my career was during this economic recession and having to lay off a group of employees, knowing that they were going into a very difficult job market. One of the things that experience taught me was that transparency and honesty about my decision making with those who remain are critical to managing morale moving forward.” She was named as one of the most influential businesswoman in Southern Nevada and one of the “Most Respected CEOs.” She frequently authors opinion columns, hosts a business radio show, and conducts hundreds of media interviews with international outlets. She serves on the boards of Three Square, Nevada State Board of Museums and History, and the Young President's Organization.



**Nursing: Maureen A. Nolen**, '85 AS and '92 BS Nursing, is the director of care management at Harmon Medical and Rehabilitation Hospital. She recently retired from service in the U.S. Army Reserve at the rank of major. She was called to service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and

Operation Enduring Freedom and earned a Meritorious Service Medal in 2009 for her service in Afghanistan. She was the founding president of the School of Nursing Alumni Chapter. Her childhood scrapbook includes Army recruitment materials and a newspaper article about a young Army nurse. “Even though she was a stranger to me, I wanted to be just like her. I really truly believe nursing was my preordained destiny — a destiny that I have lived.”



**Education: Larry K. Shumway**, '93 EdD Educational Administration, is state superintendent of public instruction for Utah. Previously, he served as the state's deputy superintendent of schools, director of educator quality, and coordinator of the Carson Smith Special Needs Scholarship Program.

He is the former superintendent of the Tooele School District and director of alternative schools and programs for Davis District, both in Utah. He was the vice principal at Pine View High School in St. George, Utah, and principal at North Sevier High School in Salina, Utah. He also has taught in Arizona and Idaho.



**Urban Affairs: Lisa Griffith Story**, '84 BA Communication Studies, is the senior public information coordinator for the Las Vegas Valley Water District, overseeing the management of the intranet and internet sites for the district, Southern Nevada Water Authority, Springs Preserve,

H2O Water University, and many more. She serves on the board of the UNLV Alumni Association and chairs its chapters committee. She is the former president of the Las Vegas Valley chapter of the Public Relations Society of America and has won numerous national and local awards from the American Web Marketing Association, National Association of Government Webmasters, Electronic Media Awards, and the International Association of Business Communicators. An avid épée fencer, she recently placed third in the women's épée in the United Fencing Federation's summer national championships.



#### Hotel Administration:

**Jung-Ho Suh**, '82 BS Hotel Administration and '83 MBA, is the chairman of Ambassador Hotel Group in Korea and has worked in a variety of roles for the company since 1988. Ambassador Hotels are located in the business corners of Seoul, South Korea.

An involved community member, Suh served as the vice chairman of the Korea Hotel Association. He was awarded the “Legion d'Honneur” from the French government in 2000 and an honorary doctoral degree from Sejong University in Korea.



#### Engineering: Howard K.

**Vander Meer**, '70 BS Engineering, '75 MBA, is the former senior vice president and director of the water division for the engineering firm G.C. Wallace, Inc. He previously served as plant engineer/acting director of physical plant for UNLV. He oversaw the

construction of many facilities on campus including the Thomas T. Beam Engineering Complex. He also served as the director of the Las Vegas Valley Water District's Engineering Services Division. Vander Meer holds the Professional Engineer designation and has been active in many professional organizations. He has served as president of the Nevada chapter of the American Public Works Association, president of Aquavision, and has held leadership positions in numerous organizations. He has mentored, employed, and trained many UNLV engineering students and graduates. He was awarded a lifetime achievement award from the American Public Works Association.

**More:** To learn more about the festivities, including the alumni golf tournament (Nov. 8) and awards dinner (Nov. 10), visit [homecoming.unlv.edu](http://homecoming.unlv.edu).

#### NOTES

## 1980s

**Sarita Cabrera**, '81 BA Communication Studies, is the managing broker of Prudential Florida Realty, located in Oviedo, Fla. Her hobbies include traveling/cruising, wine tasting, reading, going to movies, and spending time with her young son, Ian.

**Carlos Campo**, '81 BA Theatre Arts, '86 MA English, '93 Ph.D. English, became the eighth president of Regent University on Aug. 1, making him the first Hispanic president of a private Christian college or university in Virginia. He joined Regent in 2008 as vice president of academic affairs, following a 20-year career in higher education. UNLV Liberal Arts Dean Chris Hudgins, who was Campo's dissertation advisor, was invited by Campo to speak at his inauguration in Virginia Beach, Va., this fall.

**C. Dean Milne**, '81 BS Biology, is a surgeon and internist with Internal Medicine Specialists of Las Vegas. He is the associate dean of clinical studies for Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He started and runs the post-graduate medical education program at Valley Hospital Medical Center and is director of medical education, overseeing 84 interns and residents as well as all medical students rotating at the hospital. He is board-certified in internal medicine and a fellow in the American College of Physicians and the American College of Osteopathic Internists. His wife and three children are all UNLV graduates. The Henderson resident enjoys golf and the outdoors.

**Don Ehehalt**, '83 BS Hotel Administration, is director of catering and convention services at the historic five-star, five-diamond Beverly Hills Hotel, also known as the “Pink Palace.” Previously, he worked for Tony Roma's, the Golden Nugget, Hyatt Hotels, Venetian Hotel Resort & Casino, and Red Rock Resort & Casino. For 18 years he worked for Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts in Las Vegas; Los Angeles; San Diego; and Santa Barbara and Palm Beach, Calif. He lives in Los Angeles.

**Steven La Carrubba**, '84 BS Business Administration, is president of Giarah Lures. He lives in Corte Madera, Calif.

**Charles Harrill**, '86 BA English, is owner and chef of Y and D Catering, a company he cofounded in 2003. Previously, he launched Moonlight Catering. He began working in the restaurant management field shortly after graduation. He has one son, Zachary. His hobbies are reading, fishing, and enjoying friends. He lives in Oxnard, Calif.

**David Satawa**, '86 BS Business Administration, is vice president of finance for Metro Cars. He lives in Shelby Township, Mich.

**Steven Abel**, '87 BS Business Management, is owner and president of Abel Commercial Real Estate Services. The company is involved in the sale and



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management of multifamily properties. His hobbies are golf and traveling.

**Jeff Jarvis**, '87 BS Management, is vice president and business development officer in the commercial banking services group of City National Bank in Las Vegas. He is responsible for developing new client relationships through referrals and calling efforts. He networks through civic and trade organizations to generate new business opportunities. He has worked more than 22 years in the financial services industry in Southern Nevada, including 20 years with Bank of America.

**Carolyn Thames Williams**, '87 BA Sociology, '92 Gerontology Certificate, '02 Paralegal Certificate, is a registered nurse and a paralegal. A Vietnam era veteran, she has two dogs. Her hobbies include painting, gardening, and writing.

**Kristin Sakahara Cummings**, '88 BS Elementary Education, '93 MS Elementary Education, is a teacher with the Clark County School District.

**Jon Lazarus**, '88 BS Hotel Administration, is assistant vice president of revenue services for Destination Hotels & Resorts. He lives in Parker, Colo.

**Mike Mixer**, '89 BS Business Administration and Hotel Administration, is managing partner and director of Colliers International in Las Vegas. In 1993 he cofounded the commercial real estate firm of Stuart Mixer Commercial. It merged with Colliers in 1999. He and his wife, Meredith, have two children, Morgan and Maddox. His hobbies include surfing, golf, volleyball, and other sports-related activities.

**Gloria Navarro**, '89 BA English, is a U.S. District Court judge in Nevada. She is the first Hispanic woman to hold that post in the state. Previously, she served as a chief deputy district attorney for the Clark County office of county counsel as well as a deputy special public defender exclusively handling murder cases. She also has been in private practice and served in the federal public defender's office. She earned her law degree at Arizona State University. She was nominated to the federal judiciary by President Barack Obama, based on a recommendation by U.S. Sen. Harry Reid. The Senate unanimously confirmed her appointment May 5.

## 1990s

**Christine Kiely**, '90 BS Hotel Administration, joined the team at Nevada Public Radio as the corporate support manager in June 2009. She supervises a team of five and oversees the underwriting and corporate support for the company's two FM radio stations, KNPR and KCNV, and the bi-monthly, award-winning magazine *Desert Companion*.

**Christopher Skochenko**, '90 BS Hotel Administration, is vice president of sales and marketing for Sightech Vision



# Nick Groff

'04 BA Film Studies

Executive producer and co-host of the TV series *Ghost Adventures*

Nick Groff's fascination with the paranormal began with the goose bumps one day as a kid. Home alone, he walked into his kitchen to see an apparition standing just beyond the glass door. Scared, he ran out of the house and then tried to shrug off the encounter. But the creepy feeling that the figure wasn't a figment of his imagination continued to, well, haunt him.

So in 2004, when it came time to make his first full-length feature, he brought his cameras, voice recorders, and night goggles to the Old Washoe Club in Virginia City. The documentary, made along with friends Zak Bagans and Aaron Goodwin, won awards at a couple film festivals, aired on the SyFy Channel, and then turned into the reality show *Ghost Adventures*. Now in its third season on Friday nights, it is the Travel Channel's second highest-rated show.

**How did the show come about?** There was some luck and there was preparation. UNLV definitely prepared me to take on making a feature film. As a student, I got the opportunity to work on (film professor) Francisco Menendez's film, *Primo*. And Francisco helped me get my own film into the CineVegas film festival. Also, I connected with Aaron when the department had a guest lecture. We were the only two people at the end that went up to this producer to ask questions. We got to talking. I said I was working on a film, and we

started working together from there. Those lectures are a great way to meet people.

**What goes into making an episode?** We spend two days interviewing the locals and gathering the history. The places we go are known for high paranormal activity. On the third day, we get locked in for the whole night without a crew; it's just the three of us and our equipment. We get tons of footage and condense the lockdown into 23 minutes with the best evidence we've gathered. Then, it's on to the next location.

**What do you say to the skeptics of the show?** The show is definitely entertaining — I think mostly because of the chemistry between me, Zak, and Aaron — but our stuff is straight up. We go into each situation looking for evidence as well as the logical explanations. What we observe, how we react — that's all real. And we also bring in other experts to help us verify or debunk the evidence we gathered.

**You've developed quite a following.** The fan base is huge. We're syndicated and the show airs in France and Asia. We also host events to take fans on our adventures so they can see that what we do is real.

**Are you easily spooked?** It takes a lot to scare me. The most intense experience I've had was at Linda Vista Hospital in east Los Angeles just last season. I was in the area that used be the trauma center — tons of people died there from crime and violence. I turned to see a lady, totally solid, standing there. Our eyes connected, and she was wearing a hospital gown. Made me believe 100 percent that there is something else out there after death.

**Family:** Groff met his wife, Veronique Russel, when both were UNLV students. They live in Las Vegas.

— Interviewed by Cate Weeks



## MEET THE REGENTS

This is the first in a series of articles to introduce Nevada readers to their elected higher education officials. UNLV is governed by the 13-member Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE). Elected to six-year terms, the regents set policies and approve budgets for the state's public institutions of higher education.

**Cedric Crear**, District 1, since 2006

Commitment, sacrifice, and a willingness to make hard choices are needed to bring NSHE through the current budget crisis, says Crear. "There are no simple solutions," he says. "We have to find ways to generate more diversified revenues into Nevada, and the institutions must be able to keep their revenues on their campuses."



Budget realities mean that Nevada institutions must "be the best at certain things and not just OK at everything."

He is president of Crear Creative Group, which provides advertising and consulting solutions to regional and global businesses. Previously, he worked as a consultant for SBC Telecommunications, as chief marketing officer of Vestin Group, and as director of marketing for various companies, including Sunset Station, Palace Station, and Barley's Casino. "As a business owner, a native Nevadan, and an African-American, I believe I bring a unique perspective," to the board, he says, "that of having the ability to voice ideologies that represent minorities, business, and all of Nevada's citizens."

He volunteers for the Andre Agassi Foundation and previously served as chairman of the Southern Nevada chapter of the American Red Cross.

He earned his bachelor of science degree from Howard University, where he was tennis team captain and won two conference championships.

**James Dean Leavitt**, District 13, since 2004

Unlike other facets of the Nevada budget, higher education is one area where "you, (the taxpayers), actually get return on your investment," Leavitt says. "You are producing people who are now making more money and paying more taxes."



Leavitt is serving his second term as chair of the Board of Regents. "It has become clear to me that the work force is the key to diversifying the economy," he says. "Without an educated work force we are not going to attract the

kind of businesses we need." A number of businesses have let it be known that they have chosen not to come to Nevada because company officials didn't believe the work force was sufficiently educated, he continues. They also didn't want to raise their families in a state that doesn't value education, he says.

During the upcoming legislative session, Leavitt will meet with individual legislators to "advocate for necessary and essential funding. I'm going to be very passionate and make a strong case for our funding."

Leavitt, a lawyer whose practice is focused on criminal defense, received a bachelor's degree in speech communication rhetoric from Brigham Young University and a law degree from the University of Idaho. He also previously taught in UNLV's Greenspun School of Communication.

**Kevin Page**, District 3, since 2009

Page's commitment to education goes back to the day he graduated from UNLV and became involved in



networking activities. After 18 years on the Alumni Association Board (including three as president), he was appointed a regent by Gov. Jim Gibbons.

Page says one strength he brings to the board is his financial acumen. He is managing

director and senior relationship manager for Wells Capital Management-Institutional Investment Management Services. The two-time alum, '86 BS Business Administration, '87 MBA, previously worked with First Security Investment Management and First Interstate Bank.

Finances are, not surprisingly, what the regents are focusing on before the next legislative session. Page says NSHE has done a good job absorbing cuts, but warns, "Further cuts are going to cut into the muscle."

Page says he knows all state agencies are struggling with budget cuts; however, "The Nevada System of Higher Education is the solution, not the problem. Higher ed can help us diversify this economy."

Page was selected as the Outstanding Alum for the College of Business in 2000 and the university's Alumnus of the Year in 2006, the same year he received the Distinguished Nevadan Award from the Board of Regents.

## NOTES

Systems. He is married with one child and serves as a Cub Scout leader. His hobbies include weightlifting, planting flowers, and playing tennis. The family lives in Los Gatos, Calif.

**Matthew Engle**, '91 BS Business Administration, is an account executive with Cragin & Pike, an insurance and risk management company. He focuses on establishing new commercial insurance markets in Southern Nevada, specifically in technology and eco-friendly industries. Previously, he worked for AAA for nearly seven years as an area business manager for Southern Nevada. He is the current president of the UNLV Alumni Association and has served on its board since 2006. He is married and has two daughters. His hobbies include coaching girls' soccer, hiking, music, learning about wines, and attending Rebel sporting events.

**Vanessa McKinney**, '91 BA Psychology, is an assistant professor at the State University of New York-Fredonia. She has been granted a one-semester sabbatical to collect data on using technology in the classroom as well as best practices for education programs in a prison setting. She lives in Dunkirk.

**Mark Sirota**, '91 BS Hotel Administration, is a baccarat floor supervisor at the Bellagio Hotel and Casino.

**Kent Emeson**, '92 BS Hotel Administration, is president of Earson Marketing. He lives in Austin, Texas.

**David Maiorella**, '92 BS Business Administration, is a senior vice president of Bank of America. He lives in Phoenix.

**Mick McCanlies**, '92 BS Hotel Administration, connects all types of businesses with their target audiences using a variety of promotional products and techniques. His hobbies include running, fishing, participating in wine tastings, traveling, and sports of all kinds. He and his wife, Karen, live in Pflugerville, Texas.

**Sylke Neal-Finnegan**, '92 BA Communication Studies, is communications/public relations manager for the Washington County Visitors Association in Oregon. She recently was elected vice president of member services on the board of directors for the Portland chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. She lives in Beaverton.

**Carolyn Cernik Weaver**, '92 MBA, is director of business development for IPC The Hospitalist Company of Nevada. Her background is in health care consulting, business, and nursing. Her husband, **Gary Weaver**, '93 BA Communication Studies, is a registered respiratory therapist with Spring Valley Hospital. His health care background includes clinical, management, and teaching.

**Patrick Brophy**, '94 BS Hotel Administration, is hotel manager at Don CeSar Beach Resort, a Loews hotel. He lives in St. Petersburg, Fla.

**Shawn Danoski**, '94 BS Architecture, has been appointed to the Nevada Commission on Construction Education. The commission distributes grant funds to approved organizations, including high schools and community colleges, for construction-related educational programs. He is CEO of Danoski Clutts Building Group, a full-service general contracting firm.

**Ellen Moskito**, '94 BS Business Administration, is a strategic advisor for Seattle City Light, the city's publicly owned electric power utility.

**Linda Gray Norcross**, '94 BA Political Science, is an attorney with Lewis and Roca. Her practice focuses on protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights, both foreign and domestic, including trademark selection, clearance, proper trademark use, and registration and renewals. She is married to Matthew Norcross and has two daughters, Shelby Larae, and Jameson Presley.

**Scott Gulbransen**, '95 BA Communication Studies, is senior director of global communications for Sony Online Entertainment. He leads public relations efforts for Sony's video game division based in San Diego. Previously, he spent nine years with Intuit's TurboTax. He lives in Carlsbad.

**Chih-Kuo Hsia**, '95 BS Hotel Administration, is chairman of the Formosa Cigar Co., a Cuban cigar distributor in Taiwan. He lives in Taipei.

**Brad Packer**, '95 BS Hotel Administration, is director of public relations at the Four Seasons Resort Hualalai at historic Ka'upulehu on Hawaii's Kona Coast as well as at the company's resort in Bora Bora. He joined Four Seasons in 2006 as director of public relations of Four Seasons Resorts Lanai. Based in Honolulu, he oversaw the opening and rebranding of Manele Bay and The Lodge at Koele. Previously, he was based in Miami as director of public relations for Chris Blackwell's Island Outpost and then for Noble House Hotels & Resorts. In Las Vegas, he was public relations manager at the Venetian when it opened. He also worked with Station Casinos and Mirage Resorts. His hobbies include travel, the arts, and golf. He is based in Beverly Hills, Calif.

**Brent Rendahl**, '95 BS Civil Engineering, is a field engineering manager with Fluor Corp. He lives in Miami.

**Kathleen Schaeffer**, '95 Master of Education, was named 2010 Nevada Teacher of the Year. A math teacher at Miller Middle School, she received national board certification in early adolescence math in 2008.

**Michael Del Gatto**, '96 BS Architecture, has had his name added to the architectural firm where he has worked since 2000. Carpenter Sellers Del Gatto Architects has received more than 85 design awards at local, state, regional, and national levels. In

2006 he was named Nevada Young Architect by the American Institute of Architects. In 2008 he received the institute's Western Mountain Region award.

**Timothy Guppton**, '97 BA Romance Languages, is an assistant professor teaching syntax in the department of romance languages at the University of Georgia. His doctoral dissertation at the University of Iowa was titled "The Syntax-Information Structure Interface: Subjects and Clausal World order in Galician."

**Yoshinori Senoo**, '97 BS Business Administration, is international sales manager for Cerulean Tower Tokyo Hotel in Japan.

**Donghoon Shin**, '97 BS Hotel Administration, is Korea AM leader for GE Capital Real Estate. He lives in Seoul.

**Tiffannie Bond**, '98 BA Communication Studies, works as a media relations specialist at Imagine Marketing of Nevada. She also teaches in the Winchester Star Catchers dance program at Winchester Cultural Center and works as a wedding photographer. She lives in Henderson.

**Diana Cearley**, '98 BA Communication Studies, is production control supervisor for Lighting Science Group. She lives in Melbourne, Fla.

**Kyle Horvatis**, '98 BS Hotel Administration, is a physical education teacher and varsity volleyball coach for Kenmore-Tonawanda School District in New York. He has been teaching for nine years.

**Andrew Marx**, '98 BA English, is a writer and publisher with Ayrx Publications. He is the author of the *Thank You is Implied* essay collection, the novel *Accidents Happen*, and the e-book novella *Whisper in the Walls*. He cowrote *What Do You Say to the DJ?* with Dara Shifer. He maintains an article blog, Smart ReMarx, and a concert review blog. He earned a master of education degree from Boston University. He lives in Waltham, Mass.

**Aleza Freeman**, '99 BA English, is a hotel writer, editor, and page designer for VEGAS.com. She is married and has one son.

**Paul Harvey**, '99 BA Criminal Justice, '00 MA Criminal Justice, is a crime analyst with the Weld County sheriff's office. He also is vice president of the Colorado Crime Analyst Association and a certified geographic profiling analyst. He has four children, Sarah, Sydney, Sophia, and Sonja. He lives in Loveland.

**Vicky Smith Lindsey**, '99 Master of Social Work, provides individual, couples, and family counseling. She lives in Sherman, Texas.

**Ronald Viernes**, '99 BA Criminal Justice, is a corrections officer with the state of Nevada.

## 2000s

**Emily Bauer**, '00 BS Recreation and Leisure Studies, is associate director of orientation and transition at San Jose State University in California.

**John Feller**, '00 BS Civil Engineering, is a civil engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**Lauren Barr Gross**, '00 BA Political Science, has been a teacher at Yuma Lutheran School for seven years. In 2006 she received a master's degree in elementary education from Northern Arizona University. In 2003 she married **Elery Gross**, '02 BS Business Administration. He is the owner and operator of the Colorado River Stone & Granite monument business. The couple has one son, David. Her hobbies are sewing, crafting, playing golf, and reading. His hobbies include target shooting, hunting, and golf. The family lives in Yuma, Ariz.

**Allyson LaGanke McSweeney**, '00 Master of Education, '01 Education Specialist, is a school psychologist with the Clark County School District.

**Gregory Scott Ramin**, '00 BS Culinary Management, '04 MS Hotel Administration, is a chef instructor at the Art Institute of Tennessee-Nashville.

**Steven Rawson**, '00 BS Business Administration, is a computer technology analyst with the Northern California Power Agency. He is in charge of the company's system control and data acquisition system. He previously worked as a programmer for a retail company. Recently married, he enjoys cooking, hiking, and camping. He lives in Cool.

**Brad Weiss**, '00 MA Communication Studies, has been promoted to program manager for ESPN radio, WMFS in Memphis, Tenn. He is continuing his work as a midday personality and content manager for classic hits KQK and WKQK. He also is doing voiceover work. He and his wife, Stacy, have a son, Jake. The family lives in Arlington.

**Marwan El-Hassani Adnan**, '01 BS Hotel Administration, is with the Salvation Army in Georges Hall, Australia.

**Michelle Sposito Atkinson**, '01 BA Communication Studies, is a staff attorney for the Legal Rights Division of the state of Ohio. She and her husband, Brian Atkinson, welcomed a daughter, Madeline Sophia, on April 2.

**Shane Boehmer**, '01 BS Civil Engineering, is a structural engineer with the U.S. Department of Defense. He has travelled the world, working on projects for eight foreign countries and in every U.S. state. He lives in San Diego.

**Joe Cain**, '01 JD, is vice president and general counsel for Fine Properties. He is the 2010 chairman of the Board of Directors of the North Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. He also is a board member of the Boyd Law School Alumni Association as well as its past

president. His hobbies include hiking, skiing, and reading.

**Christy Cruz**, '01 BA Journalism and Media Studies, is a pharmacy trainer at CVS Pharmacy. She is pursuing acting and modeling jobs on the side. She lives in Henderson.

**Tommi White**, '01 MA Anthropology, is an adjunct professor at Boise State University. She lives in Nampa, Idaho.

**Mark Wiley**, '01 BA Psychology, is director of sales for Sega Entertainment—GameWorks. He has two dogs, Moxie and Tobey. His hobbies are traveling, playing golf, smoking cigars, riding his Harley Ultra Classic, and cheering on the Buffalo Bills.

**Bahri Burcin Avar**, '02 Ph.D. Civil Engineering, is principal engineer with Scott Wilson Ltd. in London.

**Scott Brewer**, '02 BA Criminal Justice '08 MS Accountancy, is manager of construction project accounting for Pinnacle Entertainment. He lives in North Las Vegas.

**Michael Carosielli**, '02 BS Hotel Administration, is director of facility and event operations at the Sears Centre Arena outside Chicago. The 11,000-seat arena hosts concerts, professional sports, and family entertainment. Previously, he served as senior event coordinator. He lives in Arlington Heights.

**Andrea Carroll**, '02 BS Elementary Education, is a school counselor and is pursuing a master's of education degree in professional counseling with an emphasis in school counseling at Texas State University. She has taught first, second, and third grades. In 2008 her school named her Teacher of the Year. She and her partner of eight years recently purchased their first home. Her hobbies include bowling, yoga, and watching movies. They live in Austin, Texas.

**Trevor Kainoa Daines**, '02 BS Hotel Administration, recently joined Honolulu's Queen Kapiolani Hotel as director of sales for North America and international/cultural director. His goal for the property, which is located on the edge of Waikiki across from the Honolulu Zoo, is to tell the hotel's story to guests by showcasing the monarchy period of Hawaii as well as the state's native culture, food, and language. He previously worked as a sales manager for the Miramar at Waikiki. He lives in Kaneohe.

**Ashley Miller**, '02 BA Communication Studies, is the public relations coordinator for Loews Lake Las Vegas.

**Jared Mintz**, '02 BS Hotel Administration, is the entertainment & corporate sales manager for the Mandarin Oriental, Las Vegas. He lives in Henderson.

**Anita Pedford**, '02 BA Communication Studies, is meetings coordinator for Behringer Harvard, a real estate and securities company. She and her boyfriend have three dogs and two cats. Her hobbies are soccer, art, cooking,

networking, wine tasting, fashion, walking the dogs, and antique shopping. They live in Dallas.

**Marion Smith**, '02 BS Secondary Education, is founding director of culture for Young Scholars Charter School Network. He serves as a leading administrator of a K-8 turnaround school. He enforces and maintains the school mission, vision, and program design and also implements and leads school culture and character development initiatives and programs. He lives in Philadelphia.

**Magdalena Zepeda**, '02 MA Communication Studies, was voted 2010 Teacher of the Year at Palm Desert High School in California. In addition to teaching high school, she is an adjunct professor at the College of the Desert. She has entered the master of arts program in educational administration at California State University, San Bernardino. She plans to run in the Las Vegas Marathon next year.

**Latoya Bemby**, '03 BA Communication Studies, is a public relations account executive with the Ferraro Group.

**Jacqueline Bodnar**, '03 BA Interdisciplinary Studies, is a self-employed writer who has had more than 1,500 articles published in newspapers and magazines. In March she won a gold news feature award in the Parenting Publications of America editorial competition. The mother of two recently earned a master of professional writing degree from Chatham University. Her hobbies include reading, collecting seashells, beachcombing, traveling, and hiking. She lives in Port Orange, Fla.

**Nohemi Ramirez Brewer**, '03 BS Electrical Engineering, is a preclosure safety engineer for the U.S. Department of Energy. She has worked on the Yucca Mountain Project since she began a student internship while at UNLV. She is married to a UNLV alum. They have three children. Her hobbies are the children's activities. The family lives in Henderson.

**Lisa Allen Chastain**, '03 BA Communication Studies, is director of advising and recruitment for the UNLV Honors College. She has worked for the college for four years. She and her husband have one son.

**Chandra Knee**, '04 BA Communication Studies, is president and founder of Dandelion PR. She lives in San Francisco.

**Timothy Lam**, '04 MS Hotel Administration, is the executive director of TISOH-The International School of Hospitality. It is a hospitality management training school that helps career changers and those needing credentials for advancement excel in the industry.

**Richard Silva**, '04 MS Mechanical Engineering, is a mechanical engineering group supervisor for Bechtel. His group supports the mechanical design of stations and facilities for the Dulles corridor MetroRail project. His hobbies are photography, flying, and hiking. He lives in Burke, Va.



## OBITUARIES

**Michael Alcorn**, professor of architecture, died July 15. A faculty member since 1993, he was the founding director of the School of Architecture and played an instrumental role in the school's initial accreditation. Among his surviving relatives is his brother, Tim.

**Gerald Goll**, emeritus professor of hotel administration, died July 17. He was a faculty member from 1986 until his retirement in 2000. He served as chair of the hotel management department for six years and was a mentor to many graduate students. Survivors include his daughter, Kari Lynn Hoots; sons, Jeffry and Daniel; three grandsons; and one great-grandson.

**Kenny Guinn**, former UNLV president and Nevada governor, died July 22 after an accidental fall from the roof of his Las Vegas home. He served as UNLV's interim president from 1994 to 1995 and as Nevada's governor from 1999 to 2007. As governor, he created the state's Millennium Scholarship, which now is known as the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Derna; sons, Jeffrey and Steven; six grandchildren; one brother; and two sisters.

**Helen Harper**, professor of curriculum and instruction, died Aug. 7. She had worked at UNLV since 2003. Among her survivors is her husband, curriculum and instruction professor Tom Bean, with whom she edited the *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy*. Other survivors include her mother, stepfather, and two brothers.

**George Kavina**, emeritus professor of educational administration, died May 22 in West Melbourne, Fla. He taught at UNLV from the early 1970s until his retirement in 1994, at one time serving as chair of the educational administration department. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Carol; two daughters, Joy Jones and Cheryl Sorenson; one grandson; and one granddaughter.

**Kathleen Nelson**, professor of tourism and convention administration, died July 10. She joined the faculty in 1994. She coauthored a paper that received the *Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Education* Article of the Year Award and was published in *Event Management: An International Journal*. Among her survivors are her husband of 42 years, Daniel; daughter, Chloe; her stepmother; two brothers; and three sisters.

**Richele Diane Panther**, '93 Master of Music, died July 29. She toured with many musicians around the world. When the Blue Man Group opened in Las Vegas, she was the original female drummer. She mentored hundreds of students across the Las Vegas Valley in the art of percussion. She is survived by her daughter, Roxanne; mother, Rosemary; sister, Christine; and father, Richard.

**Lorne Seidman**, emeritus professor of legal studies, died April 26 after a long bout with cancer. He was a faculty member from 1969 until his retirement in 2000. He served as chair of the finance department three times and as chair of the committee that established what is now the Faculty Senate. For more than 20 years he served as special counsel for University Code procedure. He was instrumental in the effort to establish a law school at UNLV. He is survived by his wife, Janet.

**Jim Swayze**, professor of accounting, died March 20 after a long illness. He had been a faculty member since 1991. He served as chair of the accounting department at one time and was a member of the American Accounting Association and the American Tax Association. Survivors include his son, Chris, and stepdaughter, Vicki Conquest Niblett.

**Herbert Wells**, professor of engineering, died March 21 following a brief illness. Wells began his UNLV career in 1957, when he signed on as a part-time instructor. He played significant roles in the advancement of engineering at UNLV, including the creation of the Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering in 1988. Though he officially retired in 1997, he continued to teach. Survivors include his wife, Melissa, and children, Elysia, Vernon, Nick, Jon, Jay, and Mary.

**Kimberly Coy Valles**, '04 BS Kinesiology, is assistant to the head athletic trainer at Joe Gibbs Racing. She lives in Huntersville, N.C.

**Robert Van Tassell**, '04 BS Hotel Administration, is service manager at O'Charley's Restaurant. Previously, he was a trainer and manager with PF Chang's. He opened five locations, including restaurants in Los Angeles; Dallas; Austin, Texas; and Nashville, Tenn. He lives in Franklin, Tenn.

**Ronald Williams**, '04 BA Psychology, is a self-employed classical vocalist. He returned to college to finish a second bachelor's degree in vocal performance. He lives in Kaneohe, Hawaii.

**Stephanie Cuddy**, '05 BS Management, is a teacher with the Clark County School District.

**Henry Schuck**, '05 BS Hotel Administration, '05 BS Business Administration, is vice president of operations and general counsel for DiscoverOrg. He manages sales, marketing, legal affairs, and strategic development for the company. He earned a law degree from Ohio State University's Moritz College of Law and has studied comparative law at Oxford University. He lives in Vancouver, Wash.

**Jordan Shaw**, '05 BS Finance, is a cost accountant for Simmons Bedding Co. He lives in Overland Park, Kan.

**Hou Ian Chui**, '06 BS Gaming Management, is vice president of casino management for L'Arc Macau Casino in Macau. He lives in Taipei.

**Stanley Fong**, '06 BS Civil Engineering, is a civil designer for Taney Engineering.

**Ryan Lee**, '06 BA Communication Studies, is a pilot and second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. He lives in Del Rio, Texas.

**MariJo King Mendiola**, '06 BA Psychology, is a service manager for Wells Fargo Bank. She lives in Ontario, Ore.

**Ashley Price Miller**, '06 BS Elementary Education, teaches kindergarten at Teleis Preparatory Academy. She earned a master's degree in educational leadership from Northern Arizona University. She lives in Lake Havasu, Ariz.

**Angela Hutchinson Roberts**, '06 BS Hotel Administration, joined the staff of Christie's Photographic Studios as national sales manager. She also is president-elect of the Las Vegas chapter of the International Special Events Society. She lives in North Las Vegas.

**Delores Elkriver Spencer**, '06 BA Criminal Justice, is a gaming agent with the Navajo gaming regulatory office. She lives in Gallup, N.M.

**Robert Taylor**, '06 MS Hotel Administration, is a store manager for Wal-Mart. Previously, he worked in the hotel industry for 10 years. He and his wife, Eva, have three children, Sean, Brad, and Chloe. He is an avid reader, follows college sports, fly fishes, golfs, hikes, and camps. He lives in Amelia, Ohio.

**Dan Bollard**, '07 BS Biology, is the manager of the gross anatomy lab for Touro University Nevada.

**Cheri Brady**, '07 Bachelor of University Studies, is a server at Pure nightclub.

**Kelly Todd Frost**, '07 BA Journalism and Media Studies, handles on-air programming for Clear Channel radio. He lives in Plano, Texas.

**Mitchell Jucha**, '07 MBA, is director of spa, salon, and fitness for Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas.

**Nate Kimball**, '07 Bachelor of Music, won the 2010 J.J. Johnson Jazz Competition in Austin, Texas. His prize included a Rath jazz trombone donated by trombonist Michael Rath. He currently is pursuing a master's degree at UNLV.

**T.J. Milner**, '07 BS Business Administration, is an accountant with Reeves, Evans, McBride & Zhang. He is working toward becoming a CPA. His hobbies are baseball, basketball, golf, nightlife, and Hold 'Em.

**Matthew Nedrow**, '07 BA Journalism and Media Studies, is an onsite support specialist with Ernst & Young. A senior information technology support engineer with more than five years in the field, he has developed and managed multiple technology support initiatives for a large district in a Fortune 500 multinational company. He has overseen extensive testing and support for numerous iterations of software deployments to large clusters of workstations across several operating companies. He lives in Edmond, Okla.

**Alicia Perez**, '07 BS Meetings and Events Management, is owner of the Hacienda Gardens Banquet Hall, which hosts meetings, wedding receptions, and church gatherings. She is involved with Catechist Liturgical Ministries.

**Lily Elgincolin Swan**, '07 Master of Education, is senior international student advisor at the University of Houston-Clear Lake. She married **Jesse Swan**, '07 BA History, Sept. 19, 2009, in Dearborn, Mich. They honeymooned in the U.S. Virgin Islands and now live in Pearlard, Texas.

**Sierra Trabeau**, '07 BA Accounting, is an auditor with Latuso & Johnson. She lives in Gonzales, La.

**Karlen Crouch Troyanoski**, '07 BS Hospitality Management, works in sales at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort and Spa, which opened in January. It is the largest JW Marriott Resort in the world.

**Alexander Adams Jr.**, '08 BS Recreation and Leisure Studies, is on the sales and marketing team at Coca-Cola Enterprises. He also is a partner in his father's Coca-Cola distribution business. He lives in North Las Vegas.

**Allison Belmonte**, '08 BS Elementary Education, is an officer manager with City Merchandise.

**Luis Durani**, '08 BA Political Science, '08 BS Mechanical Engineering, '09 MS Nuclear Engineering, is a nuclear engineer with Areva. He lives in Lynchburg, Va.

**Anne Lockett Perkins**, '08 MS Water Resources Management, is an adjunct professor of biology at the College of Southern Nevada.

**Alex Roy**, '08 MS Geoscience, is a natural resources planner for Maryland's department of the environment. His work involves protecting the shoreline and wetlands of the Chesapeake Bay using both environmental regulation and geologic research. He married Kristen Wood in 2009. He enjoys kayaking, camping, traveling, and longboarding. They live in Baltimore.

**Emily Harris Brashear**, '09 BA Criminal Justice, is a records specialist with the Pullman (Wash.) Police Department.

**Renah Carlisle**, '09 BS Business Administration, is a senior banker with US Bank.

**Shawn MacRunnel**, '09 BS Accounting, works for Wells Fargo. He lives in Moreno Valley, Calif.

**Cordlaine McGhee**, '09 BS Hotel Administration, works in the food and beverage department of the Peninsula Beverly Hills Hotel. She is on the American Diabetes Association Committee and works with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. She enjoys being involved with Oasis Christian Church, cycling, going to the beach, cooking, and the outdoors. She lives in Los Angeles.

**Anthony Miller**, '09 BS Business Administration, is an accountant for the U.S. Air Force. He is part of a civilian leadership intern program. He enjoys golf, hot yoga, basketball, and softball. He lives in Denver.

**Emanuel Radoccia**, '09 BS Recreation and Leisure Studies, is a golf professional at the Hills Country Club. He married his wife, Bobbi, in 2009. They live in Austin, Texas.

**Lindsay Smith**, '09 BA Interdisciplinary Social Science Studies, is a law student at the University of Kansas. She lives in Lawrence.

**Mao Tada**, '09 BS Meetings and Events Management, is an exhibitor showsite coordinator. She began working with Global Experience Specialists as an intern in July 2009. The company provides exhibition and event services and produces a number of the world's most recognized exhibitions including the Consumer Electronics Show.

**Zach Thomas**, '09 BS Hotel Administration, is a concierge at Vdara at CityCenter. He was part of the opening team at the property.

**Senceira Bettis**, '10 BA Communication Studies, is office manager for Ace Painting and Drywall.



## [ THE BACK STORY ]



1983

Today

### Little House on the Campus

Houssels House, a 1930s Tudor Revival, sits incongruously near UNLV's contemporary, multistory residence halls. The home was plopped down on campus, five decades after it was built, thanks in part to preservationist Anna Dean Kepper, a curator in the UNLV Libraries at the time. It was donated by the family of casino owner J. Kell Houssels Sr.

The day after the home made its trek from downtown Las Vegas, an arsonist nearly undid efforts to save it. But the building was rehabbed and expanded. Its tenants since have included faculty from architecture, English, and women's studies. It now holds the Multicultural Center/Centro Multicultural, which offers student groups a home in which to gather.

Kepper helped save a number of historic Southern Nevada places, including the Las Vegas Mormon Fort, and was key in Boulder City gaining designation as a national Historic District. She founded what became the Preservation Association of Clark County. She died of cancer in 1983, just 18 days after passing her final exam for her master's of public administration from UNLV.



**More:** View a slideshow of the Houssels House move at [cms.unlv.edu/newscenter](https://cms.unlv.edu/newscenter).



# Celebrate Homecoming

Gather your family and friends, get out your scarlet and gray, and celebrate with fellow Rebels—it's time for homecoming.

Check out these can't-miss events:

**Alumni Association Homecoming Dinner** | **Wednesday, Nov. 10 • 6 p.m.**

Come celebrate the heroes who bring honor to UNLV and make a difference in our community.

Visit [alumni.unlv.edu/events](http://alumni.unlv.edu/events) for details.

**Rebel Red Day** | **Friday, Nov. 12**

Show your pride by wearing your Rebel red and join this citywide celebration.

**Tailgate & Parade** | **Saturday, Nov. 13 • Tailgate at 4 p.m., Parade at 5 p.m.**

Enjoy food, drinks, and the annual parade at the Alumni Association's homecoming tailgate

inside the Rebel Experience at Sam Boyd Stadium.

**UNLV vs. Wyoming** | **Saturday, Nov. 13 • 7 p.m.**

Cheer on the Rebels as they play Wyoming.

*For a complete list of homecoming events, visit [homecoming.unlv.edu](http://homecoming.unlv.edu).*