Inside UNLV

Shane Bevell
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Diane Russell
University of Nevada, Las Vegas, diane.russell@unlv.edu

Grace Russell
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv

Part of the Communication Technology and New Media Commons, Construction Engineering Commons, Curriculum and Social Inquiry Commons, Other Architecture Commons, Other Communication Commons, Other Education Commons, and the Urban, Community and Regional Planning Commons

Repository Citation
Available at: https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/inside_unlv/24

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the UNLV Publications at Digital Scholarship@UNLV. It has been accepted for inclusion in Inside UNLV by an authorized administrator of Digital Scholarship@UNLV. For more information, please contact digitalscholarship@unlv.edu.
Spring Into Action at Rebel Connection

If you've been looking for a way to give back to the campus community, Rebel Connection has an opportunity for you. Approximately 100 staff and faculty members are needed as volunteers this month. The majority of volunteers will be needed:

• Jan. 11 to direct students during New Student Orientation
• Jan. 16 and 17, the first two days of the spring semester, to staff Ask Me booths
• Go to rebelconnection.unlv.edu for a full schedule or to volunteer. For information, call ext. 5-2970.

MLK Celebration Jan. 18

Civil rights activist Myrlie Evers-Williams will speak Jan. 18 as part of UNLV's third annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration. The free event will take place at 12:15 p.m. in the Cox Pavilion. “Myrlie Evers-Williams is a phenomenal woman and role model who has committed her life to the noble struggle for human rights for which Martin Luther King Jr. gave his life,” said Juanita Fain, vice president for planning, diversity, and chief of staff. The widow of Medgar Evers, the civil rights leader who was murdered in 1963, she is the author of the 2001 memoir, “The Woman I Was Meant to Be.”

The Big Building Boom

Six new buildings are shooting up across UNLV's campuses

By Shane Bevel | Marketing & PR

Even with the absence of most students, faculty, and staff over winter break, the campus wasn’t a complete ghost town. Construction crews were busy keeping UNLV’s multiple projects on schedule.

When inside UNLV last gave you a construction update 10 months ago, the Moot Court was still in design stages, the new Moyer Student Union was in the conceptual phases of the work. Work crews are installing waste lines for labs and preparing to pour the light-weight concrete roof. Crews will continue with exterior framing on the south side as well as interior framing and drywall.

Tips For Employees

• Prepare a self-evaluation, including a list of your major accomplishments, even if your supervisor does not require it. This review will help you in the one-on-one session.
• View the one-on-one session with your supervisor as a chance to discuss what your career goals are and how your supervisor can help you achieve them.
• Be prepared to ask for additional training if you are seeking to improve or expand your skills.

More info: There will be two sessions of the seminar, “It’s Evaluation Time — Professional Staff.” In the coming weeks. Both sessions will be in the Campus Services Building, Room 212 G. They are 9-10:30 a.m. Jan. 24 and 2-3:30 p.m. Feb. 6. To register, call ext. 5-4475 to reserve a spot.
Across Campus

Business

Top Students Invited to Join Internationals Honor Society

A total of 74 of the college’s students recently earned invitations to join the selective international business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma.

Offers are extended to students ranking in the top 7 percent of the junior class, top 10 percent of the senior class, and top 20 percent of master’s programs at schools accredited by AACSB International — the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Each year only about 20,000 students worldwide are inducted into lifetime membership, even though nearly 300,000 students earn bachelor’s or master’s degrees in business.

Membership is the highest recognition a business student can receive at a school accredited by AACSB International.

Beta Gamma Sigma was founded as a national organization in 1913 with the merger of three separate business honor societies at the University of Wisconsin, University of Illinois, and the University of California.

With chapters in the United States, Canada, Hong Kong, and the United Kingdom, Beta Gamma Sigma today is truly an international society that remains dedicated to recognizing the most outstanding students of business and management.

Education

State’s First Autism Center Established at UNLV

A new center for individuals and families affected by autism puts UNLV at the forefront of research into the disorder.

The Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders is the first of its kind in the state, said Matt Tincani, center director and assistant professor of special education. “Autism affects one in 166 children, and given Southern Nevada’s growing population, this center is needed to help those with autism and their families,” he said.

The center will conduct research related to assessment of and intervention programs for persons with autism and similar disorders, such as Asperger Syndrome. Both are commonly known by the umbrella term “autism spectrum disorders.” The center also will provide community-focused training and support to the Southern Nevada community.

Although autism is diagnosed in early childhood, its impact often lasts a lifetime. In addition to helping children and their families, the center will provide support for adults with autism and related disorders.

This is the first university-based resource in Nevada for professionals, families, and individuals dealing with autism. Partners include Nevada Early Intervention Services and Nevada Parents Encouraging Parents, the state’s technical assistance program for parents of children with disabilities. Proposed projects include outreach seminars to professionals and parents, therapist training, and research on teaching communication and social skills. Tincani hopes to garner additional external funding from federal, state, and local sources to support the center’s goal of becoming a premier resource regionally and nationally.

Engineering

Researchers Tackle Hazardous Waste Transportation Issues

Members of the UNLV community are participating in a project related to the transportation of hazardous materials. The Hazardous Materials Truck Tracking Program (HZMT) is a U.S. Department of Energy-funded project geared toward enhancing transportation security, reducing accidents, and enhancing the incident management process should an accident occur.

The project represents a collective effort from the UNLV Research Foundation, the College of Engineering, and Qualcomm’s Wireless Business Solutions unit as the lead technical integrator. UNLV engineering professor Robert Abella and research coordinator DeeDee Severin are establishing a demonstration and presentation program for the integrated technology package. Their work related to accident prevention initiatives addresses the status of the truck carrying the hazardous materials and the performance of the driver.

Dispatchers can continuously monitor the location of the truck and trailer through state-of-the-art satellite communications. The driver can activate a panic button, which then alerts the dispatcher to critical events with the same satellite system. Important driving parameters such as hard braking events are recorded and transmitted to the dispatcher.

The truck will showcase its findings on Feb. 21. Contact Christine Wallace at christine.wallace@unlv.edu if you are interested in attending the event.

Hotel

Students Learn the Art of Bistro, Campus to Eat up the Results

This spring, students in the college are learning the art of bistro. And the campus community will be able to enjoy the fruits of their new knowledge when the college opens its weekly bistro Feb. 12.

This spring, the food and beverage management department is offering its first-ever bistro management class. Bistros have become very trendy in recent years, as more people become concerned about their health.

Bistros also provide more frequent meals, and the students are learning how to accommodate this movement. The bistro will create and serve highly flavored hot and cold foods, served on smaller plates, along with a variety of coffees, juices, specialty non-alcoholic drinks, wine, and beer.

Pat Moreo, who will coordinate and teach the bistro, will begin offering classes the week of Feb. 5-7:30 p.m. every Monday through May in the Southern Wine Lounge at the student center.

Cathy “C.C.” Dyer is now international graduate student coordinator. She will oversee matters involving international graduate student admissions and processing.

Moreo will coordinate and teach the bistro, with the aim of helping the international student services, the study abroad office, and the graduate and international student offices.

Hanging with Hey Reb

Rocky Torres from K Rock Graphics dangles from the Thomas & Mack Center to install a sign in December.

Fine Arts

Folk Dancers Load Off January Arts Offerings

The UNLV Performing Arts Center welcomes The Hungarian State Folk Ensemble on Jan. 18 as part of the Charles Vanda Master Series. The group has performed in 44 countries across four continents and won the admiration of millions, making it one of the greatest folkloric dance ensembles in the world. Its rich and colorful repertoire includes the folk dances and stunning costumes of Hungary and Hungarian-inhabited areas.

The series continues Jan. 27 as Lorin Maazel conducts the Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini. Maazel, music director of the New York Philharmonic, chose to direct the Arturo Toscanini Philharmonic because of its “quality level and ... enthusiasm.” Maestro Maazel began his conducting career at age 9.

For information, call ext. 5-2787.

Graduate

Graduate College Announces Organizational Changes

The college has made several organizational changes:

• Kate Hausbeck is senior associate dean and will supervise personnel, oversee academic affairs, and graduate operations.

• Harriet Barlow, associate dean for student services, will continue as thesis and dissertation reviewer; coordinator of orientation, special events, and the graduate catalog, and liaison for publications. Additionally, she will oversee expanding of professional development initiatives for students.

• The position of director of admissions and processing has been created to guide recruitment, admissions, and retention. This person also will oversee front-office services and records management, participate in assessment, and serve as administrative liaison to graduate coordinators. The director will also supervise college evaluators, including two newly added evaluator positions. A search is under way.

• Eric Lee is now director of graduate financial services and will manage assistantships, fellowship, and scholarship programs, as well as administration and coordination processes associated with financial services for graduate students. In cooperation with research services, he will develop and coordinate interning to aid graduate students with grant writing.

• Cathy “C.C.” Dyer is now international graduate student coordinator. She will oversee matters involving international graduate student admissions and processing.

• Cathy “C.C.” Dyer is now international graduate student coordinator. She will oversee matters involving international graduate student admissions and processing.

• Cathy “C.C.” Dyer is now international graduate student coordinator. She will oversee matters involving international graduate student admissions and processing.

• Cathy “C.C.” Dyer is now international graduate student coordinator. She will oversee matters involving international graduate student admissions and processing.

• Cathy “C.C.” Dyer is now international graduate student coordinator. She will oversee matters involving international graduate student admissions and processing.

• Cathy “C.C.” Dyer is now international graduate student coordinator. She will oversee matters involving international graduate student admissions and processing.

• Cathy “C.C.” Dyer is now international graduate student coordinator. She will oversee matters involving international graduate student admissions and processing.

• Cathy “C.C.” Dyer is now international graduate student coordinator. She will oversee matters involving international graduate student admissions and processing.

• Cathy “C.C.” Dyer is now international graduate student coordinator. She will oversee matters involving international graduate student admissions and processing.

• Cathy “C.C.” Dyer is now international graduate student coordinator. She will oversee matters involving international graduate student admissions and processing.
Law
 Arbitration Conference, Lecture Coming Soon

The school will host two events early this semester — a conference on arbitration and the third annual Phillip Pro Lecture on Legal History. On Jan. 26, the Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution will sponsor a major conference on arbitration — Leading Arbitration 2007 — where arbitrators will address the strengths and weaknesses of the federal arbitration law, presenting papers that will be published in a special issue of the Nevada Law Journal. Professor Jean Sternlight, director of the Saltman Center and a prominent arbitration scholar, convened this conference to address the efficiency and fairness of arbitration.

“The Federal Arbitration Act is now 80 years old, and aspects of the statute have been heavily criticized in recent years as hostile to consumers and employees,” Sternlight said. “In coming years scholars around the country will examine the positives and negatives of the statute and its take-overs.”

Information is available at www.law.unlv.edu/conflict-resolution-symposia.html. A 7 p.m. Feb. 5, Geoffery R. Stone, the Harry Kalven Jr. Distinguished Service Professor at the University of Chicago, will present the Pro lecture. His topic will be “Civil Liberties in Wartime.” Stone’s book Perilous Times: The Speeches in Wartime from the Sedition Act of 1798 to the War on Terrorism received the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for 2004 as the Best Book in African American Political Science. His American Political Science Association’s Kammerr Award for 2005 for the Best Book in Political Science, and Harvard University’s 2005 Goldsmith Award for the Best Book in Public Affairs.

Hazardous Duty
During a recent training session sponsored by the UNLV Institute for Security Studies, Dr. Igor Shafhid demonstrates HAZMAT radiation decontamination safety to representatives from the Nevada Department of Public Safety, Clark County Fire Department, Nevada Emergency Management Services (EMS), North Las Vegas Police Department, and the Clark County coroner’s office.

Weistrop understands the wonders and the limits of science. As she noted in the winter 2005 issue of UNLV magazine, “Science is not infallible. As we keep learning things, our interpretations will change. It’s part of being an informed citizen.”

She also is committed to the unending search for knowledge — as a teacher and a student. She said, “There’s this amazing thing that happens when you’re working with graduate students. Around the time they finish their master’s, they just blossom. They transform from student to colleague — instead of me teaching them, we start learning from each other.”

The 2006 winners were:

- $15,000 will support graduate students
- $10,000 will support graduate students
- A second anonymous gift from another donor provides $30,000 annually for three department activities:
  - $11,000 will support graduate student travel to present papers at professional conferences or to attend the Modern American Political Science Association conference for job interviews.
  - $5,000 will support the publications of the department’s Rev. Francis Journal by the prestigious Edinburgh University Press.
  - $15,000 will provide funding for endowed scholarships and fellowships in the nation.

Tradition and Ideology

(Sponsor: Barbara Roth of anthropology)

- Alexi K. Nedelchev: “Symbiosis and the characterization of Poly(pyrrolidinium salts) with Anthracene Molecules Exhibiting Both Lyotropic Liquid-Crystalline and Light Emitting Properties” (Sponsor: Pradip Blwomucki of chemistry)
- Jacob T. Sennig, “Conglomeration in the PII Bug (Aramidimidilium vul- gare) as a Terrestrial Adaptation” (Sponsor: Allen Gibbs of the School of Life Sciences)

For information, visit www.library.unlv.edu/award or contact Diane Vandergat at diane.vandergat@unlv.nevada.edu or Priscilla Finley at priscilla.finley@unlv.edu.

Liberal Arts

Donations to English Department Boost Graduate Study Resources

In recent months, the English department has been the grateful recipient of three very generous gifts.

An anonymous donor has provided approximately $15,000 to help fund a dissertation fellowship. This year the funding will make DeNara Hill and Oliver Q. Melton III to complete their PhD programs with no teaching obligations by providing a stipend of $25,000 as well as tuition and fees — approximately $4,000 for UNLV’s standard awards for graduate study.

A second anonymous gift from another donor provides $30,000 annu- ally for three department activities:

- $11,000 will support graduate student travel to present papers at professional conferences or to attend the Modern American Political Science Association conference for job interviews.
- $5,000 will support the publication of the department’s Rev. Francis Journal by the prestigious Edinburgh University Press.
- $15,000 will provide funding for endowed scholarships and fellowships in the nation.

Donations to English Department

• $15,000 will provide funding for endowed scholarships and fellowships in the nation.

Science

Emeritus Professor Donna Weistrop Endows Scholarship

Donna Weistrop, emeritus professor of physics, and her husband David B. Shaffer, have generously endowed a scholarship in the college. The Donna Weistrop and David B. Shaffer Scholarship offers support to graduate students in astrophysics, chemistry, geoscience, or physics who maintain a 3.25 cumulative grade point average. Preference will be given to students in astronomy and physics programs, areas of particular interest to the donors.

Donna Weistrop, emeritus professor of physics, and her husband David B. Shaffer, have generously endowed a scholarship in the college. The Donna Weistrop and David B. Shaffer Scholarship offers support to graduate students in astronomy and physics programs, areas of particular interest to the donors.

Weistrop’s work in astrophysics and geosciences began with her research on exercise-induced skeletal muscle injury and ovarian hormone influences on healing, and she has received research funding from foundations and the National Institutes of Health. She comes from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She earned her bachelor’s degree from Louisiana State University, her master’s degree from the University of Washington, and her DNSc from the University of California, Los Angeles. She completed post-doctoral training at UCLA and at Pennsylvania State University.

Weistrop understands the wonders and the limits of science. As she noted in the winter 2005 issue of UNLV magazine, “Science is not infallible. As we keep learning things, our interpretations will change. It’s part of being an informed citizen.”

Urbans Affair

Forum Speakers Explore the War on Terror

Approximately 150 people attended the “Freedom From Terror: Reflections, Reasons and Results of 9/11 and the War on Terror” forum sponsored by the department of communication studies and the Boyd School of Law during fall semester. The forum, which was organized by the UNLV Muslim Student Association, was designed to further understand the war on terror and how the United States has changed since the events of Sept. 11, 2001. Panel speakers included Yasser Moten, communication studies graduate student and director of communications for the UNLV Muslim Student Association; Juan Cole, a history professor at the University of Michigan; James Ya‘aqov Yee, a former U.S. Army captain and Muslim chaplain at Guantanamo Bay; and communication studies professor Joseph Valenzano. Valenzano, who specializes in political communication, spoke about the power of the now-popular terms “freedom” and “terror,” and how President Bush used them with effect when galvanizing public support for military action leading up to the Iraq War. During the question-and-answer period, Ylenzano also noted that there is much confusion about the terms “terrorism” and “terror,” a term that refers to a specific tactic, and “terror,” a vague term referring to an emotive state.
The 411 on Changing Cell Phone Plans

Need to renew your UNLV cell phone contract? Don’t.

To enhance customer service for employees and to save departments money, the university plans to centralize cell phone service on campus beginning next fall. Currently, employees contact cell phone vendors directly to set up services. Under the new plan, users will go through one vendor selected through the request for proposal (RFP) process.

With that process already under way, employees should not renew current contracts or enter into new contracts. “When your service contract ends, do not sign another agreement,” said Mike Sauer, associate vice president for administration. “Continue your service on a month-to-month basis until the new plan is in place. If you still have a contract when the new plan is implemented, you could face paying early termination fees.”

The RFP is expected to go out to vendors early this year. After bids are submitted, a committee will evaluate vendor responses.

“We are hoping to create a diverse committee that represents the broader campus. They will not only evaluate the RFP responses for pricing, but also for innovative features that will benefit faculty members, staff, and students,” Sauer said.

Sauer expects the new vendor to be selected by fall 2007.

Readers Respond

Articles related to human resources obviously strike a chord with Inside UNLV readers. Respondents to our monthly readers’ poll rated the tips for hiring and keeping better staff at the top. In an open-ended question about human resources-related issues, respondents indicated they would like more information about benefits — retirement and otherwise — as well as interviewing tips.

Several respondents asked about UNLV’s educational assistance programs, called “grant-in-aid.” More information, including what classes are covered and how much of the tuition and fees are waived, is available at hr.unlv.edu. Click on “Education Assistance.”

Please keep responding to our surveys. We’ll use your feedback to generate stories in future issues.

> Construction

Continued from Page 1

Features: The Greenspun building will bring almost all College of Urban Affairs programs into one building. The building will have one tower of five stories and a second of three stories, and will include classrooms, labs, departmental suites, faculty offices, and radio and television broadcasting facilities. It is designed with sustainability features and includes a distinctive plaza/courtyard shaded by a solar power array, which will provide more than 15 percent of the total annual energy for the building.

Thomas & Mack Moot Court
Size: 6,600 gross square feet
Funding: $4.5 million; paid for through private donations from the Thomas and Mack families
Completion date: Spring 2007
Status: The contractor has finished the honed block portions of the building. Structural steel has been completed and the roof decking was installed. Steel supports for the ceiling systems have been installed. The building will be home to the Student Health Center, student counseling and psychological services, and Student Recreation Center administration.

Student Union, Phase II
Size: 37,000 gross square feet. Total for both phases will be 135,000.
Funding: $50.5 million (both phases); paid for by student fees
Completion date: Summer 2007
Status: The old union was demolished in November and crews have been doing site work and underground work. They also are completing rough grading and digging for utilities.

Features: The building will include a 10,000-square-foot ballroom, game room, convenience store, retail stores, and outdoor patio seating.

Advanced Dental Education Building
Size: 44,000 gross square feet
Funding: $16.4 million
Location: Shadow Lane campus
Completion date: Summer 2007
Status: The contractor has completed the earthwork and underground utilities. The footings and slab on grade and all block work have been completed. In the coming months, the contractor will start steel installation and work on exterior walls along with plumbing, ductwork, insulation, and gypsum walls.

Features: The facility will house specialty programs in pediatric dentistry, endodontics, orthodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, and periodontics. It is also designed to support clinical research efforts.