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Inside UNLV

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President Sets the Pace

UNLV to Adopt Culture of Thoughtful Investment

By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

The UNLV we see around us today isn’t the same UNLV we will see in the next decade — or even in the next year, President David Ashley said at his inauguration last month.

Ashley told the audience of more than 900 people gathered in Ham Concert Hall that “now is the time for UNLV to stop keeping the pace and to start defining the pace” and that UNLV must banish the word ‘expansion’ from its lexicon. “That word no longer describes what we do. We must adopt a culture of thoughtful and deliberate investment,” the president said.

Open Enrollment Reminder

Employees have until the end of May to change health insurance plans, add dependents, or decline benefits.

An open enrollment meeting will be held 9 a.m. May 17 in the Student Union theatre.

Open Enrollment Recap

Employees have until the end of May to change health insurance plans, add dependents, or decline benefits.

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Want to Block More Spam?

In order to reduce the amount of spam sent to employee inboxes, OIT has changed the anti-spam (ProofPoint) server to hold all messages with a score of 90 percent or higher.

More info: Visit oit.unlv.edu/emailcollaboration/proofpoint.html or contact the IT help desk at ext. 5-6777.

Take a Vacation, Save Money

Your kids will be out of school for at least part of the summer, and you probably could use a vacation yourself. The human resources office now has coupons available to popular family attractions including Six Flags, Legoland, the Aquarium of the Pacific, and Hurricane Harbor.

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Mark Your Calendars: 50th Is on the Horizon

By Shane Bevell | Marketing & PR

1957. Newswoman Katie Couric is born; Dr. Seuss’ The Cat in the Hat is published; and UNLV opens its first building — Maude Frazier Hall — on its present campus site.

2007. UNLV begins its 50th anniversary celebration with the inauguration of President David Ashley. The celebration continues Sept. 12-15 with University Days, which will include an academic convocation, the season opener of the Performing Arts Center, and a football game against the University of Hawaii. The celebration concludes in June 2008 with a free outdoor Picnic Pops Concert featuring the Las Vegas Philharmonic. Visit celebrating50.unlv.edu for a calendar of events.

Employees can do more than just attend events, said Schyler Richards, associate vice president for university and community relations.

“There are many things that we already do so well within the various units and colleges,” she said. “I encourage organizers to be creative and think about how those events and activities can be tied into the 50th.”

More info: Contact Richards at ext. 5-5946 or Amy Brooks at ext. 5-5987 about specific events or getting involved. Contact repropagatics at ext. 5-3213 for questions about printed pieces.

Primary Logo

This logo should be used during the anniversary year in place of the regular UNLV logo on:

• stationery
• e-mail signature fields
• brochures
• newsletters

Letterhead and envelopes with the logo can be ordered through the regular UNLV logo on:

• newsletters

Special Use Logo

You’ll see this logo hanging around campus in the next year. It is reserved for:

• signatue events
• campus banners
• special publications

Memorabilia Exhibit

You can still donate pieces of memorabilia for the 50th anniversary exhibit at the Barrick Museum. The exhibit will chronicle the evolution of UNLV since the 1957 opening of its first building, Frazier Hall. Combining photos and memorabilia, the exhibit will focus on campus life and the changing makeup of the student body, academic development, and architectural changes. Find out more and share your memories of UNLV by visiting celebrating50.unlv.edu or by calling Schyler Richards at ext. 5-5946.
Before President David Ashley delivered his inaugural speech, he sat down with *Inside UNLV* to discuss undergraduate academics.

**What is your philosophy toward undergraduate education?**

There is a perception that when you focus on the research, you do so at the expense of teaching. I believe that the best kind of undergraduate experience comes when professors bring their research into their classrooms and their students into their labs. Some research universities do lose sight of the fact that they exist for the student. Fortunately, that’s not the case for UNLV. Governor Sandoval has told our ability to serve with absolute excellence, but the faculty continues to show a true allegiance to the undergraduate student.

**How will the increasing GPA requirements change undergraduate education?**

UNLV’s increasing selectivity will change the character of our student body. It is not an overstatement to say our top students are on par with those at any institution in the country. How’s that also true that we have been serving students not as well-prepared for rigorous, university-level studies. Now, with greater capacity in the NSHE system, UNLV will be able to focus its efforts on full-time students while elevating our expectations for them. The next step will be to reshape our core curriculum to reflect this evolving student body in tandem with our research goals.

**Tips for Adapting to Change**

Change is a scary world for many people. Accustomed to our routines, whether at work or at home, we’re often hesitant about altering them in any significant way. But change is a constant that just can’t be avoided, said management professor Alan Miller.

Sometimes it’s a matter of organizational change, say the kind that inevitably accompanies a new president’s plans for a university’s development. A key component in making sure such change is successful, Miller said, is how managers help their employees adapt. Managers need to:

- communicate, in very clear terms, why there is a need for change and how the change will help the organization achieve its mission.
- make sure employees are — or become — proficient in whatever skills are necessary for them to successfully perform their new tasks required by change.
- have employees participate in the change process. Their input should be sought so that they feel they are part of the decision-making that ultimately leads to change.

The last item is particularly important, Miller said, because unless employees feel their ideas or concerns are truly heard, they won’t fully buy into the change. That doesn’t mean, however, that every individual’s ideas must be part of the final plan. Buy-in comes from a sense that decision-makers sincerely listened to what employees had to say and actively considered their comments.

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**Got An Idea?**

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

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Dean Ready to Run the Distance

White Says Job Requires Perseverance

By Shane Bevell | Marketing & PR

John Valery White, the new Boyd School of Law dean, grew up in rural Louisiana as the son of a small-town lawyer. He expected to follow in his father’s footsteps until he discovered that a career in academia would meld “my interest in the practice of law with my attraction to the world of ideas.”

White’s research has focused on the emergence of civil rights law and its role in addressing the social legacy of the Jim Crow period, as well as how globalization and migration complicate civil rights protection.

He won’t have much down time before he assumes the deanship July 1. He is finishing the semester at Louisiana State University (LSU), where he has taught law for the last 15 years, and will then spend six weeks as a distinguished visiting professor at the University of Insubria in Como, Italy.

His impressions of the law school, following its founding dean, and running, are among the subjects White discussed with Inside UNLV.

First Impressions: It is a wonder to behold everything the law school has accomplished in just 10 years. A fantastic faculty has been assembled and the community supports the school. Those two things mean that the school has a lot of potential for growth, both in terms of reputation and in terms of providing better services to students, and in turn to the community.

Going the Distance: Running track and cross country in college was a welcome escape from the rigors of study. However, I had to practice a lot more than I enjoyed and had to push myself to ever-increasing heights. I didn’t enjoy running as much as I liked racing.

I relate this because there are aspects of being a dean that I believe will be enjoyable and others that will be less enjoyable but just as important to achieving success for the school. Running distance also requires perseverance and endurance, which will most certainly be needed to be a dean.

Following Dean Richard Morgan: It’s difficult to follow someone who has been so successful, but it’s even more difficult to follow someone who has been a failure. Dean Morgan created a great foundation to build on and so it creates opportunities that otherwise wouldn’t exist. The faculty and administration can now plot a path for the school with having to spend the next three to four years fixing problems.

Epiphany in Time of Crisis: For two summers I was director of LSU’s summer in France program. I was in charge of 75 students and eight faculty members and had to ensure the program operated smoothly.

During that time we had a couple crisis situations that revealed I might enjoy administrative work. You never know exactly how you might respond to a crisis until it happens. When the crises in our summer program did arise, I didn’t feel overwhelmed by the situation. That confirmed to me that the things that appeared foreign and unknown about administrative work were not so strange.

Professor vs. Dean: The biggest difference has to do with the increasing obligation on deans to do fundraising and community relations. It will be a transformation from one style of interaction, which is largely introspective, to another style, which is largely about engaging outside constituents.

Freening Up the Faculty: The law school has been building itself up over the years and that has put a lot of pressure on the faculty. One of my primary goals will be to free the faculty so they can be more productive with their own work, which in turn will help improve the quality and perception of the school.

Expanding the knowledge of the school’s accomplishments will be done in part through continued faculty success in publishing and in scholarly work. Until now, the faculty has had to build institutions that allow the school to function, but now we are a more mature institution. We want to continue to grow and be on the cutting edge of legal education and provide quality services to the community.

Brown: Listening to the Key to Education

New Dean Intends to Learn from Education College Colleagues

By Grace Russell | Marketing & PR

M. Christopher Brown II was literally catching his breath after a morning flight to Chicago when we caught up with him for a telephone interview for Inside UNLV. No worry. The new College of Education dean is used to juggling several things at one time.

He is a tenured professor at Pennsylvania State University and senior research associate at its Center for the Study of Higher Education. On a leave of absence from Penn State, he currently serves as vice president for programs and administration for the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education in Washington D.C. There, he is the “Dean of Deans,” providing professional development for the nation’s deans — all while finding time to pen articles, lecture, and chair numerous committees.

Set to begin his new job July 1, Brown talked with us about his impressions of UNLV and his plans for the college.

The Perfect Storm: UNLV is a positive version of the myth: the good thing is that the school has been building itself up over the years and that has put a lot of pressure on the faculty. One of my primary goals will be to free the faculty so they can be more productive with their own work, which in turn will help improve the quality and perception of the school.

The challenges presented by the college not having a permanent dean for the past three years might be a myth. The good thing is that the college has had strong, capable interim deans. The current interim dean, Jane McCarthy, a nationally recognized educator, did a strong job at maintaining programmatic services while growing initiatives in certain areas.

Additionally, the faculty made it clear that they wanted a new outside dean to provide stable, continuing leadership with long-term planning. They welcome change and growth and want to be a part of building a new team.

Homework: During my interview I was asked, “How many more teachers can you produce a year?” I said, “Well, I don’t know the answer to that question.” I know we need more teachers and that UNLV has a responsibility to help produce more teachers. But how do we do that?

We will have to do some homework to get a strong answer to that question. I will have to engage the faculty and look to them to help me understand the best way to do this while maintaining and improving the quality of candidates that we are producing.

We must first celebrate what UNLV has already done. In the past half-decade, UNLV has doubled the number of teachers that it produces from 300 to 623 candidates a year.

In the future, I would like the College of Education to be regarded as a premier provider in university-based preparation of professional educators.

Priorities: I have three priorities: to listen, listen, and listen. I really have to be a student of my colleagues so that I can learn the priorities of the college. I plan to listen before I speak for the next several months. So give me a moment to catch my breath, learn to listen before I speak for the next several months. So give me a moment to catch my breath, learn to listen before I speak for the next several months.
Environmentally Sound

From left to right, Shawn Gerstenberger, chair of the Environmental and Occupational Health Laboratory, U.S. Sen. Harry Reid, and Emmanuel Gorospe, a public health graduate student, tour the laboratory during its April grand opening. The laboratory was funded through a $500,000 appropriation from the U.S. Department of Energy. Reid and Gorospe toured the facility to show the ability of local researchers to partner with regional and national entities to track contaminant exposures, build registries, conduct surveys, and develop long-term studies on humans and wildlife.
Postcards, show programs, and featured at the hotel.

It became a feminist series included talks by Carol Harter (Black Mountain Institute), Erica Lawson, and Felicia Campbell (English). For Women’s History Month, the department collaborated with Liz Balszand (Jean Nidetch Women’s Center), Caryll Drazdzack (Women’s Research Institute), and Odalys Carmona (office of diversity) on events. Gay Sessums (Women’s Studies) posted thought-provoking quotations by women on UNLV Info and organized the annual Women’s History Month yard sale. Alice Raselli (Women’s Studies), Raquel Aldana (Law), and student Evelyn Flores presented “Women and Immigration.” Part-time instructors Janis Duncan and Titine Lawlis worked with the women in leadership and learning program and played leading roles in Virginia Monoglen.

Interdisciplinary and small, the department relies on faculty across campus to serve on its committees: Annette Appell (Law), Barb Brents (Sociology), Cheryl Bowles (Nursing), Evelyn Gajowski (English), Helen Harper (Curriculum and Instruction), Joan Howarth (Law), Martha Watson (Urban Affairs), and Elspeth Whitney (History).

Libraries

Stardust Memories

Live on in Special Collections

The Stardust Hotel and Casino may have disappeared in a cloud of dust and debris in March, but its memory lives on in a large collection of historical documents, photographs, and videos recently donated to the special collections division.

Materials including correspondence, memos, brochures, newsletters, news clippings, and artwork provide extensive documentation on the hotel’s activities as a major force in Las Vegas gaming and entertainment in its almost 50 years on the Las Vegas Strip.

Photographs in the collection document the hotel from its opening in 1958 until its closure in 2006. They depict interior and exterior views of the hotel, publicity stunts, famous visitors, restaurants, entertainers, and guests, and provide insight into the world-famous Lido de Paris.

Other visual materials include video and film footage of the hotel in its heyday in the 1960s, as well as various entertainers and shows that were featured at the hotel.

Original artifacts include original hotel bills from the 1960s, postcards, show programs, and menus from a number of the hotel’s famed restaurants, including the Polynesian-themed Aku Aku. More info: Contact Su Kim Chung at sukim.chung@unlv.edu. View a variety of digital collections and exhibits at www.library.unlv.edu/specoll.

Science

‘Squirrely’ Research Pays Off for Life Sciences Student

Life sciences doctoral candidate Jennifer Uitz will be receiving a stipend of $30,000 per year and an education allowance of $10,500 annually for the next three years as the recipient of a National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship.

“Jennifer’s contributions to our university and school set a new standard for our graduate students,” said Carl Reiber, director of the School of Life Sciences. “We are proud and privileged to work with students of this caliber.”

Uitz currently works in the laboratory of assistant professor Frank van Breukelen where she studies the control of protein synthesis during mammalian hibernation.

Hibernation in mammals presents extreme physiological challenges at both the subcellular and whole organismal levels. The principal focus of her research is the hibernation of golden-mantled ground squirrels (Spermophilus lateralis). She will investigate how these animals survive severe physiological shifts—hibernating mammals experience metabolic rates that may be as low as 1 percent of active rates and core body temperatures as low as -2°C.

Uitz’s research opens many possibilities for improving the human condition. Understanding the mechanisms of hibernation could impact human medical practices regarding pathologies such as disuse atrophy (muscle wasting caused by immobilization), hypothermia, ischemia, obesity, and diabetes.

The NSF program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in the relevant science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master’s and doctoral degrees.

“With an NSF Graduate Fellowship I will be able to focus on my research yet also integrate important teaching and outreach activities. I am honored by the professional recognition that this fellowship represents, and I am excited about the new opportunities it provides,” Uitz said.

Urban Affairs

Journalism Faculty Trade Research on Trade Shows

Faculty members from the Hank Greenspan School of Journalism and Media Studies have partnered with researchers at George Mason University’s Center for History and New Media to study technology trade shows.

Faculty and graduate students from several universities met and conducted research at the annual Consumer Electronics Show (CES) held in Las Vegas in January.

Co-organized by emerging technologies professor Julian Kilker, the research involves using the “swarm approach,” a term used in military intelligence circles to describe rapid collection of data using multiple sources. CES serves as a venue for researching contemporary consumer culture both in and as popular culture. The swarm project aims to create an effective “middle ground” between rapid journalistic and long-term historical research methodologies such as archiving.

“The specific techniques used during a swarm depend on the participating researchers and the research site,” Kilker said. “Similar to an archaeological dig, the researchers can seek out images (photographs), recorded interviews and recordings of other types, actual artifacts (such as advertising swag), media stories and so forth about the particular event—in this case the CES.”

The research project’s goal is to disseminate results as individual and group conference papers, articles, and journal special issues. A book proposal is under way as well.

Education

Arduous Trek, Challenging Conditions Don’t Deter Faculty from Educational Mission

In a place where schools have “mud days” for those occasions when students can’t reach school because the dirt roads have turned into quagmires, UNLV’s College of Education is making a difference.

The Navajo Reservation high school UNLV faculty and students have worked to improve education for the past eight years. They have reached the 90th percentile of academic gain of any reservation school in 2006.

More than a dozen professors and students have made the 7.5-hour drive to help teachers, students, and administrators improve the quality of education available to those living on the reservation.

They are part of the Accelerating Schools Plus Project, part of the national school reform effort. Interim Dean Jane McCarthy serves as regional director.

Píon Unified School District 24 is in a remote location near the Canyon de Chelly that can be reached only by a dirt road. Professors travel there to offer graduate and undergraduate courses to the district’s teachers. They also conduct lessons in classrooms to demonstrate how to teach in ways that complement the culture of the Navajo students.

Currently, a doctoral student from the department of educational psychology, Amy Morris, is in residence teaching and implementing a counseling program, vocabulary acquisition for students classified as ELL (English language learners).

Involvement with the Accelerated Schools Plus Project has enabled the district to make strides in overcoming the serious challenges of poverty, language, harsh living conditions (many students have no electricity, running water).

More info: Call the Accelerated Schools office at ext. 5-4866.

UNLV graduate student Amy Morris works with pupils and teachers on a Navajo Reservation in Arizona.

The UNLV graduate student’s project is to disseminate results as individual and group conference papers, articles, and journal special issues. A book proposal is under way as well.
Hold Yourself Accountable to These Deadlines

By Shane Bevell | Marketing & PR

Year-end paperwork make you groan? Need these dates to make the closing process go smoother.

Payment Vouchers (ext. 5-1167)

Payment vouchers (PVs) must be for goods and services received by June 29. If you miss the deadline, the expense will be posted to the new fiscal year.

Travel (ext. 5-1166)

Any trip beginning in June and ending in July will be charged to the fiscal year into which they fall. Many of the majority of the expenses falls. Travel claims are to be submitted to accounts payable within 14 days at the end trip date. Timely filed claims ensure that the expenses are charged to the proper fiscal year.

Procurement Card (P-Card) Transactions (ext. 4-2273)

To ensure transactions are captured in the correct fiscal year, mail procurement cards by June 15. The year’s final billing period ends June 25. Departments must complete their reconciliation by June 29.

Interdepartmental Request (IDR)

Remember to reserve funds for June operating expenses not covered by purchase requisitions. Large campus service and maintenance specific work orders and off dates to ensure expenses are processed before the end of June (telecommunications by May 18, facilities by May 25, and reprographics by June 22).

Submit Your News

E-mail entries to inside.unlv.edu. Items should be no more than 100 words.

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Financial Training Sessions

The controller’s office will host two financial training sessions on budgeting for accounts managers. Both training sessions will be 2-3:30 p.m., May 16 and 9-10:30 a.m., May 22 in CSB, Room 212-G.

To register, go to hruksda and click on the “Forms” link on the left side of the page and print out a “Training Registration Form.” Send the form back to the office of staff development and employee relations, Mail stop. T1050 or fax (702) 792-5814.

More info: Visit controller.unlv.edu or purchasing.unlv.edu. 
Tribute Giving Honors Accomplishments

By Lisa Shawcroft | UNLV Foundation

As the child of Hungarian immigrants, Edward Lovinger learned to speak English only after he started school. He was the first person in his family to go to college, which would have been accomplishment enough for many people. But he didn’t stop there. Lovinger went on to become a respected psychology professor at UNLV, where he taught from 1968 until 1993.

After his death in 2001, his wife, Carole, established a scholarship fund in his memory.

The first recipient of her tribute gift, the Edward Lovinger Psychology Scholarship Endowment Fund, will receive the scholarship in the fall.

“My husband felt being a professor was a very important, gratifying job,” she said. “He enjoyed every year, and he developed a class, Psychology of the Stock Market, that he was very proud of.”

Tribute Gifts Fund Variety of Programs

The Lovinger Scholarship Endowment Fund is just one example of a tribute gift.

The College of Liberal Arts established a fund to honor Hal Rothman, the Distinguished Professor of History who died in February. The college hopes to raise $100,000 to provide a yearly scholarship of $4,000 to a history student.

Tribute gifts are a way to celebrate people’s accomplishments. They can be directed to any existing UNLV program fund, to the UNLV Foundation Scholarship Endowment Fund, or to the annual fund, which supports the greatest needs of the university, said Deborah Young, director of scholarship and tribute giving.

And tribute gifts do not always go to scholars, nor do they have to be in memory of someone who died. Sometimes they are created to mark a special occasion such as a retirement, Young said.

Honor with Books is a program through which bookplates bearing the name of the person being honored or remembered are placed inside books in the UNLV Libraries. Books can be chosen from a number of subject areas. Bookplates are available for gifts of $100 or more.

Another option is the tribute bench program. For a gift of $2,000, a cement bench with a commemorative plaque will be placed on campus.

More info: Contact Deborah Young at ext. 5-2818 or at deborah.young@unlv.edu. You can also go to foundation.unlv.edu/tribute.

Got Wheels? Campus police officers Brett Gott, left, and James Rudnik stop near the inauguration luncheon on the academic mall April 27. To qualify for bicycle patrol, officers must complete a 40-hour class. Among the benefits of having officers on bikes are increased approachability, higher visibility, quicker response times, and lower fuel costs.

Tech Savvy

To Update or Not to Update?

Know the Difference Between Critical and Recommended

By Mamie Peers | OIT

That restart you have to do to update your computer can be annoying. But software bugs are even worse.

To avoid problems, the office of information technology (OIT) recommends installing critical software and operating system updates.

There’s a catch, though: Not all updates are the same. Some are deemed “critical” while others are termed “recommended.”

Snazzy Add-on or Necessary Update?

A critical update might fix a security hole in your operating system, just like a wheel alignment can repair a dangerous pull to the right on your vehicle. Operating system updates can protect you from viruses or malicious software attacks. Critical updates also prepare your machine for important changes.

The daylight savings time update applied earlier this year was needed to address changes the federal government made to the time system. Without it, all of our calendar entries and records would be one hour off.

On the other hand, Internet Explorer 7 (IE 7) is not a critical update. It’s optional, because it enhances the features of your browser. IE 7 allows “tabbed” browsing, which could be fun, but is not a necessary addition to the program. Upgrading to IE 7 is like installing a new set of stylish rims to your car — it adds good looks, and maybe a little bit of speed, but isn’t as necessary as an alignment.

But how do you know which updates are critical?

Microsoft’s Windows categorizes as high priority, optional hardware, and optional software. High priority updates are always critical and should be installed right away. The others can wait until you have time to read the descriptions of the software and decide if you want them.

Apple’s software updates don’t distinguish between non-critical and critical. Instead, you need to read the descriptions of each update and decide whether to install them.

Keeping Current

Most software updates prompt you to accept installation. For example, programs like Firefox and Adobe Acrobat ask, “Do you want to download or install the latest version?” There is no standard answer, but the general rule is that if it is a critical update, you usually want to accept it. If it’s recommended, use your best judgment or ask an expert.

New campus computers automatically download Microsoft updates. Both PCs and Macs might ask you if you are ready to install these updates, and OIT recommends installing the critical updates as soon as possible.

Before installing updates, be sure to close all programs, especially the ones you are updating.

To check for updates: Macs running OSX 3.0 or higher click on:

1. Software Update
2. The Apple logo in the upper left corner of your screen
3. Software Update
4. Check Now. Select the updates you want and click “install.”

PCs running Windows XP:
1. Go to windowsupdate.microsoft.com
2. Click “Express”
3. Click “Install Updates.”

Great Deals on New Software

Microsoft Office products are free for all barcoded campus computers because UNLV purchased an agreement with Microsoft. The agreement also allows each full-time employee who is assigned a UNLV computer as part of his job to install a copy of the software on his home computer.

Programs like Adobe Creative Suite cost more than $800 in retail stores, but employees can get it for about $130 for use on UNLV computers. Check out oitriv.edu and click on the software link to search our database for more deals like this.

Software Training

OIT offers training for UNLV employees. Courses are only two hours in length and session topics range from PowerPoint to Lotus Notes. Also, DeAnna Schoendienst, trainer for OIT, can offer custom courses for departments that have special needs. Visit oitriv.edu for more details about training.

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Invent the Future

Tech Savvy

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Know the Difference Between Critical and Recommended

By Mamie Peers | OIT

That restart you have to do to update your computer can be annoying. But software bugs are even worse.

To avoid problems, the office of information technology (OIT) recommends installing critical software and operating system updates.

There’s a catch, though: Not all updates are the same. Some are deemed “critical” while others are termed “recommended.”

Snazzy Add-on or Necessary Update?

A critical update might fix a security hole in your operating system, just like a wheel alignment can repair a dangerous pull to the right on your vehicle. Operating system updates can protect you from viruses or malicious software attacks. Critical updates also prepare your machine for important changes.

The daylight savings time update applied earlier this year was needed to address changes the federal government made to the time system. Without it, all of our calendar entries and records would be one hour off.

On the other hand, Internet Explorer 7 (IE 7) is not a critical update. It’s optional, because it enhances the features of your browser. IE 7 allows “tabbed” browsing, which could be fun, but is not a necessary addition to the program. Upgrading to IE 7 is like installing a new set of stylish rims to your car — it adds good looks, and maybe a little bit of speed, but isn’t as necessary as an alignment.

But how do you know which updates are critical?

Microsoft’s Windows categorizes as high priority, optional hardware, and optional software. High priority updates are always critical and should be installed right away. The others can wait until you have time to read the descriptions of the software and decide if you want them.

Apple’s software updates don’t distinguish between non-critical and critical. Instead, you need to read the descriptions of each update and decide whether to install them.

Keeping Current

Most software updates prompt you to accept installation. For example, programs like Firefox and Adobe Acrobat ask, “Do you want to download or install the latest version?” There is no standard answer, but the general rule is that if it is a critical update, you usually want to accept it. If it’s recommended, use your best judgment or ask an expert.

New campus computers automatically download Microsoft updates. Both PCs and Macs might ask you if you are ready to install these updates, and OIT recommends installing the critical updates as soon as possible.

Before installing updates, be sure to close all programs, especially the ones you are updating.

To check for updates: Macs running OSX 3.0 or higher click on:

1. Software Update
2. The Apple logo in the upper left corner of your screen
3. Software Update
4. Check Now. Select the updates you want and click “install.”

PCs running Windows XP:
1. Go to windowsupdate.microsoft.com
2. Click “Express”
3. Click “Install Updates.”

Great Deals on New Software

Microsoft Office products are free for all barcoded campus computers because UNLV purchased an agreement with Microsoft. The agreement also allows each full-time employee who is assigned a UNLV computer as part of his job to install a copy of the software on his home computer.

Programs like Adobe Creative Suite cost more than $800 in retail stores, but employees can get it for about $130 for use on UNLV computers. Check out oitriv.edu and click on the software link to search our database for more deals like this.

Software Training

OIT offers training for UNLV employees. Courses are only two hours in length and session topics range from PowerPoint to Lotus Notes. Also, DeAnna Schoendienst, trainer for OIT, can offer custom courses for departments that have special needs. Visit oitriv.edu for more details about training.
(Left) Dwanna Wedlow, left, tutoring manager at the Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach (CAEO), and Tomirra Larkin, assistant director for GEAR UP at CAEO, don their regalia for the inauguration. (Below) Serving as grand marshal, education professor Porter Troutman carries the university mace.

All Dressed Up for Inauguration Week

(Above) President David Ashley talks to the media following his inauguration.

(Top) From left to right, Betsy Billingham, wife of Edward J. Billingham Jr., chemistry professor from 1965-88; Malcolm Graham, mathematics professor from 1956-85; and Alice Mason, physical education professor from 1957-1991, talk at the 16th annual emeritus breakfast. (Above) Faculty, staff, and students help themselves to some lunch at a barbecue picnic April 25. (Left) Tara Mullin, an administrative assistant in the Graduate College, enjoys a piece of watermelon at the inauguration picnic.