Inside UNLV

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Kicking Off Our 50th Year in style

News & Information for UNLV Insiders SEPTMBER 2007

News You Can Use

Darfur Discussion
A panel of African writers will discuss “Apartheid to Darfur: Africa’s Struggle Against Disdain” at UNLV on Sept. 11. Hosted by UNLV’s Black Mountain Institute, the panel will include Nigerian writers Chris Abani and Chimamanda Adichie as well as Zimbabwean writers Alexandra Fuller and Chenjerai Hove. Nigerian writer and Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka will serve as moderator.

The event, which will take place at 7 p.m. in Doc Rando Hall, is free and open to the public.

iCelebrate!
UNLV will kick off Hispanic Heritage Month at 2 p.m. Sept. 20 at the alumni amphitheater with an event emceed by KVBC news anchor Maria Silva and Telemundo news anchor Brenda Macias.

Other campus events for the month include family night at a UNLV soccer game, a film festival, and a mariachi showcase. A conference to introduce area high school students to UNLV is among the outreach events planned during the month. High school students will learn about UNLV, financial aid assistance, and other support services.

More info: For a complete listing of events, visit facultystaff.unlv.edu.

New Additions

Construction Continues on Both Main, Shadow Lane Campuses

By Shane Bevill | Marketing & PR

Now with the union complete, the Student Recreation and Wellness Center near completion, and major projects such as Greenspun Hall and the Science and Engineering Building scheduled for completion in 2008, Susan Hobbes, director of planning and construction, expects the campus to see less visible construction activity than in recent years.

“Construction has peaks and valleys, and although the pace of construction has slowed, we are busy planning for future projects,” Hobbes said.

Contractors continue work on the 44,000-square-foot Advanced Dental Education Building, set to open this fall.

University Days Events

• Sept. 12. Academic Convocation: President David Ashley will outline his priorities for the academic year. This 10 a.m. event will take place in the Student Union ballroom. A reception will follow in the union. The events are free and open to the public.

• Sept. 14. Rebels After Dark: Student-led organizations are planning this event to welcome new and returning students. More details will be announced later.

• Sept. 14. Performing Arts Center Season Opener: Tony Award-winning Broadway star Brian Stokes Mitchell performs at Ham Concert Hall at 8 p.m. For a full lineup of PAC events or to purchase tickets, go to unlvtickets.com.

• Sept. 15. Football: UNLV vs. University of Hawaii. The UNLV Alumni Association will host a tailgate party before the 6:30 p.m. game. Other September home games include the University of Wisconsin on Sept. 8 and the University of Utah on Sept. 22. For tickets, go to unlvtickets.com.

• Sept. 6. Grand Opening: Celebrate the completion of the Student Union at 3 p.m. The ceremony and reception are free and open to the public.

• Sept. 10. News Conference: UNLV Foundation announcement of a major gift to the Invent the Future campaign at 11:30 a.m. at the UNLV Foundations Building. It is free and open to the public.

• Sept. 11. Memorial: Student leaders will hold a September 11 memorial event. The time and location have not been determined.

• Sept. 18. UNLV Nevada Entertainer/Artist Hall of Fame Ceremony. This year’s inductees include comedian Rich Little, architect Tom Schoeman, CSJ creator Anthony Zuiker, and Nevada Ballet Theatre co-founder Nancy Houseous. This 6:30 p.m. event will take place at Ham Concert Hall. For tickets go to unlvtickets.com.

By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR

At long last UNLV’s much-anticipated 50th anniversary is here.

From classes at Las Vegas High School to today’s sprawling 350-acre campus with its 28,000 students, UNLV has come a long way. Now it’s time to celebrate its half-century in style. The anniversary events will kick off Sept. 12-15 with events planned during the month. High school students will learn about UNLV, financial aid assistance, and other support services.

More info: For a complete listing of events, visit facultystaff.unlv.edu.

The campus. California is in his future.

Fond Farewell

Vice President Fred Albrecht retires after 38 years on campus. California is in his future.

Trivial Pursuit

Love trivia? Then play Inside UNLV’s version. Test your campus knowledge, win prizes.

Page 2

Page 10

Page 8
Planning for the Next 50 Years

At the convocation ceremony on Sept. 12, President David Ashley plans a state-of-the-university address to set priorities for the new academic year and to kick off UNLV’s 50th anniversary celebrations. At the top of the to-do list, he said, will be reviving the universitywide planning process.

This fall UNLV will begin its first planning initiative under your leadership. What can employees expect?

UNLV's culture for planning was one aspect that drew me to this university. The past work was impressive and clearly established a planning vocabulary for the campus. Now it is time to tie our planning goals more closely to our resources. This is especially true as we experience flattening enrollments, which affect the funding we receive from the state. We will have to make some deliberate and difficult budget decisions this year. This focus will allow us to still progress toward our ambitions, while being even better stewards of our resources.

How will changes in enrollment affect planning?

The real issue is not recruitment — it is retention. I am not brushing aside the recruitment end of the equation — increasing selectivity, application deadlines and processes, and changes to the Millennium Scholarship program are just some of the factors having an immediate impact on enrollment. UNLV’s ambitions are about excellence, not volume. As we look at enrollment and its effect on the budget, it is vital that we take a holistic approach. We must focus on making sure our students are successful in reaching graduation. How we can do that better will certainly be a critical part of our strategic planning process.

How will the planning process work?

Neal Smatresk (executive vice president and provost) is taking the lead in the process. He will begin engaging the campus with a frank discussion of the budget realities. Some people have been a little surprised by our intention to lay the budget out on the table. I believe that faculty and staff must understand our budget processes and realities in order to make the deliberate choices that are part of a productive planning process.

After the budget discussion, Neal will initiate a series of town hall meetings with a broad reach to gather a comprehensive picture of our issues and opportunities. As the process continues into the spring semester, we will start focusing the discussions and analysis until we have a plan to share with the community.

In the end, I believe the campus will have a strong sense that the plan is real, it is actionable, and we will follow through.

How do you expect employees to be involved in the planning process?

All of us have an obligation to bring a diversity of viewpoints to the table. I do not worry too much that faculty and staff will sit on the sidelines. I have seen a genuine enthusiasm across campus for advancing UNLV, so I expect the campus to engage in the process. I cannot say that everyone is going to want what they prefer for their program or initiative, but I do believe they will come out knowing that the decisions we make together will move UNLV forward toward excellence and make it an even more exciting place to be.

Women’s Conference Set for Sept. 21

UNLV faculty, staff, and graduate students are invited to a state-wide women’s conference to be held on campus Sept. 21. This year’s theme is “Effective Leadership Communication for Women.” This second annual conference, the Nevada State Network Conference sponsored by the American Council on Education’s office of women in higher education, will give participants the chance to choose from several concurrent sessions focusing on interactive practice of negotiation and communication skills for women. Rose Tseng, chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Hilo, will present the keynote address.

Co-sponsored by the eight Nevada System of Higher Education institutions and the chancellor’s office, the event is expected to draw participants from system campuses across the state. A $25 registration fee for the day-long event covers continental breakfast, lunch, and a closing reception.

More Info: Visit www.unlv.edu/womenshighered. For questions, contact Joanne Goodwin at ext. 5-1199 or Liz Baldizan at ext. 5-2620.

Picture This: Test Your UNLV Knowledge

How well do you know UNLV? Test your knowledge in UNLV’s Picture This: 50th Anniversary Trivia Contest, running through May. You could win something 50th anniversary prizes each month, and one lucky reader will get the grand prize in July. A monthly winner will be drawn at random from all who participated that month. The grand prize winner will be drawn at random from everyone who participated throughout the year. (Tip: You don’t even have to be right to win!)

1 This is an architectural detail of the first and oldest building on campus — which is?
   a. Flora Dungan Humanities
   b. Archie C. Grant Hall
   c. Maude Frazier Hall

2 In what year were the first classes held on campus in this building?
   a. 1957
   b. 1958
   c. 1959

3 Today this building houses which office?
   a. Summer Term Office
   b. Department of Art
   c. Rebel Yell

By Campus Mail — Cut out this box, circle the answers, and fill out the information below. Then send your entry to Inside UNLV at mailbox stop 1024.

Name: __________
Title: __________
Department: __________
Phone: __________
E-mail: __________

By E-mail — Send your answers to inside.unlv@unlv.edu by Sept. 10. To be eligible for the prize you must:
• Include the word “trivia” in the subject line of your e-mail.
• Include your name, title, department and telephone extension.

More info: Visit www.unr.edu/womenhighered. For questions, contact Joanne Goodwin at ext. 5-1199 or Liz Baldizan at ext. 5-2620.
Planning, Budget Top Priorities for Provost

Smatresk Ready To Run With New Role
By Diane Russell | Marketing & PR
With a little more than a month under his belt at UNLV — not to mention the many visits to campus and numerous phone calls that took place between his selection as exec-

utive vice president and provost in February and his official start date of June 1 — Neal Smatresk laugh-

ingly says he still is “drinking from the fire hose” as he acquaints him-

self with UNLV and its people.

“And I’m running to catch up with trains that have left the station.”

Despite his busy schedule, he took time to talk with Inside UNLV about what he has learned.

You’ve been busy hiring some top administrators in recent months. What are you working on now?

We’re continuing our search for vice president for research. It’s a key position and we need to make sure we get the right person. So we continue to search until we’ve found someone who really brings a lot of ability and expertise to our campus.

Meanwhile, Ron Smith will con-

tinue in an interim position. I think Ron’s doing a great job.

How will the planning process that we’re starting to hear about be con-

ducted?

Because President Ashley will be addressing the planning process in his Inside UNLV column (see page 2), I’m not going to go into detail about it.

That said, in the face of our very rapid growth and declining bud-

gets, it makes a lot of sense to have a firm set of priorities and to know who we are and who we serve as we move forward.

The planning process will be a hard-nosed, practical exercise that will help us set our goals.

Planning Services Launches New Software, Permit Procedure
By Shane Bevell | Marketing & PR
The thought of parking may not bring a smile to your face, but there is reason to be optimis-

tic — a user-friendly software system that will mean fewer trips to the Claude Howard Public Safety Building.

Parking services’ new software system, called T2, unifies all of their operations — enforcement, permits, and events management.

Tip: Program 895-1300 into your cell phone in case you need assistance during normal enforcement hours: Monday-

Thursday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m. and Friday, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

The system also lets you pay citations and file appeals online. Previously, only permit purchases were available online.

Other benefits include the ability to generate letters and e-mail notifications to remind employ-

ees if they received a citation but haven’t paid the ticket, which doubles if not paid within 14 days. The system also gives employees a user account with access to vehicle information and history.

In addition, new handheld ticket-writers with built-in cameras will provide visual evidence if a parking violation is appealed.

Parking Availability
When there are no large events on campus, there are approximately 2,000 spaces open every day. About 40 percent of those are on the north side of campus in the Cottage Grove parking garage, said Tad McDowell, director of parking services.

Most parking is located on the periphery of cam-

pus to help keep traffic down in the core, thereby making it safer for pedestrians, he said.

Parking Garage Proposal
Another parking option is on the horizon for those who work on the south end of campus.

The university is in the preliminary plan-

ning stages for a new parking garage to be built west of the new Student Recreation and Wellness Center, said Mike Sauer, associate vice president for administration.

This particular location is under consideration because of the need to have a major road that provides both a way in and a way out of the garage, and Tropicana Avenue fits the bill.

Sauer said that after the initial planning, the proposal for the project must be presented to the Board of Regents. After its approval, a con-

struction timeline can be set.

Because the parking garage is still in the early planning stages and Board of Regents approval has not been given, final details are not available, he said.

“Having the opportunity to participate in the planning of a new parking structure is truly exciting,” Sauer said. “I hope we will be able to get our funding in place.”

Parking Services Launches New Software, Permit Procedure

What do you see as your role in Ashley’s administration?

My job is to run the campus in a way that supports the strategic vision and the overarching plan that David develops and, of course, to bring him the best advice I can.

We’ve established a level of trust and cooperation that is certainly going to make my job much easier and much more enjoyable. He’s empowered me to do the things I need to do.

You mentioned declining revenues.

The budget situation is very chal-

lenging. After 15 years of growing revenue streams, I’ll get to be the first provost in a while to consider significant cuts (he said simply). That’s not my first choice in issues I want to deal with. But, we’re all in it together, so we’re going to work together to find a way to achieve our budget objectives with-out hurting our educational mission and to continue moving forward with our research focus.

I’m looking at it this way: it’s pruning the tree so that it can grow stronger.

What does that “pruning” mean for existing programs?

It doesn’t mean you’re going to throw out programs. It doesn’t work that way. You don’t ever come in as a new person and make wholesale cuts.

But that doesn’t mean you don’t ask people to be accountable for how they manage their resources. I have been impressed with the quality of the deans. I believe for the most part that they are capable of being very good resource managers.

This year and next year will put them to the test. And those who show they can use their resources to best effect will be the ones who fare the best in subsequent budgets.

Are you worried about finding a new vice president?

What really worries me is not this biennium, but the next. It is up to us as a university to find a way to stabilize our revenue resources.

One of the key issues that we need to address is retaining more students. We will build our FTE not by recruiting more students, but by improving the quality of our educa-

tion to help students persevere and graduate in a timely fashion.

What should we be doing to improve the retention rate?

We clearly need to have better student-learning support — first-year programs and a strong advis-

ing and customer-service mentality when it comes to helping students with their academic success.

We need to ask ourselves how to launch students who we know have skills gaps and who come in not really ready for the rigors of a college education. It’s not a situa-

tion unique to us. Kids who go to Harvard have skills gaps.

We’re looking at establishing a first-year center that is kind of a one-stop shop. We have to get bet-

ter at helping students through their first year because it is a huge transi-

tion for them.

What else will you be working on to improve retention?

I’ve heard repeatedly that many students as they move into the core of their majors are having trouble getting the courses they need. This is an area I’m very concerned about. That’s meat and potatoes. We need to make sure that is a high priority in terms of resource allocation.

It’s one of those places where I really need the support of deans and department chairs.

You’re the parent of a college student. How does that influence your views on student issues?

I have a simple set of values. I want the parents of any kid who comes here to know that I want their kid treated the same way I want my kid treated. I expect that the people who are helping connect my daughter (Kristen, an international business major at the University of Hawaii at Manoa) to her career goals will support her educational prog-

ess and take a personal interest.

If that’s an expectation I have as a parent, it must be the expectation I have as a university administrator.

Everyone’s Favorite Subject: Parking

Lock Yourself Out?
Parking services does more than just write tick-

et. They also provide jump-starts, lockout ser-

ices, and tire inflation — services that could other-

wise be costly.

Permit Fees
Mike Sauer, associate vice president for admin-

istration, noted that permit fees increase each year because it allows for gradual increases over time instead of a dramatic increase at the time a new parking structure or other significant capital expenditure is put into place.

What if our students as they move into the core of their majors are having trouble getting the courses they need. This is an area I’m very concerned about. That’s meat and potatoes. We need to make sure that is a high priority in terms of resource allocation.

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ess and take a personal interest.

If that’s an expectation I have as a parent, it must be the expectation I have as a university administrator.
Who You Gonna Call? Keep These OIT Numbers Handy

By Mamie Peers | OIT

Whether you need help resetting a computer password or figuring out how to connect your printer to the network, the office of information technology (OIT) stands ready to help. Here’s a guide to accessing OIT services.

The IT Help Desk

Most IT questions can begin here. The IT help desk answers most IT questions right away. If technicians cannot answer your question on the spot, they direct you to the person who can or they initiate a “help request” to document and track your issue. Contact them to get help with:

- Desktop computers
- Software, including Lotus Notes and Microsoft Office products
- New computer orders
- WebCampus administration
- RAVE & SEND assistance
- Network and printing issues
- Training opportunities

Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Weekdays
Location: Harter Classroom Building Complex, Room B-132

More Info: Call ext. 5-0771 or e-mail ithelp@unlv.edu

Multimedia Services

Requests for audio and visual equipment delivery begin here. Multimedia services provides technology enhanced classroom equipment where technology isn’t already in place — be it a classroom or a special event location. Be sure to reserve equipment 24 hours in advance. Available equipment includes:

- Computer carts with projectors
- Video conferencing
- Laptop computers
- DVD/VCR & television carts
- Microphones, tape players, and hand-held video recorders

Hours: 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday
Location: Harter Classroom Building Complex, Room B-132

More Info: Call ext. 5-0701

Classroom Support

If you’re having problems with technology in a classroom, and need help right away, assistance is available. You can request:

- Immediate assistance with operating technology enhanced classroom (TEC) equipment
- Training for TEC equipment
- Maintenance for TEC facility equipment
- Computer lab assistance

Hours: 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Weekdays
Location: Harter Classroom Building Complex, Room B-132

More Info: Call ext. 5-0771. OIT provides assistance over the phone and, if necessary, sends a technician to the classroom.

Technology Enhanced Classroom Access

You will need a Marlok card to access rooms with technology enhanced classroom (TEC) equipment. Access to TEC equipment is available for:

- Access for TEC staff
- Current TEC user

Technology Enhanced Classroom Access Help Desk

Locate the Technology Enhanced Classroom Access Help Desk in the Room B-132, on the main level of the Harter Classroom Building Complex.

More Info: Call ext. 5-0771

Strong College Communication Programs a Priority for New VP

By Cate Weeks | Marketing & PR

Bill Boldt did not plan on a career in advancement. Then fate jumped in and advancement found him. On his first day on the job at the Oregon State University Extension Service in 1982 he was told that his program’s funding was suddenly in jeopardy. “I saw my whole career flash before my eyes,” he said. “I think in times of crisis you uncover abilities you never knew you had.”

With just a month’s time to prepare, he successfully lobbied to keep the funding while learning the role advancement activities play in a university’s success. He also tapped into his natural talent for cultivating relationships and his enjoyment for working with people.

Boldt arrives on campus Sept. 10 as its first vice president for advancement. Here he will integrate all the internal and external relations activities — including employee, donor, alumni, community, and government relations — into one unit. Previously, these activities reported to two vice presidents as well as directly to the president.

While the advancement model is new for UNLV, it’s not new for Boldt. With more than 35 years of experience in higher education as a professor, department chair, assistant dean, vice president, and vice chancellor, Boldt has developed comprehensive and successful advancement programs and campaigns at Cornell University, California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, and most recently at the University of California, Riverside (UCR).

How would you describe your personality?

I am naturally positive and enthusiastic. I think my success comes from my persistence and focus on goals. When something is getting in the way of achieving a goal, I tackle it head-on.

Why UNLV?

I was very impressed with the commitment to UNLV I saw both on campus and in the community. When I interviewed, a local developer took a day off his time to meet with me. He could have been elsewhere making thousands of dollars, but he chose to commit his time to UNLV. That says a lot about the community’s belief in the institution and the direction it is going.

UNLV has a great team of people — from the president and executive vice president/provost through to the faculty and staff. The UNLV Foundation Board of Trustees is impressive and tremendously involved. Honestly, I just knew that I wanted to be a part of this team.

What do you plan to do first?

I have to fully understand the academic, athletic, and cultural programs at UNLV so I can be the best possible spokesperson for the university. I hate the thought of missing an opportunity to strengthen state funding, to get a donation, or to capture a reporter’s interest simply because I didn’t know about an amazing program we have.

For UNLV to reach its full potential in advancement, we have to have strong college/unit-based programs that include at least one development staff member and one communications staff member. My job is to create a model so the college-based staff members are supported through an integrated approach to development and communications.

What have been your greatest professional accomplishments?

At Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo I developed and completed the first comprehensive campaign in the California State University system (23 campuses) and the largest campaign in the nation for a public master’s comprehensive university. The advancement team at UCR helped get initial approval for a new medical school last year. I have launched comprehensive integrated marketing programs at three major universities. My teams have won five CASE national fundraising awards. I have been very fortunate to work with a strong group of individuals who are involved and invested in making things happen, and I look forward to working with the UNLV team toward the same goal.

How can faculty and staff help with advancement?

A passionate faculty member or dean is often the most important factor in a donor’s decision to make a gift. All faculty and all staff can and should be involved in advancement — not necessarily as fundraisers, but as storytellers. They can tell the story of the campus in meaningful and important ways and serve as our strongest advocates.

Where does governmental relations fit in?

The next legislative session may be one of the most important for UNLV. In the next 18 months, we will have to work hard to show legislators the value of investing state dollars in our programs. I think this is where UNLV’s volunteer leaders and donors can have a significant impact. Volunteers have no vested interest in the institution, so their beliefs resonate more with legislatures.

How about those rubber-chicken dinners?

Generally speaking, I avoid desserts and carbohydrates, and hope for good company.
Senior Advisor Provides Faculty Perspective

By Grace Russell | Marketing & PR
UNLV alum, faculty member, and food and beverage expert Andy Feinstein is taking his knowledge out of the kitchen and into the boardroom. Inside UNLV sat down with Feinstein to discuss what ingredients (sorry, we couldn’t resist) he hopes to infuse into his new role as senior advisor to President David Ashley.

What was your reaction to being named senior advisor?

It was an unbelievable opportunity to be asked by the president to take on this job. I am truly a UNLV believer. I love UNLV and am honored to be able to give back and contribute to its development.

Why do you think President Ashley chose you?

I can provide the president’s office with not only a faculty perspective, but also a student and administrator perspective. I am also a food and beverage person, whereas Dr. Ashley is an engineer. So it doesn’t hurt to throw a different perspective in the mix.

What are your responsibilities as the senior advisor to the president?

Every day when I walk into my office I remember that although I work for the president, I am still a faculty member at this university. My number one responsibility is to help the president understand the fabric of this university from the perspective of a faculty member. What I mean by “faculty perspective” is my own personal insight and how I would perceive the decisions made by the cabinet and the president. I am not a full-time faculty member but I do represent the faculty the way the chair of the Faculty Senate does. However, I do listen to the dialogue at the cabinet meetings and I am a part of that group.

Additionally, I am a food and beverage person. They are free to voice their concerns to me. If they need help, I can steer them in the right direction.

What is it like working with Ashley?

When I first met him, I was intimidated. He has attended and been an administrator at some of the finest institutions. My field is so different from his. I am an emotional “seat-of-your-pants” person. Dr. Ashley is the complete opposite. He is very thoughtful and analytical in his decisions. I am trying to adopt his approach. In a way, he is mentoring me and I am learning how to be a more effective decision-maker.

What are your priorities?

I am identifying groups of individuals in the community for the president to meet with to discuss the state of the university. Additionally, I am coordinating events on campus where faculty, classified staff, and professional staff can interact with the president and cabinet in an informal setting. I am also creating opportunities for the president to spend more quality time with students. So in the fall, the campus community can envision more interaction with the president and the cabinet.

Clean Sweep
To keep the campus roadways, parking lots, and sidewalks clean and free of debris, the landscape and grounds department sweeps the campus in the early morning, typically between 6 and 8 a.m. Here, John Pekarek, a grounds equipment operator, cleans the east-west mall. The sweeper, which is used daily, rotates between various sections of campus.
UNLV Organization

President

David Ashley
Contact: Betty Hanseen
5-3201

Neal Smatresk
Contact: Fred Tredup 5-0408

Executive Vice President & Provost

Bill Boldt
Vice President for Advancement
(Starts Sept. 10)

Mike Hamrick
Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
Contact: Susie Smith 5-1620

Gerry Bomotti
Senior Vice President for Business and Finance
Contact: Kara Toma 5-3571

Vice Presidents

Richard Linstrom
Vice President and General Counsel
Contact: Erika Noltie 5-5185

Deans

Carolyn Yucha
School of Allied Health Sciences (interim) and School of Nursing
Contact: Sybil Strano-Perry 5-3906

Paul Jarley
College of Business
Contact: Christine Meszaros 5-1291; Donna Weiss 5-4653

Karen West
School of Dental Medicine
Contact: Deborah Hare 4-2502

Eric Sandgren
Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering
Contact: Debra Grandberry 5-3699

Chris Hudgins
College of Liberal Arts (interim)
Contact: Pat Looshbrook 5-3401

Patricia Iannuzzi
University Libraries
Contact: Lee Scroggins 5-2233

Mary Guinan
School of Public Health
Contact: Ann Elliott 5-3897
UNLV Organization

Vice Presidents / Cabinet

Christine Clark
Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion
Contact: Candy Warkentin 5-3888

Juanita Fain
Vice President for Planning
Contact: Sandra Gajkowski 5-4387

Andy Feinstein
Senior Advisor to the President
Contact: 5-1704

Rebecca Mills
Vice President for Student Life
Contact: Julie Bartlett 5-3656

Ron Smith
Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate College (interim)
Contact: Carole Hoele 5-0946

M. Christopher Brown II
College of Education
Contact: Debbie Gallant 5-3375

Jeffrey Koep
College of Fine Arts
Contact: Karen Spica 5-5187

Martha Watson
Greenspun College of Urban Affairs
Contact: Angela Howard 5-5492; Ericka McDonald 5-5139

Peter Starkweather
Honors College (interim)
Contact: Bev Sabedra 5-2266

Ron Yasbin
College of Sciences
Contact: Linda Robison 5-1155

Ann McDonough
University College (interim)
Contact: Paula Castillo 5-0667

Stuart Mann
William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration
Contact: Annette Kannenberg 5-3308

John Valery White
William S. Boyd School of Law
Contact: Dianne Fouret 5-1875
RETURNING TO CLASS
With a son heading into middle school, Cabral was seeking a better work-life balance when she heard from a former classmate about an opening at the UNLV Foundation. She became its new controller in July. “Having that network here at UNLV is what drew me back,” Cabral said.

She learned quickly on the job at Deloitte and soon achieved her goal of earning her CPA. “One of my professors used to say that going into a public accounting firm is like a master’s program, but you’re getting paid to do it. Learning is quick and accelerated.”

Cabral and her staff are responsible for tracking money into and out of the UNLV Foundation, and used according to donors’ wishes. “It’s essential to keep that trust with them,” she said.

With a little extra time in her life, Cabral now hopes to stay active with her son in sports — softball and baseball for him — and hopes to visit her home state of Hawaii a little more frequently.

BRAIN GAME
Anjala Krishen, Marketing Professor
It seems fitting that Anjala Krishen studies the way shoppers respond to having too many choices. When Krishen is faced with a choice, she tends to go for “all of the above.” She has degrees in engineering and business. She worked in information technology; she learned to weld. Even in recreation, she multitasks between martial arts and softball.

Krishen, a born interdisciplinarian. “Going into my Ph.D, I look a psych class and just loved it,” she said. “Consumer behavior is psychology applied to the consumer. When I look at marketing transactions, I look at why people buy things and why they behave the way they do.”

UNLV’s growth was a big factor in Krishen’s decision to come here. “The university has a research focus now, and the right amount of resources.”

She’s accompanied by her husband, Pushkin Kachnow, a visiting professor of electrical and computer engineering, and their two school-age daughters. They’re an active family: All four are blackbelts in taekwondo do, and Krishen and Kachnow will run this year’s Las Vegas marathon — her 12th.

This is Krishen’s first post since earning her doctorate from Virginia Tech in May, just weeks after the campus shooting there. “They gave out a lot of posthumous degrees at my commencement, and I had to try to recover from that because I didn’t want to graduate sad.” Her husband eulogized a colleague who was also a close family friend. Krishen said if any good has come out of the tragedy, it’s that people became closer to each other, and she, like many others, slowed down to appreciate the good in her life.

REDUCED
Rob Sayeski, Special Education Professor
One of the big draws about UNLV for Kristin Sayeski was the chance to work with teachers in the middle of the nation’s fifth-largest school district. As a teacher educator, Sayeski helps newcomers brave the chalkboard jungle, and offers new techniques to classroom veterans.

“I love to look at it from the eyes of the student teachers who have this life-changing experience. They’re really pulling it all together for the first time, and it’s surprising and exciting,” Sayeski said. “I also love working with experienced, high-quality mentoring teachers who have to figure out how to talk to a novice.”

Sayeski comes from the University of Virginia, where she was a liaison between the College of Education and the region’s schools. She earned her doctorate there in 2000, after teaching special education in middle schools.

She continues to teach about special education methods and strategies while researching the quality of teaching. “With No Child Left Behind, we have talked a lot about ‘What is a high-quality teacher?’ Defining that is very exciting to me,” Sayeski said. “I use a variety of observation systems to unlock this black box of teaching and determine the outcomes of effective practices.”

Family is the big extracurricular activity in Sayeski’s life. She and her husband, an education consultant, expect to spend weekends exploring the parks of their new city with their two preschoolers.

ACHIEVING ADVANCEMENT
Tiffany Cabral, Controller
Tiffany Cabral graduated from UNLV nearly eight years ago, but she never drifted far from campus. After earning her accounting degree, Cabral joined one of the biggest public accounting firms in the country, Deloitte and Touche. She sometimes headed back to UNLV on recruiting missions, and presented an occasional lecture to classes.

With a son heading into middle school, Cabral was seeking a better work-life balance when she heard from a former classmate about an opening at the UNLV Foundation. She became its new controller in July. “Having that network here at UNLV is what drew me back,” Cabral said.

She learned quickly on the job at Deloitte and soon achieved her goal of earning her CPA. “One of my professors used to say that going into a public accounting firm is like a master’s program, but you’re getting paid to do it. Learning is quick and accelerated.”

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EDUCATION
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NEw Faces
Stories by Erin O’Donnell

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Nancy Rapoport is both. The new Gordon & Silver, Ltd. Professor at the William S. Boyd School of Law, competes pro-am in international Latin and standard dance. She started dancing in 1991 as a way to relieve stress from work, and now she approaches both with zeal. When she’s not dancing, Rapoport is teaching law, researching it, or writing about it. She’s pleased that her colleagues at UNLV appreciate it all equally. “I wanted to come to a school where we all feel good and supported about being scholars and good as human beings.” Rapoport is admitted to the bars of four states plus the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court; she sat for the Nevada bar in July and was awaiting the results at press time. And she’s published books, including one on the Enron debacle that got her featured in the 2005 documentary Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room. “The best part of the movie is that it shows how easy it is for very smart people to fool themselves about what they’re doing,” she said.

Kevin Dawson is the historian of slaves as field workers and servants, but Kevin Dawson is shedding light on the history of slaves in the seas. Dawson is now preparing a book manuscript from his 2005 dissertation, Enslaved Swimmers and Divers in the Atlantic World, 1444-1888. Most Westerners could not swim in that era. When they saw Africans and Native Americans swimming, they took advantage of their skills to fish, to dive for pearls and conch, and to salvage items from shipwrecks. It was deadly work, but the skilled labor also offered great rewards.

“No scholar has written anything extensive on maritime slavery, so that kept drawing me in,” said Dawson, who grew up enjoying the oceans of Southern California. “And I was trying to answer some questions I’d had as a kid.” On a family vacation to see old wooden ships on the East Coast, Dawson had learned that, in a way, many sailors of the time could only hope for a quick drowning if they fell overboard. “That seemed bizarre to me.” Dawson, who comes from Fairfield University (’93 BA Theatre Arts) has been supporting herself entirely as an actor in New York, largely doing voiceover work and theater. Off Broadway, she portrayed Olivia in Take 9th, and a character in Tartuffe, and she played opposite Mario Van Peeters in a production of Oak and Ivy on Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts. “In New York, when things are going well, they’re going very well. When they’re not going well, you pick up more shifts at the restaurant,” Cornwell said. But life here in the city was taking a toll, and Cornwell wanted to try a different role. She contacted her mentor, Fine Arts Dean Jeffrey Koepf, for advice on landing a faculty position somewhere. To her surprise, he offered her one here.

Cornell is excited to be joining UNLV at the same time as the new MFA class. “Like many programs, we have a really strong graduate program, but I think the undergraduate program needs to be built up equally.” Cornell picked up another gig just as she left the Big Apple. She’s one of the hosts of the PBS series Real Savvy Moms, drawing on her experiences with her 3-year-old son, Brick (named for the character in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof). The show tapes a few weeks each year, giving her a good reason to visit the city she made home for 10 years. “I miss New York terribly, but I think this was meant to happen.”

It’s easy to see how Sheinkopf made a 34-year career in admissions and recruitment. His enthusiasm is contagious even over the phone, and he’s pleased to find his new staff shares his commitment to helping students. “Now the challenge is to support them in finding ways to make their jobs more efficient, so that we can meet the needs of our students for years to come.”

For starters, he can draw on experience from multiple campus settings. Sheinkopf comes most recently from the Illinois high school education system, where he recruited top high school students for a math and science academy, and for the University of Illinois-Chicago. He also held positions at University of Central Florida, Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, and Georgetown University of Illinois-Chicago. He also held positions at University of Central Florida, Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, and Georgetown University of Illinois-Chicago.

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and help build robots capable of all-
terrain locomotion.

As a postdoctoral researcher at
Harvard University’s Concord Field
Station, Lee compared the biomechan-
ics of four-legged animals running on
different kinds of terrain. “What really
drives me is an interest in evolution
and animal diversity,” he said.

In his new lab here, Lee will tran-
sition to comparing closely related
smaller animals, such as rabbits and
pikas. The rabbit knee joint is a com-
mon model for understanding human
osteoarthritis. He also studies muscle
function in the context of joint and leg
biomechanics by measuring the meta-
bolites generated by individual muscles
during running.

A lifelong horseman and avid polo player, Lee’s interest in ani-
imals stems from spending his ado-
lescence on his family’s Illinois farm.
He planned to be an equine veterinarian until he participated in a
project on canine hip dysplasia
as an undergraduate at Cornell
University.

In his Harvard research, Lee’s
findings went futuristic as he applied
his knowledge of animal biomechan-
ics to designing a robotic dog the
size of a Great Dane. “Robotics is
great fun. You apply what you learn
in animals to see if you really under-
stand how they work.”

Jim Revis of his Navy days.

“I have always enjoyed seeing
the efforts of many produce great
results,” he said. Part of his job is set-
ting the strategic direction for the
new student union and rec center.
“It’s comparable to driving an air-
craft carrier — you plan, give some
course change direction, and you see
the gigantic ship begin to move. It’s
an incredible thing.”

Revis retired as lieutenant com-
mander after 20 years in the mili-
tary, spending nearly four and a
half years on active duty in the
submarine service. After transition-
ing to the reserves, he began his
civilian career in facilities and engi-
neering for the paper and health
care industries.

In 1991, he joined Grady Health
System in Atlanta as chief engineer
and later became vice president of
facilities. In 1996, he implemented
his own disaster plan during the
Olympics, when a bomber struck
Centennial Olympic Park.

Revis — who also holds an MBA
and law degree — comes to UNLV
from Dallas Regional Medical
Center. “I had been harboring a
strong desire to work in a univer-
sity setting for a few years,” Revis
said, since he had worked briefly
at the University of Alabama at
Birmingham. “When on vacation,
my wife and I went down to UNLV.
I said, this is where I want to work.
I thought it was a beautiful campus
and an exciting city.”

Revis and his wife bring their
daughter to Las Vegas. “She’s 14
and extremely excited.” He pledges
that soon she’ll be a Rebel, taking advan-
tage of the new student union and
rec center herself.

Fred Albrecht at the Tam Alumni Center. Its construction is one of his proudest accomplishments.

Eight Presidents and 38 Years Later, VP Fred Albrecht Retires

By Erin O’Donnell

Fred Albrecht, who retired at the end of
August, came to UNLV 38 years ago as assistant
men’s basketball coach. He served in a variety of
positions from interim athletic director to director of
alumni relations to his most recent post as vice
president for university and community relations.

Before departing for a retirement golfing trip to
Ireland, he spoke to Inside UNLV.

What are the biggest changes at UNLV since you
came in 1970?

When I came there were 3,200 students. Now
there are 29,000. There were probably eight build-
ings. Now there are a hundred. When you walked
around campus, you knew everybody by their first
name. Now sometimes you don’t recognize people
because of the sheer numbers.

I worked here through eight presidents, start-
ing with Roman Zorn. I’m very fortunate to have
had such a long career. People ask me, “Would you
change anything?” And I say, “No.” If I had a chance
to do it over again, I would do it the same way.

What makes our alumni unique?

They were able to look back and say, “I went
to UNLV and I’m proud.” I’ve talked to many
alumni who worried about whether they would be
able to compete in professional schools with stu-
dents who had earned undergraduate degrees
from schools such as Stanford and then found that
they were as — or better — prepared than students from
such highly competitive universities. I haven’t met
any alumni who said, “I was shortchanged.”

So many of our students worked their way
through college — they didn’t get the total col-
lege experience until they move on and their fami-
lies start to grow, as they start to interact with
each other in business, nostalgia sets in and they
work very, very hard to get involved. There’s a
strong loyalty to UNLV. And that loyalty
is ingrained even in the people who gradu-
ated — they are still proud to say they went here.

What are your proudest accomplishments?

When I talked to (former president) Dr. (Robert)
Maxson about building the alumni center, he said,
“Can you raise the money?” When I said yes, he
told me, “Then go do it.” It made my job so much
fun because I was given the opportunity, and I had
no one to blame if it didn’t work.

Another one is the alumni amphitheater. I went out
with alumni and raised the money. I’ve seen classes
being taught out there, concerts and debates. When
alumni give back to the university it sends the mes-
 sage that when you graduate, you become alumni
and you help those who come after you.

My philosophy has been to leave it better than
when I came. That’s what I’m proud of. I always
had good leadership. Many of the presidents have
given me a lot of flexibility to create and develop
programs. That’s what made my job so much fun.

Any advice for your successor?

You can solve so many problems by commu-
nication. I think that’s obviously one of the keys
to my success — always be open to listen to the
opposition. Find common ground so you do not
have a stalemate. Especially in alumni relations,
you have to be a good listener because you are
working with so many different personalities and
backgrounds.

What’s next for you?

My wife, Connie, and I bought a beach condo in
San Clemente, Calif., to be close to our daughter,
Michelle, and grandson, Andrew. And we’ll keep
a home in Las Vegas. I hope to do more travel-
ing with my wife and to play a lot more golf. I will
be going back to work somewhat, but it won’t be
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From A to Z (Ashley to Zorn)

ERIN O’DONNELL

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Three Tips from Human Resources

Science and Engineering Building
Size: 205,779 gross square feet
Location: Main campus, west of the Cottage Grove parking garage
Funding: $113 million, including more than $32.1 million funded by UNLV
Completion date: mid-2008
Status: Recent work includes exterior stucco, stoneveneer, metal panels, and glazing. Interior work includes partitions, painting, tile work, ceilings, lighting, and environmental systems. Contractors have also been working on the exterior sunshades.
Features: The building will include offices, classrooms, and laboratories that will be used by research scientists and students. Examples of how the building plans to achieve a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver rating include:
- using stone tile and stone veneer on the exterior concrete panels, roof, interior walls, and exterior glass and glazing. Interior work includes partitions, painting, plumbing, and electrical and environmental systems.
- Contractor continues with doors, paint, casework, ceilings, tile, bath-
rooms, mechanical systems, ductwork, electrical, data, lights, and exterior metal screens.
- Features: It is anticipated that a mix of the practices of orthodontics, endodontics, periodontics, pediatric dentistry, oral surgery, and general dentistry will occupy the building.

Turf Reduction Project
UNLV facility management personnel are replacing approximately 48,000 square feet of turf at the corner of Cottage Grove Avenue and Maryland Parkway.
The project, which began in May, reduces the turf on campus that routinely does not get used. Karl Reynolds, director of facilities management, said that UNLV is sensitive to the water conservation needs of the community and felt this area was a prime target for a reduction project.
Along Maryland Parkway there will be a concrete walkway and a number of southern live oaks. As part of the Midtown UNLV project, similar frontage will be used on the Greenspun Hall project.
There will also be a variety of landscape accents, including large rocks and low-water-use plant material, between the walkway and the UNLV Foundations Building.
The project is scheduled to be completed no later than October.

Student Services Complex Addition
Size: 15,960 gross square feet
Funding: $6.5 million
Completion date: May 2008
Status: The contractor is installing all underground utilities and connecting to power, storm drains, sanitary sewer, and domestic water. Excavation for the building pad is also underway.
Features: The public counter will be moving into the new addition, as will the tours and the office of registrar and admissions.
Features: The Greenspun Hall building will bring almost all the College of Urban Affairs units into one building.
The building will have one tower of five stories and a second of three stories. It is designed with sustainability features and includes a distinctive courtyard shaded by a solar power array, which will provide more than 15 percent of the total annual energy for the building.

Greenspun Hall
Size: 121,900 gross square feet
Location: Main campus, southeast of the Student Union
Funding: $93.7 million, including $37 million donated by the Greenspun family and $3.4 million contributed by the Greenspun Foundation.
Completion date: June 2008
Status: Framing and construction of the walls on the first level were completed in July. In addition, foundations for the satellite utility yard, which includes a Nevada Power transformer, the generator, and antennas for the broadcast areas, were poured and support posts were mounted. Framing of the plaza and third floor was completed in August. Mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work, as well as fire sprinkler sleev-
ing began on the third through fifth floors. Exterior framing of elevators one through three is also under way.
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As the campus kicks off its 50th anniversary celebration, Inside UNLV takes a look back at some of the people, places, and events that have made their way into UNLV history.

(Left) Singer Frank Sinatra, at podium, accepts an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from President Donald Baepler in 1976. (Below) A marquee invites the Southern Nevada community to the students’ “Education City” protest. Students built a shantytown made from oil drums and scrap board to protest inadequate funding. Some professors temporarily taught classes there in a show of solidarity. The protest site was where Frank and Estella Beam Hall stands today.

They Were Very Good Years

(Top) Take a look at campus circa 1960. At front left is Frazier Hall, with Grant Hall to its right. At the back is the Barrick Museum, which at the time was the gym. And that dusty road out front is what today is Maryland Parkway. (Above) UNLV President Robert Maxson, left, chats with former President Jimmy Carter, right, while UNLV Vice President Lyle Rivera looks on during Carter’s 1988 visit to campus. (Right) Nevada Southern’s 1958 bowling team takes a break from the action.