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UNLV Magazine

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UNLV

MAGAZINE

FALL 2013

BIGGEST AND BRIGHTEST: THIS YEAR'S FRESHMAN CLASS
HOW-TO'S FROM TOP MINDS: ALUMNI OF THE YEAR SHARE THEIR WISDOM
HIGH ANXIETY: FIRST-TIME NOVELIST ALISSA NUTTING
HOT RESEARCH: THE POISON IN YOUR SALSA

The House That UNLV Built

THE SOLAR DECATHLON TEAM SHOWS THE WORLD HOW TO CREATE A SMART DESERT HOME



Gil Revolorio

A first-generation college student and Las Vegas native, Gil Revolorio blends practicality, smarts, and fun when it comes to his experience at UNLV. His antics at Runnin' Rebel basketball games have earned the criminal justice and public administration major the nickname "Tiny Dancer." His high school GPA helped earn scholarships so Revolorio likely will graduate debt-free and ready for law school. Read more about why some of the most sought-after academic recruits are choosing UNLV on [page 16](#).

[Aaron Mayes/UNLV Photo Services]



UNLV MAGAZINE

fall '13
volume 21 • number 2

ON THE COVER:

DesertSol,
UNLV's ulti-
mate desert
retreat, p20
[Photo by Aaron Mayes]

Narc Agent. Private Detective. Green Beret.

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The House that UNLV Built

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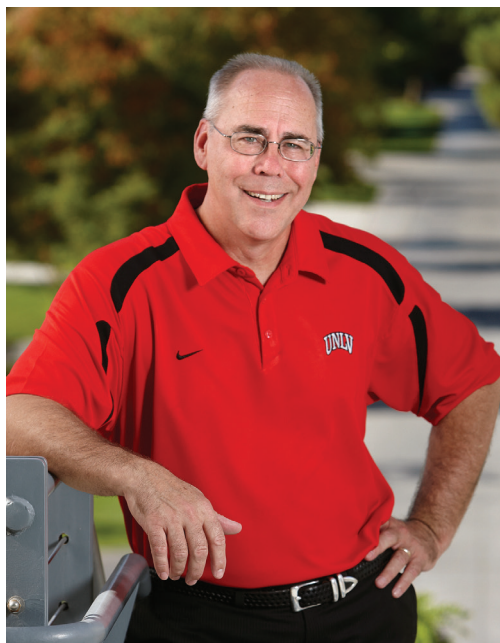
Our Road to Tier 1

Early this fall, I outlined elements of our Tier 1 initiative, which is a data-driven business plan to propel UNLV into the ranks of top 100 U.S. research universities, and it reflects the evolution of our longstanding strategic plan.

Currently, UNLV is designated by the Carnegie Foundation as a “research university with high activity.” This puts UNLV in the top 4.5 percent in the nation. This is an admirable distinction, but not a true reflection of where UNLV should be, nor of what Nevada needs of us.

Of the 108 U.S. universities designated as Tier 1 institutions with “very high” research activity, none is located in Nevada. In fact, ours is the largest state lacking a top-tier research university, so we are missing out on the robust returns that investing in higher education brings. Tier 1 universities:

- **Are major economic engines in their states** — If we reach our Tier 1 goal, UNLV will more than double its current economic impact of \$1.5 billion.
- **Attract industries, foster business start-ups, and create new patents** — It’s a proven model for economic development. University research leads to the type of environment needed to turn ideas into new products.
- **Improve the human infrastructure and health care of their regions** — University research helps solve the most pressing problems in the community. UNLV is already doing this in many ways, but Nevada needs us to do more.
- **Bring in large federal grants and private industry contracts** — The state ranks at the bottom in bringing in these dollars. Part of changing that requires more robust university-based research.
- **Produce a highly qualified workforce** — In short, a community cannot prosper without the skilled workforce that will be in demand in the future.
- **Attract students from around the world** — UNLV has a strong international reputation. Students from across the globe are spending their educational dollars in Nevada. UNLV is a significant part of the state’s export economy.



UNLV’s ambition and its mission is to fill these needs.

We’ve started by gathering comparative data from several benchmark institutions in the top tier — namely, Oregon, Utah, Colorado, and Arizona State. For the most part, like UNLV, they are in urban Western settings, function in statewide higher education systems, have comparable student size, and do not have medical or agricultural schools.

We are using the data to develop performance targets for the next five, 10, and 15 years. We also will use this information to set unit-level goals across campus. This will help us allocate resources in terms of faculty positions, capital expenditures, educational infrastructure, and research investments.

We recognize that gaining support for our Tier 1 initiative will require us to identify clearly the significant gaps between us and our Tier 1 comparators. And then to succeed, we must engage our key stakeholders in the plan for closing those gaps.

This initiative takes everything we have prioritized — our curriculum, our enrollment, our commitment to student access and success, our focus on economic and cultural development, and so much more — and consolidates it under a single umbrella. The Tier 1 initiative will drive our campus into its future, and I look forward to taking that journey with you.

Neal Smatresk
UNLV President

More: Read about Tier 1 and changes in undergraduate recruitment on page 16. Further strategic plan details also are available at www.unlv.edu/president.

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THE Flashlight



UNLV paleontologist Josh Bonde examines a 98 million-year-old tooth found at Valley of Fire State Park. It's from a raptor-sized Tyrannosaur.

On Display

UNLV partnership with Las Vegas Natural History Museum turns professors and students into live exhibit.

BY SHANE BEVELL

When a group of avid hikers found an odd-looking object at Spring Mountain Ranch State Park in August, they knew just who to ask: Josh Bonde, '12 Ph.D. Geoscience.

The UNLV paleontologist has made it his mission to make science accessible to his fellow Nevadans. In 2012, Bonde developed an open paleontology lab at the Las Vegas Natural History Museum, essentially turning the him and his UNLV students into a living exhibit. Visitors can watch the scientists work on projects, hold real dinosaur bones, ask questions, and bring in their own treasures to be identified.

The bone those hikers found? Turned out to

be vertebrae from a 230-million-year-old crocodile-type animal, the oldest land animal ever found in Nevada. They left the bone in place, as Bonde recommends, but sent him a photo. Bonde's team went to the park and subsequently found two more vertebrae fossils. They analyzed the layer of rock in which the bones were uncovered to determine they were from the late Triassic period.

The fossils soon will be on display at the Las Vegas Natural History Museum. Since 2004, Bonde has worked to keep fossils found on state land in Nevada. Historically, fossils have been sent out of state for curation. "This is a great example of local entities working together, at no expense to the taxpayer, for the benefit of the preservation of Nevada's natural heritage and educational materials," says Bonde, who grew up in Fallon and is a member of the Te-Moak Band of Western Shoshone. "That way our students don't have to go to Southern California

to learn about fossils from our own backyard."

Most people receive science education informally through libraries, museums, and TV, which is why Bonde believes it is important for scientists to be involved in community outreach. "The museum has nearly 100,000 visitors a year, many from at-risk or underserved schools," he says. "If I can do something that is going to make a guest's visit to the museum more enriching and perhaps inspire a kid to pursue the sciences, then I have done my job," says Bonde, whose own memorable visit to a museum as a kid inspired him to become a paleontologist.

Bonde and fellow geoscientist Steve Rowland formed the Nevada Friends of Paleontology group at UNLV in 2007. Now the group is integrated into the museum, with Bonde and Rowland as advisers. They train laypeople to be official volunteers on paleontology projects.

The geoscience department also works with the Nevada Division of State Parks to conduct paleontological surveys at no charge.

More: The Paleontology Lab is typically open Saturdays at the Las Vegas Natural History Museum.

**TOOLS
OF THE TRADE**
.....

The Cannon is Back!

AFTER EIGHT LONG YEARS and a 27-22 victory over UNR, the fabled Fremont Cannon has been restored to a bright shiny scarlet. The cannon is awarded to the winner of the annual Battle for Nevada rivalry football game, and tradition dictates it be painted in the winning school's colors. The cannon was trucked back from the Oct. 26 game in Reno and paraded through campus before the football team held a ceremonial painting on Pida Plaza the following Monday. UNLV's paint shop then took over to meticulously disassemble the cannon, sand away the Wolf Pack blue, and refinish the prize in its rightful red. They also removed a rather uncouth hidden inscription ("University of Notta Lotta Victories").

The late Bill Ireland, UNLV's first football coach (and a graduate of and former coach at UNR), is credited with the trophy exchange idea. He was perhaps inspired by a 1966 unsuccessful attempt by UNLV students to steal a cannon from the campus of UNR. In 1970, Kennecott Copper donated the replica of the howitzer used in John C. Fremont's 1843 expedition.

The Tools

PPG Delstar acrylic enamel paint, an automotive paint in OSHA Red (the same color used for warning signs) and Gray No. 428 • A Sata Jet 2000 HVLP (high volume, low pressure) spray gun • A Sioux straight line sander with 120-, 150-, 220, and 320-grit paper

The Users

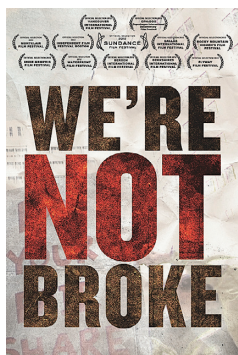
UNLV's paint shop team: Rick Agrellas (left), Glennis Gray, and Gary Carpenter (not pictured)



Queue Up These Flicks

Every fall, the Boyd School of Law's Public Interest Law Film Festival showcases documentaries that shed light on weighty legal and economic justice issues. Here, three law professors explain why these movies should be on your watchlist.

Francine Lipman: Evocative, engaging, and informative are not words that immediately come to mind when thinking about our federal income tax system. But the 2012 Sundance Film Festival-winning movie *We're Not Broke* is all of those. Our income tax systems are progressive, but sophisticated taxpayers, including publicly traded companies, are able to minimize or even eliminate their share of the burden. This phenomenon, among others, has resulted in record-breaking income and wealth inequality as well as the Occupy Wall Street movement. This film does an excellent job of explaining the complexity of this tax issue with accessible, plain language, and visual imagery that pleases the eyes, mind, and soul.



Ruben Garcia: The 2012 documentary *Shift Change* is a nice follow-up to Michael Moore's *Capitalism: A Love Story*. It offers an important revelation about cooperatives. In these organizations, worker-owners have shares and votes, much like shareholders in publicly traded companies. They are, in essence, democracies. Cooperatives exist everywhere — in cosmopolitan urban centers, college towns, and rust belt cities looking for a new awakening. Oak Brook, Ill., is the headquarters of Ace Hardware, and Arden Hills, Minn., is the home of Land O'Lakes. The film offers discussion on the relationship between the decline of a more traditional form of worker voice — collective bargaining — and the possible rise of cooperatives.



Addie Rolnick: *Made in L.A.* tells the story of a 2001 campaign to fight unfair labor practices by retail giant Forever 21. Most items sold in the Forever 21's stores were manufactured in L.A.'s garment district, sewn by women who made less than \$3 an hour and lacked basic labor protections.

The film focuses on the lives of three workers grappling with issues of illegal immigration, family, and economic justice. It also highlights the different types of advocacy necessary to bring about change. The campaign became a precursor to the anti-sweatshop campaigns that pressured The Gap, Apple, and other American companies to take responsibility for the labor conditions of workers employed by foreign contractors. Yet the film reminds us that the sweatshop phenomenon is not confined to foreign countries.



DON'T MISS IT



Modern Japanese Art: The Barrick Museum is the debut venue for the international tour exhibit "Passage to the Future: Art from a New Generation in Japan." The showcase of sculpture, photography, filmmaking, painting, ceramic ware, and installation work features 42 works from 11 artists. It is presented with support from the Japan Foundation, the Japan America Society of Nevada, and the Office of the Honorary Consulate of Japan. Through Dec. 20.

Emerging Writers Series: The Black Mountain Institute presents a reading with Derek Henderson, author of *Thus & Inconsequentia* and cofounder of Blue Night Press. The series highlights early career poets and fiction writers. 7 p.m., Nov. 19, Greenspun Hall.

Holiday Favorite: The Nevada Conservatory Theatre presents Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," the story of Ebenezer Scrooge and three ghosts who lead him through time and show him the error of his ways. Various dates Dec. 5-14. Judy Bayley Theatre.

Eat, Pray, Love: UNLV opera presents "Eat, Pray, Love," a concert of classic and musical theatre scenes from Frank Loesser's "The Most Happy Fella," "Hansel and Gretel," "Romeo et Juliette," and Sondheim's "West Side Story." 7:30 p.m., Dec. 5, Beam Music Center.

Social Security: University Forum Lecture Series presents "Everything You Need to Know About the Social Security Benefits Formula, But Don't Even Know to Ask," a talk by UNLV law professor Francine J. Lipman. This lecture will provide an overview of the Social Security benefit formula to help people make more informed decision-making about their retirement options. 7:30 p.m., Dec 5, Barrick Museum Auditorium.

Duel in the Desert: UNLV's Lady Rebels host the annual women's basketball tournament featuring Clemson, Creighton, and Oregon State. Dec. 19-21.

Continental Tire Las Vegas Classic: The Runnin' Rebels take on Florida Gulf Coast at the 13th annual holiday tournament. The field of teams includes Santa Clara, Mississippi State, South Florida, Florida A&M, Radford, and Sacred Heart universities. Dec. 18-23.

More info: For details on these events and a full listing of activities at UNLV, visit unlv.edu/calendar.

The New Deans

UNLV added new leadership to its roster of college deans. Here's what they are looking forward to bringing to their new roles.



DAN HAMILTON, WILLIAM S. BOYD SCHOOL OF LAW

"We want to be for gaming law what NYU is for tax law — the place to go for people who need to be trained and kept current in gaming law. We have, in Vegas and in the state, a great advantage to be the leader. It's a natural fit for us, and we're going to pursue that."

Hamilton was associate dean for faculty development at the University of Illinois College of Law

BRENT HATHAWAY,
LEE BUSINESS SCHOOL

"We want to build on our solid foundation as the only accredited business school in this region by strengthening partnerships in the community and fully implementing the Lee family gift to expand the faculty and enhance programs."

Hathaway was dean of the University of Wyoming College of Business for nine years



STOWE SHOEMAKER, WILLIAM F. HARRAH COLLEGE OF
HOTEL ADMINISTRATION

"We want to continue our trajectory to top ranking by being the place where students come to learn the art, science, and business of hospitality and gaming and where industry considers our students to be not just employees but investments in helping guarantee their company's success."

Shoemaker previously was a professor in the Hotel College and an associate dean of the Conrad N. Hilton College of Hotel and Restaurant Management at the University of Houston



KIM METCALF,
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

"I was drawn to UNLV because of the unique combination of a faculty with tremendous capacity for genuinely innovative, progressive work situated within a large, diverse urban school district with which to partner. With every day, I am more convinced that my family and I made the right decision."

Metcalf was director of institutional research and planning at the University of West Georgia and a former dean of its College of Education



Top Chef: Hotel administration professor **Jean Hertzman** received the Chef Herman Breithaupt Award from the International Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education (I-CHRIE). This award honors the memory of a pioneer in culinary education by recognizing outstanding achievement and contributions to foodservice education by a chef/educator. The recipient of the award must exhibit high professionalism, demonstrate a strong commitment to hospitality education, and have a record of contributions to I-CHRIE and the industry as a chef/educator. It was

presented at the I-CHRIE awards dinner during the annual convention in St. Louis in July.

Advocacy Award: Nursing student **Vanessa Gepielago** received the Lillian Wald Community Nursing Award for her efforts to encourage a change in Nevada law regarding sexual education. She encouraged the review and passage of a bill that would modernize current curriculum to help reduce the state's rising teen pregnancy rate. The award is named in honor of 19th century nurse Lillian Wald, who pioneered the concept of public health nursing. The School of Nursing presents the award each semester to a student who demonstrates upstream advocacy that addresses a community health problem.

Federal Appointment: Law professor **Bret Birdsong** has been appointed by the Obama administration to serve as deputy solicitor for land resources at the U.S. Department of Interior in Washington, D.C. He will lead a team of lawyers providing counsel to the Bureau of Land Management regarding its management of nearly 250 million acres of public land, which includes about 70 percent of Nevada's land. He will be one of six deputy solicitors reporting to Solicitor Hilary Tompkins, the Interior Department's top lawyer.



UNLV earns national recognition for campus mental health services

UNLV was honored for its comprehensive approach to student mental health programming by the Jed Foundation, a national advocacy group.

Only 30 universities have been awarded the JedCampus seal, which recognizes how well a university works collaboratively to approach mental health services. This includes counseling services, suicide prevention programs, wellness and life skills programs, and educational outreach for faculty, staff, and students.

The Jed Foundation compared the school's self-assessment to the recommended practices outlined in *The Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention on College and University Campuses* developed by The Jed Foundation and Suicide Prevention Resource Center.

In addition to a number of health promotion programs for students, UNLV offers:

- **Student Counseling and Psychological Services**, which recently earned full accreditation from the International Association of Counseling Services. It offers a full program of support groups, counseling appoints, and crisis services.

- **The Practice**, a training and research clinic open to the community. In addition to cognitive and psychological testing, it offers services for such mental health issues as anxiety, depression, grief and loss. Counselors also specialize in problem gambling treatment and child behavioral issues.

- **Center for Individual, Couple and Family Counseling**, a clinic offering the public help with emotional issues including anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, suicidal thoughts and violent emotional outbursts, and issues brought on by unemployment.

The community clinics both offer services on a sliding scale based on income.



Plenty to smile about

Nice-guy coach Dwaine Knight grooms his young Rebel team while watching former players tear it up on the PGA Tour.

BY CHED WHITNEY

On April 14, Adam Scott won the Masters, golf's biggest crown. The trophy ceremony was over, and congratulatory phone calls and messages were pouring in. One text was from Dwaine Knight, Scott's college

coach. Scott thanked Knight, and quipped in his reply, "That putt on 18 should earn me lap credits," a reference to the penalty Knight imposes when players missed a goal he'd set for them in practice.

Talk to someone even a little familiar with the UNLV men's golf program and invariably you'll hear something like, "Dwaine Knight is just the nicest man." Sitting in his office recently, UNLV's golf coach of almost 27 years brought up the Scott anecdote to make the point that while he might be a nice fellow, he can be tough and firm.

Naturally. He's a head coach.

3 Questions for Tina Kunzer-Murphy



Tina Kunzer-Murphy's contract as interim athletic director has been extended through 2014. She's a former UNLV player and head coach of women's tennis, assistant athletic director, and director of sponsorships for alumni relations. She also served as executive director of the Las Vegas Bowl.

How does your history with the athletic department help in your duties?

I was a student-athlete, coach, and administrator. I know how you're judged every day: wins, losses, and academics. It's a very comfortable fit for me.

What challenges do university system budget cuts present?

When I stepped in July 1, we had made significant cuts already. I became the bearer of bad news. Now we're seeing a little light at the end of the tunnel. We have done a lot of fundraising but it's nothing we can't chip away at.

What does "UNLV's first female athletic director" mean to you?

I don't take it lightly. I have a responsibility to all UNLV student-athletes. I was born and raised here. Being the first woman and the first former UNLV student-athlete to sit in this chair is pretty cool. But it doesn't matter if I wear a skirt or pants; I have a job to do.

Knight's office walls tell the story: Covering practically every square inch are photographs and articles detailing his program's accomplishments. Knight has coached 41 All-Americans — including Scott and current PGA Tour pros Chris Riley, Chad Campbell, and Ryan Moore. The Rebels have been to 12 consecutive NCAA Championships. Knight, himself, was selected in 2002 to the Golf Coaches Association of America's Hall of Fame. His biggest prize graces his finger: the 1998 national title ring.

"I think (we have) a very demanding program," Knight said. "Because of the goals these guys have to try to get to the next level, and because I played on the tour myself, I really have first-hand experience of how hard it is." Knight played professionally from 1972-77, winning the PGA's Southwest Open in his second season.

UNLV golfers follow a fairly strict regimen. Three days a week, workouts start at 5:50 a.m. Weekly tournament play isn't automatic as spots are limited. Usually, Knight holds a two-day qualifier for two starting spots. Then he picks the week's three remaining starters. Knight tells recruits and their parents: "You know you've got to earn a spot to play."

And he expects them to graduate. "We don't lower those standards for anyone," Knight said. "Whether you're a first-team All-American or you're just on the team, barely hanging on, I still expect that."

TOP RECRUITING TOOL

Obviously, not every college golfer achieves his PGA Tour dreams. But for several years, UNLV has been the top-producing school — "really good advertising for our program," Knight said. As of Nov. 1, UNLV was in first place, ahead of Baylor, Wake Forest, and Georgia Tech, in the Rivals Cup, which ranks colleges by how well their former students are doing on the PGA Tour.

Knight arrived at UNLV in 1987, after 10 years coaching at his alma mater, New Mexico. He took a leap of faith after talking to university and Las Vegas community leaders who said raising money for a fledgling program would be no problem. "And they were right," Knight says, "(raising money) was the last of our concerns, once we got going.

"I think the can-do spirit of the town was what impressed me."

During his UNLV courtship, Knight met a pre-Mirage Steve Wynn — "I didn't even know who he was at the time" — and Wynn impressed upon him what the

university meant to the city. (Wynn later opened the super-exclusive Shadow Creek Golf Course and told Knight, "Come play.")

"So it was a leap of faith for me: to leave my alma mater, a place where we'd had some success, to come to a place where they'd never been to an NCAA."

WINNING TRADITION

Today, the program has close to \$6 million in endowments. The university pays the coaches' salaries, and the UNLV Rebel Golf Foundation takes care of everything else. "From where we were to where we've gone, it's pretty incredible," Knight said.

"And along the way we've won three national titles (the 1998 team title, and individual championships for Warren Schutte in 1991 and Ryan Moore in 2004) and had numerous All-Americans," he said, pointing at his office walls.

In addition to Scott's Masters win, Tour rookie Derek Ernst, a 2012 graduate, this

year captured the 20th PGA Tour win for a former UNLV golfer.

The worldwide visibility UNLV's PGA pros bring makes Knight's recruiting job easier. In 1995, when Tiger Woods was looking at college offers, he whittled 114 suitors down to three: Stanford, Arizona State, and UNLV. While Woods eventually chose Stanford, Knight said UNLV got a boost from the association.

"Even though we didn't get him, the publicity we got was incredible," he said. "To this day, people still link us to probably one of the greatest amateurs ever — until Ryan Moore came along."

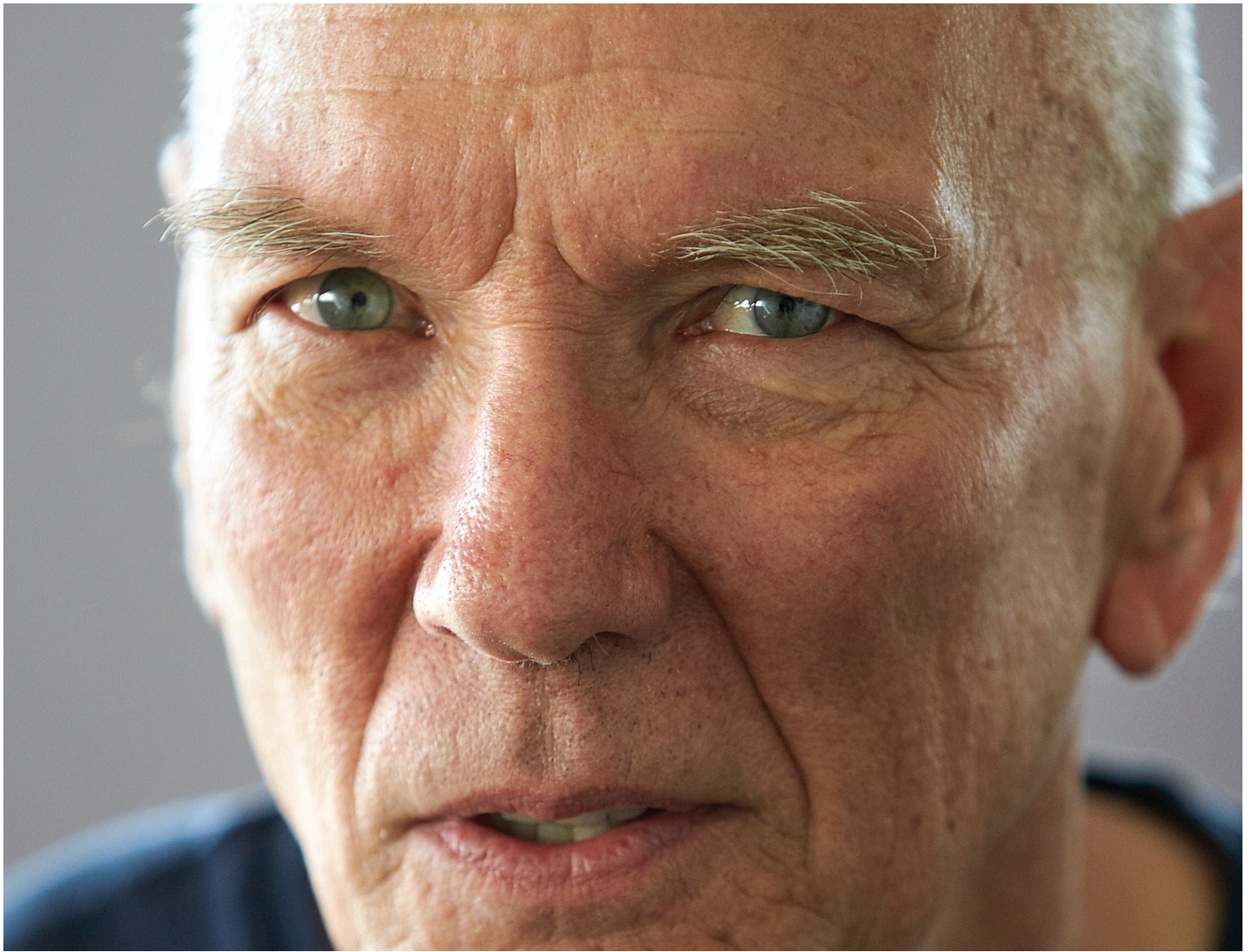
Moore's 2004 season is arguably the most impressive ever by an amateur. Along with his NCAA title, Moore won the U.S. Amateur, the Western Amateur, and the U.S. Amateur Public Links (for the second time).

Knight's 2013 team, ranked 24th in the Oct. 28 NCAA poll, is a young one. The Rebels wrapped up the fall season with an eighth place finish in a tournament in Florida. Two sophomores and a freshman were among the starters.

When the season resumes for UNLV — they travel to Hawaii for a tournament in February before hosting the Southern Highlands Collegiate Masters March 7-9 — Knight will be out on the links, walking with players during tournaments. Making suggestions. Fine-tuning swings. Coaching.

On practice days, these young players will be running laps, likely dreaming of their own Masters win.

"I think (we have) a very demanding program. Because of the goals these guys have to try to get to the next level, and because I played on the tour myself, I really have first-hand experience of how hard it is."



LIFE'S WORK



Narcotics agent. Green Beret. Private detective.

The many occupations of alumnus H. Lee Barnes provide fodder for the award-winning books he writes. His latest takes us into the casino culture.

BY DIANE RUSSELL

On the morning of Nov. 21, 1980, H. Lee Barnes was heading to the Sands Hotel to play tennis. He turned onto Koval Lane and saw something he knew he never would forget. He watched two people jump to their deaths from the windows of the MGM Grand Hotel. The fire and smoke engulfing the building was to claim the lives of 87 people.

The fire plays an important role in the life of the protagonist of Barnes' most recently published book, *Cold Deck* (University of Nevada Press).

Barnes' life experiences have a habit of finding their way into his stories. He was a dealer for years, gaining an in-depth knowledge of the casino culture that proved useful for *Cold Deck* as well as *Dummy Up and Deal*, a book he describes as "creative nonfiction."

Nowadays, he doesn't spend much time in the casinos. "The last really good time I had at a casino was riding the rollercoaster at New York New York," he recalled.

When he was younger, he began college but dropped out. Within weeks he received his draft notice. He was going to Vietnam. Welcome to two other Barnes books, *Gunning for Ho*, *Vietnam Stories* and *When We Walked Above the Clouds*, the latter a memoir about his Green Beret days. It was following a reunion of Vietnam veterans that he wrote about the war. "They off and on pressured me to write the story. I wrote it for them, not so much for myself." Now, he said, "I hope I never write about Vietnam again."

But he knows those books won't soon be forgotten. *Gunning for Ho* has been incorporated into numerous university courses focused on Vietnamese history and literature.

OTHER LIVES

Other times of his life, such as stints as a private detective and as a narcotics agent, also provide fodder for his work.

Barnes, who was named an outstanding graduating senior at UNLV, later earned a master of fine arts

degree in creative writing from Arizona State University. Now he is the lead faculty member in creative writing at the College of Southern Nevada.

Today he has eight books in print. Along the way he has picked up several awards, including the Willamette Fiction Award. In 2009 he was elected to the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame. This year the Vietnam Veterans of America honored him with an excellence in the arts award.

His first attempt at writing came in 1977, when he tried to write a novel based on a real-life narcotics case on which he had worked. He eventually abandoned it. He was too close to the subject and couldn't find the story.

"But, I realized I had the discipline to write and write daily," he said. "The more you write, the more you learn the craft, and the better you get."

But, "I didn't know it would take more than 20 years to get a book contract."

THE WRITING PROCESS

Barnes compared his writing process to cleaning up a cluttered garage.

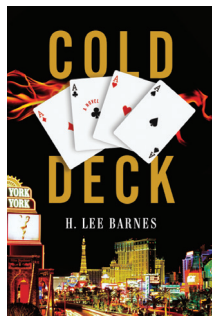
"The first draft is a really messy garage," he said, adding that it isn't until you work on it a while that you begin to see what it can look like when you finish.

Working in casinos, he found it easy to write daily. But because his teaching job takes more time, he now commits to writing at least 12 hours a week, fitting it in whenever he can.

His routine? "It's simple. I don't answer the phone. That's it. Only my dog is allowed to be with me. I run all my ideas by my dog."

His latest work, *The Gambler's Apprentice*, is a prequel to *The Lucky*. Both feature Willy Bobbins, a character loosely resembling a colorful Las Vegas personality, the late Benny Binion. The story begins in 1917. Bobbins rustles cattle, plays poker in back rooms in New Orleans and Texas, and eventually helps build Las Vegas as a casino owner.

Barnes expects to send it to the publisher soon. "It's all done. Now I'm just going back and cleaning out the garage."



Cold Deck
By H. Lee Barnes,
'89 BA English
University of Nevada
Press, 2013

SHORT STORIES



The Book of Important Moments

By Richard Wiley
Dzanc Books, 2013

The latest novel from PEN/Faulkner Award-winning author Richard Wiley begins with a rape, then alternates chapters between the rapist and the victim. We first go back to meet the rapist during his childhood. The victim is followed from the time of the rape until a decade later — when the two meet again.

"My intent was to make a scene where there's no possibility on the part of the reader to place blame anywhere but where it belongs — on the rapist — and then undo it a little bit by going back to when he was 6," said Wiley, a longtime UNLV English professor and associate director of the university's Black Mountain Institute.

Wiley's previous books include *Soldiers in Hiding* (winner of the PEN Faulkner Award), *Fools' Gold*, *Festival for Three Thousand Maidens*, *Indigo*, *Ahmed's Revenge*, and *Commodore Perry's Minstrel Show*.

A volunteer with the U.S. Peace Corps in Korea in the late 1960s, Wiley has lived in several foreign countries since then and often sets his stories in foreign locales.

"I realized I had the discipline to write and write daily. The more you write, the more you learn the craft, and the better you get. (But) I didn't know it would take more than 20 years to get a book contract."

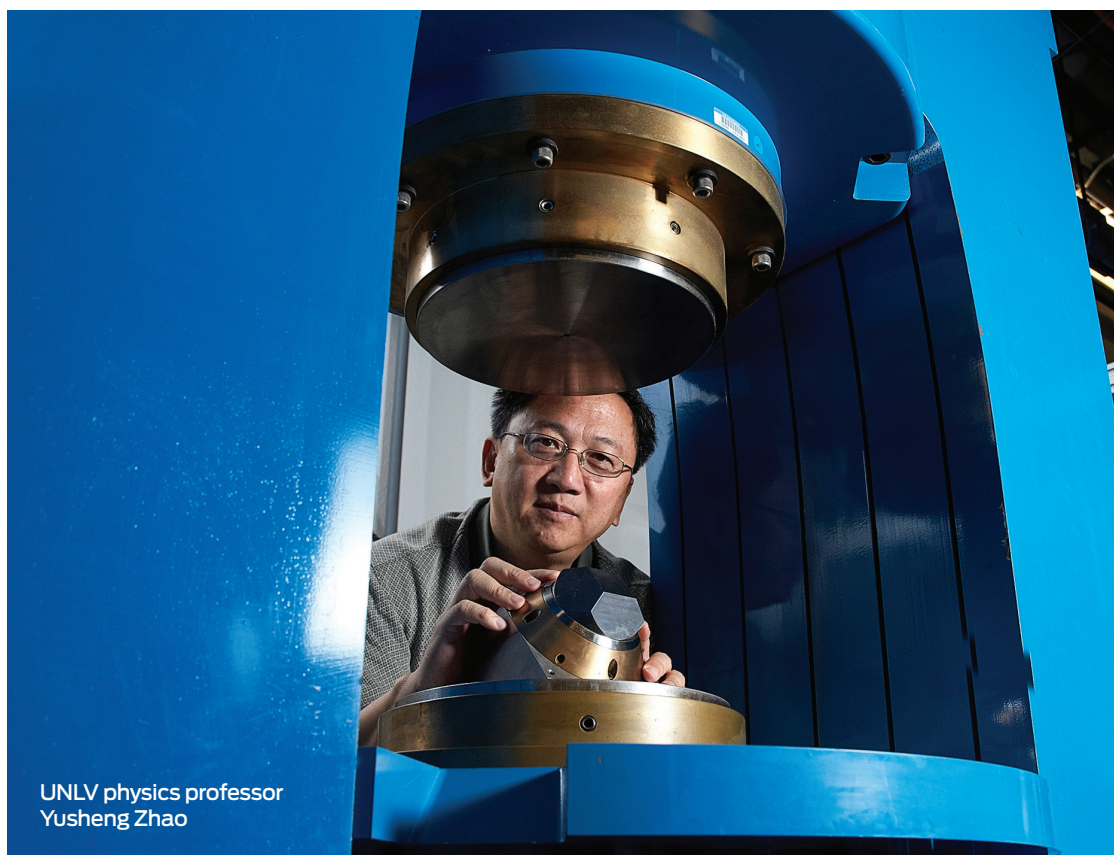
BRIEFLY
.....**Bench-to-Bedside**

UNLV is leading a network of 13 Mountain West universities on a \$20.3 million grant to turn clinical research into health care practices. The grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will create the Clinical Translational Research Infrastructure Network to address regional health concerns, including cancer, obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular and infectious disease treatments, and to expand access to care.

"This grant will be a game-changer for Nevada and the entire region," said Dr. Robert D. Langer, a faculty member of UNLV's School of Allied Health Sciences and of the University of Nevada School of Medicine. "While we've been successful in building basic science research, until now we've had a tough time building traction for research that can help everyday people."

The institutions will share expertise and centralized services. This will increase the likelihood of attracting more NIH funding. The grant is part of UNLV's build-out in health sciences research structure and supports the university's goal to attain status as a Tier 1 research institution.

Other partners in the network include the University of Nevada School of Medicine, UNR, and universities in Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, and Wyoming.



UNLV physics professor
Yusheng Zhao

Better Batteries

The volatile nature of today's batteries is one challenge for renewable energy technology. UNLV and private companies team up to find a solution.

BY SHANE BEVELL

When all of Boeing's new Dreamliner airplanes were temporarily grounded this year after reports of their batteries catching fire, physics professor Yusheng Zhao's ears perked up.

Zhao, executive director of UNLV's High Pressure Science and Engineering Center, has been tasked with developing a new, fire-resistant solid electrolyte battery. It would replace the lithium-ion batteries that power most of today's electric vehicles, cell phones, and laptop computers.

"The battery is so important in renewable energy," he says. But the lithium-ion battery can catch fire as a result of impact damage, overheating, and overcharging. They also lack energy density and power capacity.

The U.S. Advanced Research Projects Agency awarded Zhao's team a three-year, \$3.1 million

grant to find an alternative.

"This new electrolyte material would help make vehicle batteries safer in an accident while also increasing battery performance by extending vehicle range and acceleration," says Zhao, who came to UNLV in 2010 after 18 years at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Most lithium-ion batteries rely on a liquid electrolyte material to shuttle the lithium ions back and forth across the battery; however, liquid electrolytes are highly corrosive and prone to flammability. Zhao's team is working to replace that liquid electrolyte with a solid, fire-resistant version using lithium-rich antiperovskite (LiRAP).

"Energy density determines how long the vehicle can drive; power capacity means how fast you can accelerate; and safety is important because liquid electrolyte is corrosive, flammable,

and toxic,” Zhao said. “Because of this, it is difficult to use liquid electrolyte batteries in many high-performance commercial applications.”

If successful, Zhao says the new fire-resistant solid electrolyte LiRAP would greatly increase the lithium-ion transporting rate, and enhance the energy density and power capacity of today’s best lithium-ion solid-state batteries.

“The ability to make higher performance batteries at a lower cost will give U.S. battery manufacturers a significant and enduring advantage over their foreign competitors. Increasing the use of electric vehicles would decrease U.S. dependence on foreign oil,” Zhao noted.

The project supports the U.S. Department of Energy’s drive to solve the nation’s energy challenges by funding technologies that show technical

promise but are too early for private-sector investment.

Zhao’s project is now attracting considerable private sector support. Pathion Inc., an energy storage innovation company, and UNLV have signed a cooperative research and development agreement to work together in this promising field. The goal is to transfer the “basic research” done in university labs into real-world products.

Pathion CEO Mike Liddle said today’s growing need for energy storage and power delivery is driving “the requirement for a radical change in energy storage materials, design, and production. Dr. Zhao’s revolutionary new family of materials enable a disruptive new battery architecture intended to address this need.”

Western Lithium Co., a lithium mining company that has projects based in Nevada, has donated a significant cache of instruments and chemicals to UNLV for battery research.

Partnering with Zhao on the grant are UNLV physicists Liping Wang and Ravhi Kumar, and engineering professor Yahia Baghzouz. Researchers from Los Alamos National Laboratory and the University of Texas, Austin are also partners on the project. Private-sector collaborators include Pathion Inc. and K2 Energy Solutions, a Henderson-based company that produces lithium-ion batteries.



THE HIDDEN DANGERS OF HOT SAUCE

BY MEGAN DOWNS

A FEW YEARS BACK, UNLV RESEARCHERS led the nation in finding lead in a startling place: imported candies. Now in a pilot study, they’ve analyzed imported hot sauces and found four of the 25 bottles tested exceeded the current FDA standard for lead — Salsa Picante de Chile Habanero, manufactured by El Yucateco; El Pato Salsa Picante, manufactured by Walker Foods; Salsa Habanera, manufactured by Salsas Castillo; and Bufalo Salsa Clasica, manufactured by Herdez.

In children, lead poisoning can cause learning disabilities, behavioral problems, seizures, and, in extreme cases, death.

“The results indicate the need for more rigorous screening protocols for products imported from Mexico, including an applicable standard for hot sauce,” said Shawn Gerstenberger, the interim dean of the School of Community Health Sciences.

The study also suggests that the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) receive support to establish additional consumer protection standards and to enforce or clarify existing standards. Gerstenberger and fellow researcher Jennifer Berger Ritchie recommend that the same lead-level standard currently used in candy be adopted for hot sauces pending further research. They also noted that states can adopt policies to reject all imported hot sauces and other food products found to contain detectable concentrations of lead.

Gerstenberger’s past research found alarming amounts of lead in artificial turf, tuna, cookware, and candies, particularly those made with chili peppers and salt. In 2006, he worked with the Southern Nevada Health District to remove certain candies from local store shelves. The FDA followed up by issuing an alert for the “detention without physical examination” for 39 types of candies from China, Mexico, and the Philippines.

Above: UNLV researchers Shawn Gerstenberger and Jennifer Berger Ritchie conducted the first known investigation of lead contamination in hot sauces.



Two years after completing UNLV's renowned Black Mountain Institute Ph.D. Fellowship, Alissa Nutting published her first novel, *Tampa*, to extraordinary reviews. Critics in high-prestige publications such as The New York Times and The Guardian likened the book to *Lolita* and *American Psycho*. "Is Alissa Nutting's *Tampa* the Most Controversial Book of the Summer?" read a *Huffington Post* headline. The squirm-inducing story of a beautiful, sociopathic middle school teacher is based in part on the real-life misadventures of pedophile Debra Lafave, a former classmate of Nutting's.

HIGH ANXIETY. HIGH ART.

Alissa Nutting, '11 PhD English, novelist

I knew *Tampa* would be polarizing and generate controversy, but I never imagined a response like this. Not all of the reviews have been good, of course.

The New Republic's was pretty scathing: They said it was "like *Lolita* without the charm." But at least it was being discussed.

In literature, we have this huge obsession with female protagonists being likable, and I really wanted to write a female protagonist who was not only unlikable but irredeemable. I wanted to write a novel showing, "Look how awful you can be and get away with it if you're simply very attractive."

Female teachers sleeping with their underage male students just seems like such a phenomenon. Every time one of these cases was reported, it was with a snide wink: "Oh, there really wasn't a crime here. The boy wanted to do it. The teacher was hot..."

That shows one of the many Achilles' heels of a culture that values beauty above everything else. Misogyny still reigns, in that the underlying assumption is that female sexuality cannot be powerful enough to

be predatory, and that women's worth is based on what men find sexually titillating.

I grew up in rural Michigan — a little town called Eaton Rapids, just outside Lansing. My parents are super-Catholic, no-nonsense, no frills. They get their clothes at Goodwill and wear them until they're in tatters.

My depression and anxiety just got paralyzing when I was doing my MFA at the University of Alabama. I finally went to a psychiatrist, who prescribed Paxil.

The diagnosis explained why I had so many strange fears when I was young — like worrying constantly about getting abducted by aliens. Writing was my essential coping mechanism. Seeing characters in books who had problems and endured them, or did not endure them — either way was just as comforting — I would think, "OK, when bad things happen to me, I'm actually not alone in that."

I ended up getting my bachelor's degree in English. I wanted to write, but it was really frightening to me to declare a dream.

After graduation, I tried to live a, quote-unquote, normal life. I lived at home and worked at a call center. It was bleak.

I began dating Shawn around this time. We were so desperate to live our own lives that a month into dating, we began living together in an Airstream camper in a trailer park. And six months after that, we got married in a Norwegian black metal ceremony. We both were just so angry at these traditional expectations of us.

Now, at 32, I think I can freely admit that I got married to upset my parents. I just wanted to do something that only I wanted to do. We've been married for 10 years now.

I decided to really make a run at writing for a living. I was so lucky to get accepted into UNLV's doctorate program. They really invest in you. I got to experience exceptionally talented writers giving me feedback — Mary-Ann Tirone Smith, Daniel Brook, Timothy O'Grady.


I remember going into (English professor) Doug Unger's office, just weeping, and he did not bat an eye. He made me

feel like this was such a normalized thing — that even my doubt was confirming my status as a writer.

I did independent study with (professor) Richard Wiley, this hugely accomplished novelist. He would come in and talk about the problems he was having with his manuscript, problems with his agent. It's like he was venting to me as a peer, not an understudy. [Wiley's latest novel, *The Book of Important Moments*, was published in September, see page 9.]

How did my parents react to *Tampa*? It's difficult. You obviously want your parents to be proud of you, and while they're very proud of my accomplishments, they could never like or appreciate my art; it's very antithetical to who they are as people but very essential to who I am, so that is a gulf between us that can't be helped.

Since July I've been balancing my teaching (at John Carroll University in Cleveland) with traveling, doing readings at book festivals and universities. I am working on a new novel. I don't want to reveal too much.



"What really threw me were the emails. I lost count of how many nasty ones I got — how grotesque I am, how I must be a pedophile to write a book like this."

More: Read the extended interview with Alissa Nutting online at news.unlv.edu

“To some extent, I think UNLV lacked confidence in the past or just failed to go after (high achieving students) in the belief that they weren’t going to come here anyway. We’ve found that’s not true. If you show them the experience they’ll have here, they will come.” — MARTA MEANA, HONORS COLLEGE DEAN

Ahead of the Class

THIS FALL’S FRESHMAN CLASS IS THE BIGGEST, SMARTEST CLASS TO DATE. HERE’S HOW NEW STRATEGIES KEPT NEVADA’ BRIGHTEST IN STATE AND OPENED THE EYES OF FIRST-GEN COLLEGE STUDENTS TO THE OPPORTUNITY AT THEIR DOORSTEP. BY BRIAN SODOMA

About a year ago,

Marcy Brown was like many of the other 50-some Nevada National Merit finalists. Navigating her senior year of high school, she sifted through the materials from “prestige” universities and stressed over making the right choice. With a 3.943 GPA at West Career Technical Academy, Brown had her pick of options and visions of a career in biology. Her hometown university, she figured, didn’t offer the research opportunities and campus life she sought.

That assumption was overturned when UNLV recruiters invited Brown to campus. She spent time in labs, talked with professors and current students about their projects, and learned about the Honors College and residence halls.

“Once I toured the campus and I saw how they really started to work with me personally, I changed my mind right there,” said Brown, who also visited Cornell, Washington State, Hawaii, and a few other universities.

Now a freshman studying evolutionary biology, Brown is planning to go to Ireland or Scotland through the university’s study abroad program and is keeping her mind open about whatever opportunities will likely reveal themselves for graduate school. “I know some of the Merit semi-finalists at my high school. I really want to talk to them about UNLV now,” she added.

UNLV’s emphasis on the research opportunities for undergraduates won her over. It’s something more students can tap into as UNLV breaks into the Carnegie Foundation’s listing of top research universities (see “The Tier 1 Drive,” page 18). Along with achieving that goal, UNLV President Neal Smatresk has set a target for the student body to grow over the next five years to 30,000, an increase of 3,000.

But growing the overall pie comes with both opportunities and challenges. “You want to grow, but it always brings the question of how to grow,” said Carrie Trentham, interim director of enrollment and student services.

The university’s recruitment strategy has shifted to answer that question. This year’s freshman class is the largest in history, topping 3,700 students and showing 14.6 percent growth over last year’s figures. Transfer student figures grew 7 percent as well. And with more than 50 percent of the student body coming from a minority population, UNLV has one of the most diverse campuses in the country.

Efforts to keep Nevada’s higher-achieving students like Brown in state are starting to pay off. At the same time, UNLV is intent on keeping college accessible for Nevadans, especially veterans and first-generation college students, and redeveloping programs to boost retention and graduation rates.

☆ AVERAGE HONORS COLLEGE GPA CLIMBED FROM 3.7 TO 3.89 IN PAST YEAR ☆ HONORS COLLEGE ENROLLMENT IS ABOUT 500



ASK AND THEY'LL COME

MARTA MEANA, A PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR and the interim dean of UNLV's Honors College, is making it very clear that she has her eyes out for the Marcy Browns of the world.

"To some extent, I think UNLV lacked confidence in the past or just failed to go after (high achieving students) in the belief that they weren't going to come here anyway," Meana said. "We've found that's not true. If you show them the experience they'll have here, they will come."

Meana and her team have worked to make the Honors College opportunities a selling point for high-achieving students. Some of the benefits: a private lounge and study area in Lied Library, early class registration, and small general education courses with hand-picked professors.

Honors advising sessions go far beyond picking out classes, Meana explained. Students are prepped for life-altering awards — the Truman, Goldwater, or Marshall awards, and the Rhodes Scholar honor — as well as their future careers.

The college more than doubled its freshman enrollment this fall and the average GPA climbed as well, from 3.7 to 3.89. Total

Marcy Brown had an incoming unweighted GPA topping 3.9 and many other college offers. The access to research labs, study abroad opportunities, and Honors College benefits sealed the deal for UNLV. The local high school product could live at home, but she chose to live on campus to make the most of her college experience. "Honestly, I never considered UNLV ... Then I took a tour of the campus. It was so much more than I ever expected."

[PHOTO BY R. MARSH STARKS]

college enrollment is about 500 students. Top-tier universities aim for a figure of 8 percent of the undergraduate population. With undergraduates numbering about 23,000, UNLV's program has plenty of room to grow.

Chris Heavey, director of general education, coordinates the college's STEM Academy to attract students to the science and math majors. The program, first run last spring, exposes high-level high school students to the UNLV campus and its engineering and science labs. The focus is on raising awareness of the research happening to make their hometown a better place — research that they can be part of as undergraduates. "Most people never break the boundaries of the campus," he said. "They don't realize there is a major university with millions (of dollars) in research grants here."

THE VALUE PROPOSITION

WITH FAMILY BUDGETS TIGHTENING during the Great Recession, students are mindful of college costs now more than ever, and UNLV has always well outscored its peers in value.

For Gil Revolorio, a dual major in public administration and criminal justice, UNLV's lower tuition, coupled with

★ THIS YEAR'S FRESHMAN CLASS IS THE LARGEST IN UNLV HISTORY, TOPPING 3,700 STUDENTS

“Come here, do well, then go to Harvard. You really don’t want to finish your undergraduate degree and immediately face a loan payment the size of a mortgage.” — MARTA MEANA, HONORS COLLEGE DEAN

scholarships designed specifically to help Nevadans attain a college education, were key selling points. Revolorio graduated high school with a 3.8 and credits a UNLV academic counselor with helping him find the scholarships from the Latin Chamber of Commerce, NV Energy, and Harrah’s Foundation. The first-generation college student is proud that he’ll graduate debt-free.

“I didn’t want to put the burden on myself or my parents for the future,” he said. “I’m very blessed.”

veterans services, financial aid, and admissions offices been so interlinked, officials in these departments say.

Norm Bedford, director of financial aid, says 70 percent of UNLV students receive some sort of financial aid through scholarships, loans, grants, and tuition reimbursement programs, among many others. His office sees about 45,000 student visits, fields 60,000 calls each year, and disperses \$240 million annually in financial aid.

Bedford’s team also tags along at recruitment

take test scores and GPA into account, have succeeded in getting potential students to make an early, first-choice decision to be a Rebel.

Another scholarship aimed at Clark County students promotes on-campus housing as an alternative to living at home. Resident students generally do better academically, which ultimately will improve the university’s graduation rate, a key goal of the Tier 1 initiative. It also gives students, like Marcy Brown, that fully immersive college experience.

THE TIER 1 DRIVE

Sometimes being in the top 4.5 percent in your field just isn’t good enough. That’s the case President Neal Smatresk is making — and for good reason. Currently, UNLV enjoys distinction as a “High” research university from the Carnegie Foundation, placing it among the top 4.5 percent of the country’s 4,600 institutions. Earning a Carnegie Tier 1 “Very High” rating would put UNLV in the top 2.3 percent, alongside just 108 institutions in the country.

“A lot of people make a big deal about U.S. News and World Report rankings, but Carnegie is the gold standard for rankings,” the president said.

The jump to Tier 1, however, isn’t about prestige, Smatresk said. It’s about ensuring Nevada reaps the rewards that highly active research universities bring to their communities (Read more about those benefits in Smatresk’s column, page 2.)

To get there, UNLV must restore a good part of the 144 state-funded faculty positions lost during the Great Recession of 2008-2012. Last academic year, UNLV’s total faculty was 780 — some 250 positions short of the mean for Carnegie Tier 1 institutions with our student size.

The Tier 1 plan is not merely about growth; it is about deploying faculty effectively to improve UNLV’s performance. This plan calls for UNLV to improve its graduation rate — from roughly 42 percent today to 60 percent within six years. UNLV also will need to increase patent and licensing activity to about \$7 million a year; increase its endowment by \$300 million; and increase annual giving by \$60 million. Smatresk also expects faculty members to, on average, double the amount of grant and contract dollars they bring in.

“If you want the benefits of a major research university in Nevada, you have to invest in us. But we’re obligated to be accountable,” Smatresk said.

Getting the most bang for your scholarship buck is on the mind of honors students too. More and more, Meana is finding that these students are wiser about managing their academic careers.

In the past year, Honors College graduates have been accepted into graduate programs at Georgetown, Boston, Johns Hopkins, Columbia, and plenty of other prestigious universities. “Come here, do well, then go to Harvard,” Meana explained. “You really don’t want to finish your undergraduate degree and immediately face a loan payment the size of a mortgage.”

COORDINATED EFFORT

ATTRACTING THE BEST, BRIGHTEST, and the most diverse population requires a cross-disciplinary effort. Never before have UNLV’s Honors College,

outings. Knowing that the financial package makes such a difference in college selection, financial aid counselors can sometimes offer scholarships literally on the spot during targeted recruiting events.

“We recognize that high-ability students have a variety of choices. So we want to put the best offers out early,” he said. That scores points with both the students and their parents by relieving the worry over how to pay for school.

University leaders have also increased the number and types of scholarships available to grow the student population strategically. The new Valedictorian Scholarship immediately boosted the number of those high achievers in this year’s freshman class. The Rebel Achievement and Rebel Challenge scholarships, which

BETTING ON VETS

ROSS BRYANT REMEMBERS the many financial and emotional hurdles he faced when he returned to college. Now he assists UNLV’s more than 1,200 student veterans transition from the military into their academic careers. He likens the military experience to once being on a Super Bowl team, where excelling was about answering to the team and the mission. Leaving that structure can be difficult.

“You’re no longer with your buddies you went to war with. It’s just you, on campus,” the 24-year Army veteran explained. “You’ve spent three or four years in war while your counterpart (in class) has been going to school and hanging out in Las Vegas. Many times, veterans have challenges feeling connected to the campus community.”

★ 70% OF UNLV STUDENTS RECEIVE SOME SORT OF FINANCIAL AID — \$240 MILLION ANNUALLY



His office offers a network to turn to. It fields questions from veterans on admissions, GI Bill enrollment certification, financial aid, campus and community support services, local veteran-discounted housing, and employment programs. Once they overcome their concerns, he said, then they can address what he calls “academic rustiness” and perform well in the university setting.

The leadership skills and a strong sense of discipline engendered by military service make veterans a welcome addition to campus. The office markets UNLV to the 80,000 troops based throughout Southern California.

UNLV is proud to be one of only 90 schools in a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs-funded program, which provides a benefits counselor on campus. *GI Jobs Magazine* also has recognized UNLV as a top veteran-friendly school for the last four years.

FIRST-GEN AND TRANSFERS

FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS, like Revolorio, account for the core of UNLV’s student population. Often, this group simply isn’t aware that college is for them and it’s within their reach.

It’s a group Nicole Cummings, an admissions counselor, enjoys working with. If anything, the experience has helped her realize how much she took for granted when

Treasure Bamberg came to UNLV from Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. She eyed two other schools, but the elementary education major was impressed with the campus as well as the opportunity to be on the UNLV cheer squad and involved in its programs for local children. “I was amazed at how well put together the campus was. I wasn’t expecting to come to Vegas and see this. I felt very at home.”

[PHOTO BY AARON MAYES]

she was in school. Her parents, who had both gone to college, knew how to navigate financial aid forms and deadlines, an experience that can be overwhelming for some first-generation families.

“That’s what I really love about my job. I hope to be that contact person, so you don’t have to call this and that person. That kind of calms them down and they don’t feel so overwhelmed,” she said.

While first generation students are on the rise, so are transfer students in general. For 2013, 43 percent of students were transfers, up from 40 percent last year. UNLV also recruits using the Western Undergraduate Exchange Scholarship, a program involving high school students from 14 regional states. With the scholarship, students can save several thousand dollars a year on the out-of-state tuition rate.

Cummings also keeps an eye on pockets of the country where UNLV’s reputation is growing. Lately, she’s seen a boost in students coming from Illinois, Philadelphia, and parts of Texas. They trickle in from a certain high school at first, then a couple years later the number multiplies.

“Students are talking about UNLV back in their hometowns. That’s a good sign,” she added.

It means recent alumni and current students, like Treasure Bamberg (above), are helping build UNLV’s reputation.

☆ FOR 2013, 43% OF STUDENTS WERE TRANSFERS, UP FROM 40% IN 2012



THE HOUSE THAT UNLV BUILT

THE SOLAR DECATHLON TEAM SHOWS
THE WORLD HOW TO BUILD A SMART
DESERT HOME. [PHOTOS BY AARON MAYES]



RIGHT >

Students Jinger Zeng of mechanical engineering and Alexia Chen of architecture led the Solar Decathlon team. The contest rated student-designed and -built homes on their affordability, consumer appeal, and design excellence as well as optimal energy production and efficiency. The UNLV team took top honors in market appeal, second in communications, and third in engineering.

THE HOUSE THAT UNLV BUILT

PREVIOUS PAGE >

A custom screen along one section of the deck filters the harsh summer sun but can be retracted in the winter to allow the sun to warm the home. The metal screen is perforated to recreate the shading effect of the feathery leaves of a mesquite tree.



WITH A HOME THAT STOOD OUT FOR ITS CONSUMER APPEAL AND DESIGN EXCELLENCE, UNLV BEAT OUT EVERY OTHER AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN THE PRESTIGIOUS SOLAR DECATHLON COMPETITION.

The U.S. Department of Energy competition challenged university students to design, build, maintain, and market a sustainable solar-powered home.

UNLV's entry, dubbed DesertSol, took second overall, just behind Vienna University of Technology in Austria. It was the closest race in the competition's 11-year history; less than five points out of a possible 1,000 separated the top two teams. UNLV bested 18 other teams, including those from Stanford and the universities of Southern California and North Carolina at Charlotte. Third place went to the Czech Republic team.

DesertSol took two years and a team of more than more than 60 students to complete. They consulted with faculty and industry advisors — including architecture professor Eric Weber and Thomas Piechota, interim vice president for research — but had to construct the home themselves using commercially available components. The team also had secured dozens of sponsors, including NV Energy and PKMM Inc., which both contributed more than \$100,000 to the project.

The prefab home was built on campus, during the heat of the summer, and then moved to Irvine, Calif., for the competition and public exhibit. Afterward, the home traveled back to Las Vegas and will become a permanent exhibit at the Springs Preserve attraction.



1st Place
Market Appeal
Contest



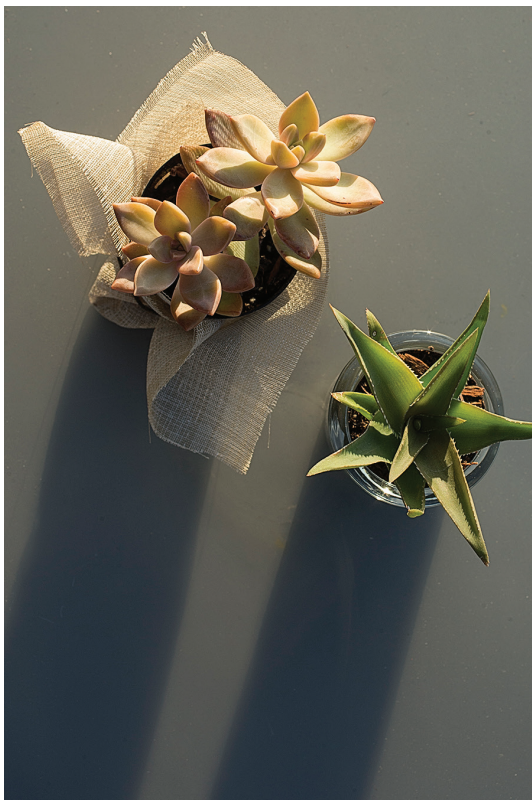
U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF ENERGY
**SOLAR
DECATHLON**

2013
Orange County Great Park
Irvine, CA

RIGHT ➤ DesertSol is a one-bedroom vacation home for desert escapes. Its open floor-plan, built-in entertainment center, and foldaway doors to a large deck optimize living space. Strategic window placement promotes cross ventilation. Solar panels built into the deck overhangs were strategically placed to shade the home from the high summer sun but allow light in the winter.

THE HOUSE THAT ONLY BUILT

NEXT PAGE ➤ Water-conserving features include low-flow fixtures and a multipurpose water system that combines plumbing and fire sprinklers and eliminates the need for high-maintenance back-flow preventers. An outdoor water feature is both functional and beautiful. It captures runoff from desert downpours and stores it for landscape irrigation use. The water and temperature controls can be accessed remotely through a smart phone or tablet.





RIGHT ➤ Students react as awards are announced. The team consisted of more than 60 core members. The undertaking required a cross-disciplinary team to not only design and build the home, but also market it. Students from business, liberal arts, urban affairs, and fine arts worked along with engineering and architecture to create the home.



THE HOUSE THAT ONLY BUILT

NEXT PAGE ➤ DesertSol combines compelling architecture with advanced engineering to create a comfortable, ultra-efficient 754-square-foot home. Pre-weathered materials were chosen to endure the desert climate. All of the materials in the prefab home are commercially available.





Fred Albrecht Henry Schuck **Ronnie Vannucci Jr.** Chuck Lehman **Heather Procter**
Mercedes Bolt **Kristina L. Swallow** Darcy Neighbors **Emily R. Ishkanian** Pat Skorkowsky
Barbara Buckley Andree Prodigia Reed

How To

FROM OUR TOP ALUMS



**Insights from some of our
best, brightest, and most
adventurous minds**

UNLV has a strong alumni base with plenty of accomplishments under its collective belt. But some alumni have taken success to the next level. They've opened businesses, started nonprofits, and found international success in the arts. The UNLV Alumni Association recently honored them with Alumnus of the Year Awards. We asked these high-achievers to share some wisdom and insight with our readers.

UNLV ALUMNUS
OF THE YEAR



FRED ALBRECHT

'71 MS EDUCATION

Retired in 2007, Albrecht began his career as a UNLV assistant basketball coach in 1969, then worked for the school for 38 years in a variety of capacities. He oversaw the fundraising and building of the Tam Alumni Center and also took on roles as interim athletic director, director of alumni relations, and executive director of athletic fundraising, among others.

How to bury a jump shot under pressure ...

The more times you put yourself into the situation, the shot becomes easier the next time. That applies to anything. I also think pressure is what you put on yourself. If you understand what the pressure is the first time, the second time, hopefully, it won't feel so insurmountable.

How to be stubbornly optimistic about our city ...

I used to do orientations for faculty and tell them, 'If you want to be a part of developing future success then this is the place to be.' I feel that way about the city too. It's still a young city and there's a great opportunity to make a difference.



HOWARD R. HUGHES COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

KRISTINA L. SWALLOW

'94 BS CIVIL ENGINEERING

A civil engineer in Las Vegas since 1994, she currently works for the Las Vegas public works department, is a consistent voice in city transportation conversations, and was twice voted engineer of the year by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

How to get girls/women thinking about engineering careers ...

Start early. Engage them in math and science and don't make it scary. Encourage their interests, and don't forget to provide opportunities where you apply the knowledge to real-life situations.

How to make transportation sound cool and important ...

Change the subject. Don't start out with 'This is why we need better roads and more buses.' Start with having a conversation with people about how to live and how they want to interact with the community. Where do they want to live? A lot would say a place where they can walk to the grocery store, a place that's safe for kids and where they can walk to school. Then you can have the conversation about the choices that shape our transportation system.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES

ANDREE PRODIGA REED

'71 BS CHEMISTRY, '78 MA EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

Taught in Clark County School District for 33 years and is currently adjunct chemistry professor at the College of Southern Nevada. She won the Presidential Award for High School Chemistry Teaching in 2003.



How to turn a student into a problem solver ...

Chemistry problem verbiage can blow students away. They have a hard time trying to figure out if there's something extraneous in there. My job is to keep throwing things at them so they get in the habit of picking out what's important and throw out what's not important.

How to still love your career after 40 years ...

Sometimes I get students who say 'I hate chemistry, but I have to take it.' Then afterwards, they say it was the most enjoyable class they had. The student feedback keeps you going.



HEATHER PROCTER

'03 JD

Serves as lead special project editor for the *Nevada Law Journal* and is an attorney with the appellate division of the Nevada attorney general's office. Procter was named Outstanding First Year Attorney in the attorney general's office.

How to tell if someone is lying ...

There are the basics: Do they keep eye contact? Body posture. Facial features. Comparing what they say to prior statements. But make sure you meet them in person and don't take written statements; and don't let their professional position in-

fluence whether you think they are being truthful or not ... Sometimes you take for granted certain people are going to tell the truth and that's not always the case. Take every situation as it comes to you.

How to find the details that really matter in an argument ...

In my work, it's about finding the legal standard in situations, and staying focused on that, and not allowing yourself to get distracted by superfluous issues ... I went to school with people who already had professions — chiropractors, accountants. Some didn't even go on to take the bar. They just wanted the experience of law school to help them focus on the essential elements of everything around them.

HARRAH COLLEGE OF HOTEL ADMINISTRATION

CHUCK LEHMAN

'71 BS HOTEL ADMINISTRATION

Founder of Fresh & Ready Foods, a ready-to-eat foods provider. Lehman was also an award-winning restaurant owner with establishments in Los Angeles and Houston.

How to avoid an early exit in the restaurant business ...

Never compromise the quality and consistency of your product. Don't be afraid to change concepts. Hire a good manager, someone you really trust. Get a hobby that has nothing to do with food!

How to make a great box lunch ...

Take good notes when taking the order. Always anticipate your customers' needs. Keep it simple.



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

BARBARA BUCKLEY

'86 BA CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Executive director of the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, the state's largest nonprofit legal assistance organization. She also served 16 years in the state Legislature and was the first female elected as Assembly speaker in 2007.



How to play hardball in a room full of men ...

My favorite technique was to outlast everyone. If your position is right, just stick to it until you wear everyone else down.

How to get a legislator's attention ...

Break through the noise. Make a clear, compelling argument. Also, sometimes if you are in a hearing, and you feel like you are not getting through, stop talking. Legislators will stop typing on their laptops to see if there is a problem. Then hit them between the eyes with your best argument.



HENRY SCHUCK

'05 BSBA ACCOUNTING, BS
HOTEL ADMINISTRATION

Co-founder of DiscoverOrg, a sales lead database company for IT businesses. Schuck's company has made a habit of being on *Inc. Magazine's* 500 fastest growing private companies list in recent years. DiscoverOrg's employees call large corporations daily to update and add data to its databases.

How to find great business ideas ...

For us, we knew that we had a viable business when we showed a minimally viable product to a business and they were hooked. It could be as simple as asking someone who works for a company "What's the most annoying thing you do every day?" The answer to that question could lead you to a business every time.

How to cold call ...

People have been talking about the death of the cold call since 2005. In the past, it meant calling someone you didn't know anything about, just a name on a piece of paper, and pitching a solution out of the gate. Now there's enough information out there to really put a bulls-eye on who you're calling every time. It hasn't died. It's gotten more sophisticated, targeted.

GREENSPIN COLLEGE OF URBAN AFFAIRS

MERCEDES BOLT

'13 BA COMMUNICATION
STUDIES

Co-star on the popular Mix 94.1 morning radio show "Mark and Mercedes in the Morning." She was named "Best Local Radio Personality" by the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* from 2000-12 and *Billboard Magazine's* "Air Personality of the Year" in 1998.



How to make mundane daily moments into an engaging conversation ...

I was given the advice by someone to always be yourself, plus 10 percent. Mundane daily moments turn engaging if there is passion behind what you are talking about. Engaging conversation demands a speaker that takes their time, conveys their emotion, and has energy.

How to stay relevant in today's media world ...

I believe we still crave connection. I was taught that if you want to stand out in today's media world, there are four powerful words that you need to use to connect with others: "You are not alone." That's the subject line with the highest open rate! People do not want to feel alone, so if you reveal yourself to them (by being real) and go to them (via traditional and social media), you have made that connection and made yourself relevant not just in the media world, but in the consumer world.



EMILY R. ISHKANIAN

'04 BA
KINESIOLOGY,
'10 DDM

Dentist at the Green Valley Dental Center and adjunct faculty at the UNLV School of Dental Medicine. She is the committee chair for Southern Nevada New Dentists and has earned UNLV's Best Overall Student Team Member and General Practice Clinic awards.

How to coax your child into brushing his/her teeth...

Make brushing fun! Brush with your child to the length of a song. That's usually the right length of time. Let your child pick out his or her own sparkly toothbrush and toothpaste. What kid doesn't love a glow-in-the-dark toothbrush? And finally, praise your child for a job well done.

How to make tooth decay interesting to dental students ...

Teaching isn't about regurgitating a textbook. It's about enhancing information and making it relevant. Everyone's favorite teacher is one who invested in students and made an imprint on lives not only with their knowledge but, most importantly, their passion.



COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

RONNIE VANNUCCI JR.

'11 BA MUSIC

Drummer and songwriter for The Killers, an internationally known rock band. As a child, his parents finally let him play drums as a means of keeping him from hitting things around the house. His first Vegas gig was at a Strip resort lounge when he was 7 years old. He played “Play that Funky Music.”

How to convince your parents that banging on things eventually can earn you a living ...

There's no convincing. You simply have to wait until you have enough money to pick your parents up in a white Escalade stretch limo convertible and take them to Denny's. Only then will one truly grasp the magnitude of your success. At the salad bar I'd meet them and say, “I told you so.”

How to land your first Vegas lounge gig when you're still in elementary school ...

Basically you play it cool, ya know, fit in. Know when to speak up and know when to let your instrument do the talking. I went in full force, ready to speak the language of music through percussion. At 7 years old, I was ready to tell the world I wasn't taking any more crap and to stop what they were doing and listen to my white groove — and take the hundred dollars my parents put up. The rest is history.

PAT SKORKOWSKY

'94 MA EDUCATION

Superintendent and 24-year veteran of Clark County School District. A former elementary school teacher, Skorkowsky oversees the fifth largest school district in the nation with more than 300,000 students.

How to influence powerful people ...

Don't ever believe that you can out-talk anyone with influence. The way to influence powerful people is to learn what motivates them personally. Power is not given; it is earned.

How to catch the attention of a grade-schooler and keep it ...

You must get down on their level, both physically and intellectually. Students will not care what you know until they know that you care. No amount of influence will make a difference if you are not able to reach a student at his or her level. Bribery may work in the short term, but they will always catch on to you!



DARCY NEIGHBORS

'89 BS MARKETING

Founder and CEO of CIM Marketing Partners. She is the past president of the Legal Marketing Association Southwest chapter and the Las Vegas chapter of the American Marketing Association. She's also the founder of nonprofit DJs for PJs, which has collected more than 75,000 new pajamas for needy children.

How to market a law firm and not have it seem stuffy ...

Lawyers, like accountants, are very black and white. The law is the law. Marketing can go into gray and colorful areas. That's what makes it fun — to be able to push the law firms beyond the boundaries they thought they had. I marketed in the funeral home industry. That always helped me feel like I could do anything.

How to have fun in your PJs and still support a cause ...

I would not have been able to do DJs for PJs without my marketing knowledge. Use the wisdom you've gained through the years of experience. But now build something that's going to be a legacy that will continue to give beyond your career. When I think of a big football stadium and think of 75,000 children in their pajamas, that's when the impact really hits me.



NOTES

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1960s

Russell Farrell, '69 BSBA, retired from the wealth management division of UBS Financial Services as a corporate vice president. He now has a fun seasonal job with the guest services division of the San Francisco Giants. He works in the broadcast booth. He and his wife, June, live in Alamo, Calif.

1970s

Stephen Graves, '71 MBA, is semi-retired from the CPA practice he has had in San Francisco for 25 years. The firm's primary focus is on 600 clients from the United States and 40 other countries. He formerly was the part-time acting chief financial officer of Cyberarts Licensing. His hobbies include travel, surfing the Internet, and enjoying family and friends. He and his wife of 33 years, Mary Ann Kwok, travel extensively, last year spending two months visiting nine European nations. For many years he traveled to Hong Kong and China before the January-April tax season. The couple lives in San Francisco.

Mac Alexander Macdonald, '71 BA Psychology, recently published a book, *Lighting Your Own Fuse — A Glossary of Mission, Vision, and Passion*. He has spent 36 years as a corporate trainer. His hobbies include skiing the Cascades and playing Santa Claus for various charities. He has acted in *Apocalypse Now* and *American Graffiti*. He lives in Seattle.

Bob Andrews, '77 BS Finance, '81 MBA, was appointed to the executive committee of the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open golf tournament. He also is the founding member of Crimson Links, a local organization of executives that helps educate people about the mission of Shriners Hospitals for Children and how the hospitals relate to Las Vegas. A lifelong Las Vegas, he is the COO/CFO and managing member of Andrews Consulting. His daughter, **Erin Andrews**, is the assistant coach for the UNLV women's golf team.

Jerry Griffith, '77 BS Accounting, is a CPA and chief financial officer at Treasure Island. He is married and has two daughters, **Sarah** and **Danielle**, who both attend UNLV.

Andrew Nixon, '78 EdD Secondary Instructional & Curricular, recently published a book, *50 Shades of Grades, My Journey Through Wacademia*, in which the former UNLV employee discusses his learning style, which he says is different from the mainstream. It includes a great deal of local history.

Marty Gross, '79 BS Hotel Administration, is vice president of LASxpress, an airport ground transportation service.

Ron Hedger, '79 BA Psychology, is assistant dean of clinical skills training and associate professor of family medicine at Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic Medicine. He also chairs the admissions committee. He earned his doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Western University of Health Sciences in 1984. He lives in Henderson.

James Park, '79 BA Political Science, recently self-published two books, *The Chip* and *The Tattoo*. The latter is centered in Las Vegas, Boulder City, and Hawthorne. In 1992, he retired as director of general services from the city of Las Vegas. Golf is one of his hobbies. He lives in The Villages, Fla.



Beckwith, '83

1980s

Dennis Luppens, '81 BS Education, is a special districts administrator for the city of Santa Clarita, Calif. He and his wife, Carrie, have four children, Carolin Luppens, John Luppens, David Magana, and Kelsey Magana. Cycling is his hobby.

Mark Wiegand, '81 BA Music, '86 Master of Music, teaches science at a middle school in Hangzhou, China. He and his wife moved there when he retired after 29 years with the Clark County School District. His hobby is learning Chinese.

Francis Beckwith, '83 BA Philosophy, participated in a Vatican conference in Rome celebrating the papal encyclical, *Evangelium Vitae*. Invited by the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, he delivered a paper, "Always Be Ready: On Making the Case for Life." He had a private audience with Pope Francis and presented him with a signed copy of his book, *Defending Life* (Cambridge University Press, 2007). Formerly a professor at UNLV, he now is a philosophy professor at Baylor University. He lives in Woodway, Texas.

David Roger, '83 BSBA, is a partner with the law firm Patti, Sgro, Lewis and Roger. A former Clark County district attorney, he serves as general counsel for the Las Vegas Police Protective Association. He is married to Las Vegas Municipal Judge **Susan Pate Roger**, '96 BS Hotel Administration.

Angelo Tavernaro, '84 BS Hotel Administration, operates a school, Angelo's Wine Academy, which trains students to become certified sommeliers. Prior to opening the school in 2007, he worked at Caesars Palace for 20 years, managed Gatsby at the MGM Grand Hotel, trained sommeliers for Las Vegas hotels, and taught a course at UNLV. Married with three children, he lives in Pasco, Wash.

Herb Santos, '85 BA Sociology, owns the Reno Bighorns, an NBA development league team. The team recently entered into a single-affiliation partnership with the Sacramento Kings. He also is the owner of the law firm Herb Santos, Jr. He is married to his UNLV college sweetheart, **Kimberly Saylor Santos**. They live in Reno.

Nancy Collins, '86 BS Hotel Administration, has focused on the foodservice operations of hospitals and nursing homes. She earned a doctoral degree in human nutrition and has published more than 400 articles on various nutrition and food topics. She created and operates an award-winning nutrition website that provides free, downloadable nutrition and foodservice resources for professionals to help them streamline their workdays. She also serves as a guest lecturer at UNLV.

M. Leanne Fearnow, '86 BSBA, works for the Clark County School District. She has a 19-year-old son. Her hobbies include skiing, travel, and horses and other animals.

Todd Griffith, '86 BS Hotel Administration, recently was promoted to vice president of sales and marketing at Alto-Shaam, which creates industrial systems and equipment for foodservice programs. He will maintain a national sales role in addition to developing the company's corporate global marketing and product development strategies. A 15-year employee of the company, he also has assumed leadership of the culinary team and support resource assets. He lives in Westminster, Md.

Christopher Kitt, '86 BS Education, works for the government. He earned a master's degree from the University of Oklahoma. His hobbies include scuba diving, flying, fly-fishing, hunting, and spending time with family.

Michael Newman, '86 MA English, teaches English at Desert Rose Adult High School. He also writes occasionally for *Desert Companion*, the magazine of Nevada Public Radio. He and Paula, his wife of 40 years, have a son and a daughter. His hobbies include swimming, reading, watching liberal news channels, watching movies and sporting events, and writing.

Connie Patterson, '86 BA Nursing, is a retired registered nurse. Golf is her hobby.

Mark Hutchison, '87 BSBA, is a Nevada state senator and founding member of the law firm of Hutchison & Steffen. He recently announced that he is running for lieutenant governor.



Hedger, '79



Griffith, '86



Hutchison, '87



Copenig, '89



Frank, '89



Fleming, '90

Jan Steele, '87 BS Biology, is general curator of the Palm Beach Zoo in West Palm Beach, Fla. She previously spent eight years as senior curator of the Royal Melbourne Zoological Gardens in Australia.

Allison Copening, '89 BA Communication Studies, is founder and CEO of Seasons Funeral Planning Services, the only independent business of its kind in Nevada. She is one of the few certified celebrants in Nevada and is specially trained to deliver a life tribute or personalized ceremony honoring the deceased. Previously, she was a funeral service director and has more than 20 years in marketing, public relations, and event planning management. From 2008-12, she served in the Nevada Senate. She is the founder of Cover Up, Nevada!, a non-profit that educates about skin cancer prevention. She serves on the board of Helping Hands Surgical Care and previously served on the boards of the Desert Research Institute Foundation, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, and Kids Voting Nevada.

Stefanie Shields Frank, '89 BA English, owns and runs Stefanie Frank Consulting, which helps clients market their businesses and build relationships through publishing quality content. Previously, she spent 14 years as a litigation attorney. A member of the first class to graduate from UNLV's honors program, she was named alumnus of the year for the Honors College in 2002. Triathlons, running, gardening, yoga, and hiking are her hobbies. She and her husband, Glenn, celebrated their 10th anniversary in October. They live in Boulder City with their dog, cat, and bunny.

Julie Mills, '89 BS Math, works as a medical biller.

James Reza, '89 BA Political Science, is vice president of Cultural Development Co., a Nevada-based hospitality and retail development firm that operates downtown's Globe Salon, which twice has earned recognition from *Elle* magazine as a Top 100 Salon in America. He also is the "Ask A Native" columnist for *Vegas Seven* weekly. He was founding editor and publisher of *Scope* magazine,



which continues today as *Las Vegas Weekly*. His hobbies include bicycling, hiking, and road tripping to the beach, Zion National Park, and Flagstaff, Ariz. He enjoys classics: movies, cars, motorcycles, bicycles, and bourbon.

1990s

Scott Fleming, '90 BA Political Science, is a member of the financial and real estate services practice group at the law firm of Armstrong Teasdale. He focuses on business bankruptcies, debtor and creditor rights, and commercial litigation, guiding clients through bankruptcy matters, distressed loans, and loan transactions. Previously, he spent four years as assistant general counsel at UNLV.

Nancy Brown Syzdek, '90 BA Political Science, is director of corporate communications for defense contractor J73. She serves on the Board of Ethics and Professional Standards for the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) and has been selected as chair-elect of PRSA's Employee Communications Section. Earlier this year she was honored with the Platinum Award for industry leadership and service by PRSA's Western District. She also teaches in UNLV's journalism and media studies department.

Mark Bacon, '92 MA Communication Studies, is the author of *Mysteries and Murder* (Ether Books of London), a collection of short mystery crime stories designed to be read on smart phones. A former journalism adjunct instructor at UNLV, he most recently was a correspondent for the *San Francisco Chronicle*. He lives in Reno.

Christopher Bond, '92 BS Hotel Administration, has been promoted to vice president of sales at New York-New York Hotel and Casino. He oversees convention sales, convention services, and leisure sales. He is married to **Serena Arce Bond**, '95 BSBA. They live in Henderson.

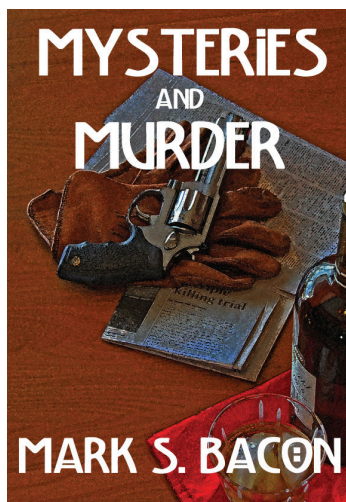
Kent Emeson, '92 BS Hotel Administration, is a meeting planner. He lives in Austin, Texas.

Mannetta Braunstein, '93 BA Anthropology, is special curator of pre-Columbian art at UNLV's Barrick Museum. She also is an independent research scholar in pre-Columbian art, iconography, Maya hieroglyphic, and Mixtec pictographic writing. She volunteers as an instructor at UNLV, teaching the Pre-Columbian Art and Museum Practices classes. She is president and director of the Braunstein Foundation and is a professional appraiser of pre-Columbian art. She serves as sponsor and organizer of the Braunstein Foundation Symposium for Pre-Columbian Studies. She is married to Dr. Michael Braunstein.

Chris Fleharty, '93 BSBA, is a senior account representative for ACR Mechanical and specializes in maintenance agreements and project sales. From 1998 to 2003 he worked in IT sales in California's Silicon Valley, specializing in network-attached storage. Photography and hiking are his hobbies.

Jennifer Cole Dorsey, '94 BA Communication Studies, became a U.S. District Judge for the District of Nevada in July. President Barack Obama nominated her for the seat in September 2012. A graduate of Pepperdine School of Law, she had been a partner with the Las Vegas law firm of Kemp, Jones & Coulthard. She serves on the UNLV Foundation Advisory Board.

Samuel Joeckel, '94 BA English, is an associate professor of English at Palm Beach



Bacon, '92



Bond, '92



Emptage, '99



Prince, '99



Weinberg, '99

Atlantic University as well as the author of *The C.S. Lewis Phenomenon: Christianity and the Public Sphere* (Mercer University Press, 2013). The book explores Lewis' identity as a public intellectual, showing how the conventions of the public sphere shaped his own writings, as well as books and articles about him. Part literary analysis, part intellectual history, and part meta-criticism, the book offers a new way to understand Lewis' accomplishments and cultural phenomenon.

Matthew Todd, '95 BS Business Administration, is owner/operator of www.thefundamentalgolfcompany.com, which supplies custom-fit golf equipment using a patented online fitting system. He lives in Visalia, Calif.

Craig Tolchin, '95 BS Hotel Administration, has been promoted to manager of training, consulting & integrations at Newmarket International. A 12-year employee, he manages the team of trainers and consultants who implement Delphi sales and catering solutions at hospitality properties worldwide. He works remotely from his home in Highlands Ranch, Colo.

Bernadette Ochoa Porter, '97 BSBA, is a pricing analyst for Tucson (Ariz.) Electric Power Co. Previously, she worked as an underwriter for the Bank of America and as an accountant for copper mining company Asarco.

Gino Avella, '98 BSBA, is a trust supervisor for the Missouri Division of Finance. In 2000 he earned an MBA from Saint Louis University. His hobbies are travel, woodworking, biking, skiing, and fishing. He and his wife, Diane, live in Saint Charles.

Eyal Goldstein, '98 BA English, is president and co-founder of Inovado, a Las Vegas Google premier partner. It provides Cloud-based solutions built on the Google platform to companies of all sizes. For more than 13 years he served in various vice president of sales roles at Fortune 500 enterprise software companies. He lives in Encino, Calif.

Elliot Dubin, '99 BS Hotel Administration, is a hospitality and tourism management lecturer at the University of North Texas. He earned a law degree from Northern Illinois University. He has held many hospitality positions with Bristol Hotels & Resorts, Davidson Hotels, and Sunstone Hotels and managed such hotel brands as Embassy Suites, Holiday Inn, Sheraton, and Renaissance Hotels. He also worked for Jani King of Illinois, managing the Hospitality Services Division for Illinois and northern Indiana. He also worked in the plastic distribution industry in New York and New England, and has had his own general law practice in Illinois. He has travelled extensively both domestically and abroad. He lives in Louisville.

Karen Bartlett Emptage, '99 MA Liberal Studies, is the owner of Dog Duty Pet Sitting. She enjoys concerts, including Lady Gaga, Pink, Madonna, and Rick Springfield, and attending the annual Rib Cook-off in Reno every Labor Day. She is married to **Robert Emptage**, '00 BA Communications.

Josephine Binetti McPeak, '99 BA Economics and BA Political Science, is a litigation partner at McDonald Carano Wilson. She and her husband, Rob, welcomed a son, Alexander Malloch McPeak, in April. The couple also has a daughter, Elsa Calogera McPeak.

Mike Prince, '99 BS Elementary Education, teaches math, science, poetry, and entrepreneurship at Pahrangat Valley Middle School in Alamo. His hobbies include raising cattle and restoring old cars and trucks. He just published his second novel, *Flint Prince – The Adventures of a Young Nevada Cowboy*. His first novel, *Toquop the Warrior Stallion*, won the Will Rogers Medallion Award for best juvenile Western in 2007.

Wendy Callahan Roksvold, '99 BA Communication Studies, is a recruiter for SolarCity, America's no. 1 full-service solar provider. The company provides homeowners, business, and government organizations cleaner, more affordable alternatives to their utility bills. Her hobbies include hosting foreign exchange students and placing International Cultural Exchange Services students ages 15-17 with American host families. She is married and has two sons. The family lives in Henderson.

Marty Weinberg, '99 BSBA, is a financial advisor and account vice president for UBS Financial.

2000s

Orie Berezan, '00 MS Hotel Administration, '13 PhD Hotel Administration, joined Duetto Research as the senior manager of customer services. During his doctoral studies, he taught courses in meetings and events, marketing, and management for UNLV and for California State University, Dominguez Hills. His research focus is loyalty marketing. Previously, he worked for Intrawest Resort Development. He lives in Henderson.

Janice Czech Egan, '00 BA Psychology, is a clinical staff pharmacist at Sunrise Hospital. Her hobbies include knitting, crocheting, reading, and hiking.

Jason Cabral, '01 BS Hotel Administration, and three other family members were selected as the Body by Vi Challenge Family Champions, having lost a total of 225 pounds between them. He and a cousin also reversed their diabetes and no longer need insulin, high blood pressure medicine, or high cholesterol medication. Winners are chosen based on their personal story of transformation and by community vote. They were named winners at a gathering of nearly 12,000 people in Orlando, Fla.

Thomas Kelly, '01 BSBA, works for NV Energy. Married to a UNLV nursing student, he lists Rebel athletics as his hobby. The couple lives in North Las Vegas.

Melissa Burns, '02 BA Communication Studies, is a Peace Corps volunteer in Vanuatu. She has spent the past three years there as an IT educator. She plans to return to Las Vegas in December and enroll at UNLV for spring semester to begin pursuing a second bachelor's degree, this time in computer science. Her hobbies include scuba diving, playing soccer, running, and repairing computers. She lives in Ambae.

Wilfred Lacro, '02 BS Health Care Administration, is director of development for the San Francisco School Alliance. Married for 10 years, he has three children, ages 7, 4, and 12 months. Golf is his hobby. The family lives in San Jose.

Greg Miller, '03 BS Hotel Administration, is director of wine for Jordan Vineyard and Winery. After representing wine in restaurants, he returned to school, earning a second bachelor's degree, this time in viticulture and enology at the University of California, Davis. He later worked at Quintessa in California's Napa Valley and at Maison Joseph Drouhin in France. He says he employs his education and experience with both hospitality and wine production on a daily basis. He is married and has a son, Max. His hobbies include running, cooking, and long walks on the beach with his family and their two Rhodesian ridgebacks. The family lives in Sonoma, Calif.

Juan Rodriguez, '03 BS Biology, '03 BA Chemistry, joined the law firm of Howard & Howard and concentrates on patent, trademark, and copyright prosecution and litigation. Previously, he worked as in-house counsel for TRIRIGA, a corporate software developer, and as an associate at a large national firm. He received his JD degree from the University of New Hampshire School of Law and his masters of law degree from Temple University, Japan.

Eric Woodson, '03 BS Hotel Administration, owns Electronic Payments of Las Vegas, a company that provides merchant services to businesses. Golf is his hobby. He has a newborn son, Kai.

Sondra Cosgrove, '04 PhD History, is a tenured history professor at the College of Southern Nevada. She recently was elected president of the League of Women Voters of Las Vegas Valley.

Christina Martinez, '04 BA Communication Studies, is composition coordinator and an instructor in the English department at UNLV. She teaches three sections of English 102 with the theme "What's in Your Food?" Students examine rhetoric in the discourse of food chemicals and other food additives. This year she received the Outstanding Part-Time Instructor Award. Her hobbies include teaching and practicing yoga, traveling, hiking, food, music, and movies. This summer she traveled to India.

Bryan Thornhill, '04 BS Hotel Administration, is in his sixth year of teaching high school math in urban South Los Angeles. He and his wife were expecting their first child, a boy, in October. They live in Long Beach.

Jaime Wright, '04 BS Hotel Administration, is chief operating officer for Old Hickory Creative, a design and marketing firm. She lives in Vancouver, Wash.

Sabrina Castle, '05 BA Interdisciplinary Studies, is working toward becoming a licensed architect. She received her master's degree in architecture from the Savannah College of Art and Design in 2010. She lives in St. John, Virgin Islands.

Ryan Fisher, '05 BA Journalism and Media Studies, received a master of public administration degree from California State University, Northridge, in August. He works as welfare administrator in California's Santa Barbara County. He lives in Santa Maria.

Robert Schabron, '05 MS Hotel Administration, recently was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force. A member of the Air Force since 1996, he is the director of manpower personnel and resources for the 14th Component Numbered Air Force. He is responsible for planning, organizing, and executing programs and for preparing for command screening, officer promotion, professional education boards, and senior officer matters. An avid distance runner, he has accumulated more than 10,000 miles in seven years and has competed in a 50-mile ultra and 16 marathons. He and his wife, Christina, have a 10-year-old daughter, Kathryn. The family enjoys traveling the world and embracing adventures, including white-water rafting and zip lining. He is stationed at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

Maurice Silva, '05 MS Counseling, serves on the Nevada Board of Parole Commissioners. Originally appointed by Gov. Kenny Guinn in 2005, he was reappointed by Govs. Jim Gibbons and Brian Sandoval. His term expires in 2017. His hobbies include golf, tennis, and walking.

Jasmine Crighton Garcia, '06 MA Journalism and Media Studies, is an instructor of broadcasting at Western Illinois University. She lives in Macomb.

Jacqueline Jones, '06 BS Hotel Administration, works for Disney English in Beijing, China.

Carla Torres Martinez, '06 MA Criminal Justice, is a major in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. Last year when leaving active duty she accepted a civilian position as a supervisor with Pratt & Whitney working with the latest in aerospace technology. Previously, she worked as a federal air marshal and with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency. Her hobbies include small arms marksmanship, working out, and running. She lives in Columbus, Ga., with her husband and two stepchildren, Josalyn, 8, and Joel, 7.

Robyn Mathis, '06 BS Hotel Administration, has joined Nevada Public Radio as an account executive, working with both KNPR and *Desert Companion*. Previously, she worked with Greenspun Media Group. She serves on the UNLV Alumni Association's Membership Committee.

Ashley Miller Misko, '06 BA Communication Studies, was promoted to director of marketing and public relations at the Mob Museum. Previously, she was marketing manager for the museum.

Yvonne Randall, '06 Ed.D. Special Education, was honored as the 2012-13 Michael T. Harter Employee of the Year at Tuoro University Nevada. In August, she was appointed to the Board of



Martinez, '04

Directors for the American Occupational Therapy Political Action Committee.

Corinne Devin, '07 DDS, is a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy. A staff orthodontist in Tokyo, she runs practices on two islands. She has been awarded three Navy Achievement Medals, a Navy Unit Commendation Medal, and a Sea Service Ribbon for deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. She is the reigning Ms. Galaxy 2014 and a former Ms. Texas and Ms. United States. Travel, pageants, hiking, and sightseeing are her hobbies.

Omari Head, '07 BS Hotel Administration, is a corporate strategic relationships manager for hospitality and tourism with American Public University. An active member of the Under 30 Gateway Council with the American Hotel & Lodging Association and the Alumni Council for the National Society of Minorities in Hospitality, he lives in Washington, D.C.

Mark Olegario, '07 BS Hotel Administration, is general manager for Sonoma Cellar Steakhouse at Sunset Station Hotel and Casino, which recently received an award from *Wine Spectator* magazine. Previously, he worked as a sommelier at the Osteria Del Circo; at the Paris Hotel and Casino as wine director for the Eiffel Tower Restaurant; and as head of Hank's Fine Steaks and Martins at the Green Valley Ranch Resort. For a year he lived in Miami where he ran the Gotham Steak Restaurant at the Fontainebleau Resort.

PJ Perez, '07 BA Journalism and Media Studies, launched a new business, Creation Forge Studios, a digital printing and design agency. On March 23, he married UNLV MBA student **Sara Kay Gorgon**.

John Saccamano, '07 BSBA, '08 MS Accountancy, has been an IRS agent since 2009. He is a licensed CPA.

Lilia Valdez, '07 BS Business Administration, is pursuing a master of science degree and plans to become a physician's assistant. Her hobbies include traveling, enjoying the outdoors, and riding her Harley Davidson Dyna Wide. She lives in Chino Hills, Calif.

Joseph White, '07 BA Political Science, is co-founder of Crackpot Inc., a company dedicated to shrinking creative connectivity globally. The company has spent the past two years developing a three-dimensional blank canvas for creativity that they call the crackpot cube. It can be accessed and updated from any device. He attended Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego where he focused on development economics. He is a beer pong champion and UNLV sports enthusiast.

Alexander Adams, '08 BS Recreation, is assistant food and beverage room manager at Allante Hotel and Casino. He is pursuing a Master of Public



Burns, '02



Miller, '03



Woodson, '03



Cosgrove, '04



Fisher, '05



Schabron, '05



Garcia, '06



Misko, '06



Randall, '06



Devin, '07



Valdez, '07



White, '07

Administration degree at UNLV. Previously he worked at Caesars Palace as housekeeping supervisor and completed an athletic ticketing internship at UNLV. A member of the Masons and the Shriners, he enjoys organizing NASCAR/truck races at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway for his fraternal organizations. He donates backpacks for students at Booker Elementary School and organizes holiday basket donations for needy families. He enjoys roller skating, hiking in Red Rock, and weightlifting. He lives in North Las Vegas.

Misty Conway, '08 BA Theatre Arts, is a licensed substitute teacher for the Clark County School District, grades kindergarten through 12. She focuses primarily on middle and high school. She is working toward a bachelor's degree in math.

Christopher Kircher, '08 JD, was named a Rising Star-Mountain States by *Super Lawyers* and a Top Attorney in Nevada by *Nevada Business* magazine. He and his wife, **Brandie Canella**, '05 BS Nursing, welcomed their first child, Sienna Grace, on July 2. Brandie is pursuing a master's degree in nursing at UNLV. The family lives in Henderson.

Jennifer Merrell Kosloske, '08 BSBA, is a senior staff accountant for The Foursquare Church, a nonprofit that supports more than 1,700 Foursquare churches across the United States and the more than 66,000 churches and meeting places in 140 countries. She says she is more than an accountant, she is part of a movement. Previously, she worked at a business management CPA firm that managed the daily finances of Hollywood celebrities. Three months after graduation she married Andrew Kosloske. They serve in the children's department of their local Foursquare Church, The Church on the Way Santa Clarita. Her hobbies include painting and crafting. The couple lives in Valencia, Calif.

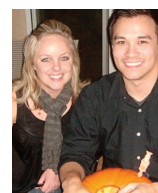
Graham Linck, '08 Doctor of Physical Therapy, contributed to the textbook, *Rehabilitation for the Postsurgical Orthopedic Patient*, third edition, by Lisa Maxey and Jim Magnusson. He co-authored chapters on ankle repair and rehabilitation.



Adams, '08



Conway, '08



Kosloske, '08



Lacambacal, '12

Alex Roy, '08 MS Geology, was promoted to natural resources planner V for the office of conservation and coastal lands in the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources. He is involved in regulating land uses by determining potential impacts to the environment — from the top of Mauna Kea to the submerged lands of the near-shore area. He is a member of the Kamehameha Canoe Club and paddles in six-man outrigger canoes. He hopes to compete in races next summer. He and his wife enjoy hiking, walking on the beach, and visiting Hawaii's numerous botanical gardens. They live in Honolulu.

Sarah Valentine, '08 BA Communication Studies, is director of special events for Humane Society Management Services, which helps other organizations respond to the rapid changes facing the animal welfare, animal sheltering, and animal law enforcement community. She oversees and produces fundraising events ranging from intimate parties to events attended by thousands of people. She has raised hundreds of thousands of

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dollars annually for animal welfare charities. She also worked in the nonprofit and government sectors managing events with the Peace Corps and U.S. Forest Service. She lives in Reading, Pa.

Margarita Vidal, '08 BSBA, was promoted to assurance manager with Ernst & Young.

Celine Apo, '09 BSBA, is an analyst II in the state regulatory affairs department of Southwest Gas Corp. She welcomed her first child, Michael Lucas, on April 14.

Sarah Hollender, '09 BA English, was selected as Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps Legal Fellow at the New York Legal Assistance Group in New York City. She works as an attorney in the disaster response unit of the group. She lives in Astoria.

Michael Roitman, '09 BA Political Science, is a student at the University of Virginia School of Law. He expects to graduate in 2016.

Rick Shukis, '09 BSBA, '11 MBA, has been a senior financial analyst for Amazon.com for more than two years. He focuses on process improvement. In July he moved to Seattle to accept a promotion. He said he was not looking forward to all the rain.

2010s

Kenneth Eliason, '10 BA Spanish, co-owns NeONBRAND.com and WindowSparkle.com with **Joseph Stevenson**, '13 BSBA. His hobbies include bicycle motocross, riding mountain bikes, and off-roading. He and his wife, **Danielle England Eliason**, '07 BA Education, '11 Master of Education, have two children, Kayli, 3, and Beau, 1.

Jonathan Goffman, '10 BS Physical Education, is a physical education teacher in a middle school in the South Bronx, N.Y.

William Hastings, '10 BS Hotel Administration, is an analyst for Service Management Group. He evaluates the customer experience for corporate foodservice clients ranging from Burger King to Del Frisco's Steakhouses. In December he received a master of science degree in foodservice and hospitality management from Kansas State University. He lives in Kansas City, Mo.

Anna Shurova, '10 BA Communications, graduated from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in September. She was on the dean's list for 2012-13 and received a certificate of merit for family abuse law. She plans to take the Nevada bar exam in February.

Cooper Rust, '11 BA Dance, recently returned from her second summer volunteering with children and teaching ballet in African orphanages as part of Anna's Africa. She teaches at Ann Brodie's Carolina Ballet. She lives in Columbia, S.C.

Sam Zanini, '11 BS Gaming Management, has been promoted to campaign and database marketing manager for Mandalay Bay. Previously, he was casino marketing and slot operations analyst for New York New York as part of the management associate program through MGM Resorts International.

Daniel Lacambacal, '12 BS Biological Sciences, was selected as a Duke University Scholar for the 2013-14 academic year representing the School of Nursing. This allows him to participate in interdisciplinary seminars with fellow scholars. He also serves as president of the university's chapter of

the American Assembly for Men in Nursing. He is in his third semester of Duke's 16-month accelerated bachelor of science in nursing program. He was planning to participate in his first half-marathon in October. His hobbies include running daily with a group of fellow nursing students, playing the guitar, and reading. He lives in Durham, N.C.

Jessica Lucero, '12 PhD English Literature, is manager of the Utah cluster acceleration partnership project at the Utah System of Higher Education. She and **William Paul Miller**, '10 PhD Civil and Environmental Engineering, plan to wed Nov. 30. He is working with the UNLV Alumni Association to establish a chapter in Salt Lake City, the couple's new home.

Geoffrey Moran, '12 BS Hotel Administration, is a catering coordinator at the Treasure Island Hotel & Casino. Previously, he interned at Disneyland as a vacation planner.

Alexandra "Allie" Singer, '12 BS Hotel Administration, is a sales manager for two Marriott properties managed by White Lodging Services in downtown San Antonio.

Lia Thorndogsdaard, '12 BSBA, is the sponsorships manager for the Aurelian Marketing Group, a startup company that creates and implements brand experiences. Previously, she interned with Aurelian and its Life Is Beautiful Festival. The two-day music, food, art, and learning event took place in downtown Las Vegas in October. She says she uses information on a daily basis that she gathered for a 100-page project she prepared for the Marketing Planning & Analysis class taught by professor **Jack Schibrowsky**. Her hobbies include soccer, swimming, dance, traveling, working out, wake boarding, and skiing.

Karla Washington, '12 BS Hotel Administration, is the merchandise acquisition coordinator for Opportunity Village.

Wendie Lappin Castillo, '13 PhD Special Education, is the outreach coordinator for the School of Education at Nevada State College. She is married to **Michael Castillo**, '96 BA Communications.

Steven Jones, '13 MS Mathematical Sciences, started the show "Classical Highlights" on KUNV-HD2 during the summer. It airs Saturdays, 5-6 p.m., and showcases music written or arranged for a small number of instruments and spanning from the Baroque to the late 20th century. He lives in Henderson.

Mary Catherine Martin, '13 MFA Creative Writing, is the new staff writer at the *Capital City Weekly* in Juneau, Alaska, and also will be writing for the outdoors section at the *Juneau Empire*, where she previously worked as city and education reporter. While at UNLV she wrote a novel about a girl who runs away from her failed hippie parents in the Brooks Range. The book is set in Alaska, Louisiana, and Las Vegas — all places she has lived in the past five years. She says she is on her 159th revision and hopes to send the manuscript to publishers soon. She and her boyfriend recently completed a three-month bicycle trip through Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, and Thailand. Her hobbies include hiking, fishing, and picking blueberries.

Shannon Selby, '13 BSBA, enjoys photography and cross-stitch.

Joseph Stevenson, '13 BSBA, co-owns NeONBRAND.com and WindowSparkle.com with **Kenneth Eliason**, '10 BA Spanish. He is married to **Kassie Glimes Steveson**, '08 BS Education.

OBITUARIES

Robert Bigler, emeritus professor of political science, died April 21. A specialist on European politics, he retired from UNLV in 1998 after 28 years. He was the author of *The Politics of German Protestantism* and published numerous articles in the *East European Quarterly* and other journals.

Rick Brown, emeritus professor of law, died July 5. He was the founding director of UNLV's Wiener-Rogers Law Library. He worked at UNLV from 1998 until 2008. He also had served as the law library director and a faculty member at the Arizona State University College of Law. Survivors include his wife, Lynnda, and children Shawanna, Jesse, and Marcy.

Joseph Cathcart, emeritus director of purchasing, died May 18 following a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's disease. He retired in 1994, after 11 years at UNLV. He then worked as a purchasing consultant for the university until 1998. A native of Nebraska, he was a musician and an explorer with particular interest in ghost towns. He is survived by his wife, Gloria; four children, Terri, Kelly, Jill, and Jason; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Robert Davenport, emeritus professor of history, died Sept. 4. He joined the faculty in 1964 when the university still was known as Nevada Southern. He retired in 1998. When the College of Arts and Letters was created in 1971, he served as acting dean. In the mid-1970s he chaired the history department. A specialist in the Progressive Era and Western history, he developed the department's offerings in Nevada history at the survey and upper-division levels. Survivors include his wife, Lorraine, and a son.

Amanda Landis, '10 BS Kinesiology, died Sept. 8. A graduate of Durango High School, she was pursuing a nursing degree at the time of her death. An avid fitness and wellness proponent, she competed in gymnastics at the national level and won many

awards. She also was a fitness instructor at UNLV. Survivors include her mother, Jenice; twin brother Brent; and brother Justin.

Mary Ann Michel, dean emerita of the College of Health Sciences, died April 30. A former emergency room nurse, she also served as director of UNLV's School of Nursing. She joined UNLV in 1971 and retired in 2006. Her survivors include sisters Rose Marie Kedzuf and Diane Janis; brother John Kedzuf; and several nieces and nephews.

Jan Tillery-Bailey, former professor of English, died Sept. 1 in Birmingham, Ala., following complications from surgery. She taught at UNLV from 1995 until 1997. Survivors include her husband, **Guy Bailey**, the former dean of UNLV's College of Liberal Arts. Both of them specialized in linguistics.

David VanBuskirk, '99 BA Criminal Justice, died July 23. A member of the Metropolitan Police Department's search and rescue team, he died from injuries sustained during a fall that occurred as he was rescuing a stranded hiker on Mount Charleston. A member of Metro since 1999, he joined search and rescue in 2007 and provided support as a mountain rescue team leader, tactical emergency medical support coordinator, and helicopter crew chief. Survivors include his wife, Adriana; mother, Pat; and sister, Jenny.

Betty Watts Yantis, emerita professor of management, died Oct. 17, 2012. Hired in 1975, she was the founding director of the UNLV Center for Business and Economic Research. She retired in 1998. She is survived by her daughters, Laura Rey and Bonnie Charles Yantis; step-children, Robert Nixon and Patricia Nixon Reid; sister, Ginna Watts Watson; and several grandchildren and step-grandchildren.

Yu "Philip" Xu, professor of nursing, died July 9 following a four-year battle with cancer. A native of China, he was



internationally known as an expert in cultural competence among nurses. He was a registered nurse, a certified transcultural nurse, a certified nursing educator, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. He had been a faculty member at UNLV since 2005. Survivors include his wife, Jianhui Zhang, and sons Claude and Leon.



Soaring Tribute

While the time spent sequestered in a Desert Inn penthouse in the late 1960s makes up much of the lore surrounding Howard Hughes' days in Southern Nevada, the recluse billionaire left his mark on UNLV as well.

His contributions to UNLV's fledgling Engineering College helped the program take off. The college now carries his name, and inside the Thomas T. Beam Engineering Complex is a fitting memorial to the iconic aviator. A replica H-1 Racer plane soars above the William Wells Great Hall.

Hughes built the original H-1 and first flew it in 1935, when he broke the landplane speed record of 352 miles per hour. The plane was an engineering masterpiece with such advancements as a streamlined aluminum surface, recessed rivets, and a single elliptical wing. Hughes pitched the aircraft to the U.S. Air Force, which declined to manufacture it, but its technology influenced future military aircraft designs.

The original H-1 was donated to the Smithsonian Institute in 1975 and is on display at the National Air and Space Museum. Some replicas have been used in films. The Howard Hughes Corp. donated the one housed at UNLV soon after the Thomas T. Beam Engineering Complex was constructed in 1988.

—Brian Sodoma



Howard Hughes with the H-1 Racer, circa 1935-37

More: UNLV Libraries has an extensive archive of Howard Hughes images, documents, and ephemera. Its online collection, "Welcome Home, Howard," explores the legendary billionaire's influence on aviation and on Southern Nevada. digital.library.unlv.edu



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