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Inside UNLV

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UNLV Receives $2.6 Million

by Betty Blodgett

UNLV recently received a grant of more than $2.6 million from the U.S. Health and Human Services Administration for the University's Cancer Institute and new Biotechnology Center to develop state-of-the-art research and teaching laboratories, offices, and classrooms and to purchase new research equipment.

UNLV biology professor Penny Amy, principal investigator on the grant proposal, said that the Biotechnology Center will serve as a cutting-edge facility for forensic DNA and other biotechnology training programs, including an environmental testing lab, which can be used to provide water quality testing for microbial contaminants.

"We have formed a partnership with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department's (Metro) Crime and Forensic DNA labs to create a laboratory that will be specially equipped to train people nationwide in forensic science and human DNA profiling," Amy said. "In addition, researchers from the UNLV Cancer Institute will have new and modern facilities, both in the form of research laboratories and in specialty analyses such as tissue culture and flow cytometry, as well as in DNA sequencing capabilities. Undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, graduate, and postgraduate students and workshop participants all will benefit from the research and training climate of the new facilities."

UNLV President Carol C. Harter acknowledged Nevada's U.S. Sen. Harry Reid and U.S. Rep. Jim Gibbons for their assistance in acquiring the federal funding and for their support of the university's research programs.

"We are delighted that this grant will enable experts from UNLV and Metro to play a major role in providing cutting-edge forensic science and DNA-technology training," Harter said. "It is yet another indication of the level of sophistication of our research here at UNLV, as well as our interest in partnering with government agencies and private industry to serve the community."

"It also provides a very valuable opportunity for UNLV's Biotechnology Center and Cancer Institute to collaborate on important biomedical and biotechnology research and development," Stephen Carper, director of the UNLV Cancer Institute, said that linking the Cancer Institute researchers to the Biotechnology Center and its teaching/training function has great potential for future basic and applied research developments.

"The UNLV Cancer Institute is interested in partnering with the Biotechnology Program as well as with our friends at the University of Nevada School of Medicine," Carper said. "These crucial resources will provide the cornerstone for these long-term interactions."

Berk Henry, manager of the Metropolitan Police Department Forensic DNA Laboratory and a molecular biologist and expert in human DNA profiling, said that he and Linda Errichetto, director of the lab, are excited that the Biotechnology Center will have a DNA profiling facility that simulates a forensic DNA laboratory for training purposes.

"The Biotechnology Center will enable us to offer training programs on the methods and foundations of human DNA technology," Henry said. "Workshops will be held for those attending UNLV's cell and molecular biology/biotechnology programs, for employees in current state or private DNA profiling labs across the nation who need academic refresher training, and for people with science backgrounds who want post-graduate, hands-on training in DNA techniques for employment potential."

The proposed site for the Biotechnology Center is the recently acquired property located at 1700 W. Charleston Blvd. Previously owned by the Employer's Insurance Company of Nevada, the site is located at the center of the city's medical district.

Xeriscape Garden to Undergo Changes

by Diane Russell

Changes will be coming soon to UNLV's Xeriscape Garden. The garden, which doubles as a demonstration garden for plants that thrive in the Las Vegas Valley and as a popular spot for students and staff to seek a few minutes of quiet in the midst of a busy day, will undergo extensive renovation as part of the Wright Hall remodeling project.

The project may begin impacting the garden, which is chiefly located between Wright and the Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History, as soon as May, when Western Technologies starts the asbestos removal in Wright's classroom wing and in the freestanding Wright auditorium. Those two buildings will be torn down and replaced with two new three-floor buildings. The first, an additional office building, will be located slightly north of the existing office building. The second, a classroom building, will be located to the north of the new office building.

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Expanding Literally and Figuratively

by Carol C. Harter
UNLV President

In this month's column I would like to discuss a recent development that will have some wonderful implications for the university. We have acquired three buildings and a substantial amount of acreage that will enable us to establish a regional campus in the heart of Las Vegas.

As you may have heard, in December UNLV reached an agreement with the Employer's Insurance Company of Nevada for the purchase of three buildings and 18 acres of land at 1700 W. Charleston Blvd. near University Medical Center.

With 185,000 square feet of building space, a parking lot with more than 700 spaces, and a central valley location just off I-15, the site is quite valuable in terms of its potential for multiple uses. The regional campus's location in the center of the community's primary medical district makes it an excellent site for some of our biotechnology and health care-related programs. Given our commitment to establishing a presence in this district — both at the recently acquired site, as well as at the academic medical center being proposed by Mayor Oscar Goodman — we are carefully examining which programs would be best suited to the site.

For example, one of the buildings at the new regional campus, a very pleasant facility with a two-story atrium, will be an ideal location for UNLV's School of Dentistry. Known as building "A," the facility has been designated as the site that will house the school's teaching and administrative functions, which will require clinical, classroom, and laboratory space.

Building "B" will house some faculty research activities, including portions of the UNLV Cancer Institute and our new Biotechnology Center, a state-of-the-art facility for forensic DNA and other biotechnology training programs. (Additional details about the new Biotechnology Center are available in an article on the front page of this issue.) Use of the third building at the regional campus is still under consideration.

We appreciate the support we have received as we have pursued this opportunity for expansion. We are very grateful to Gov. Kenny Guinn and the Legislature for their support of the Dental School during the last legislative session, and to the Interim Finance Committee, which recently allowed us to revise our plans for housing the dental school and to purchase the new property and buildings.

In addition to providing us with a considerable amount of much-needed space to expand, the acquisition of this property is the first step in realizing a goal I outlined earlier this academic year in my State of the University address: By locating regional campuses within the urban core of the valley, we are strengthening our role as a major player in the economic growth and cultural development of Southern Nevada. We are, after all, striving to become one of the finest urban teaching and research universities in the country, and I believe that it is logical and appropriate to pursue that goal in locations that will help reinforce the urban character of Southern Nevada. We are, after all, striving to become one of the finest urban teaching and research universities in the country, and I believe that it is logical and appropriate to pursue that goal in locations that will help reinforce the urban character of Southern Nevada.

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Admin Assistants Play Key Role

by Betty Blodgett

The level of success of any institution is defined not only by its leadership, but also by the majority of its members who carry out the daily tasks that enable the institution to fulfill its mission.

In a recent Inside UNLV column, President Carol C. Harter noted, "There is a solid foundation of hard-working individuals who keep the university operating on a daily basis so that our principal missions of teaching, research, and service can be accomplished. These individuals are, in large part, the classified staff."

One of these individuals is Lisa Monaco-Adams, who works in the office of admissions. Monaco-Adams, who previously worked for 24 years in a school district in California, has been at the university for four years. "I moved to Las Vegas to be closer to family, and it was so exciting when I was hired to work at UNLV because I enjoy working in an educational environment and helping students," she said.

In her job, Monaco-Adams works with Kristi Rodriguez, assistant director of admissions. Her duties are varied and include explaining the admissions process to prospective students. Many of the people she helps are transfer students and those who fall into the "non-traditional" student category.

"What I enjoy most about my job is being able to help people," Monaco-Adams said. "I like people and I want them to succeed and be happy. Often, we in admissions are the first point of contact for someone who is interested in attending UNLV. It is very rewarding to be able to help that person with the admissions process and to install a sense of excitement and energy about attending the university."

In addition, Monaco-Adams said that she is able to relate to many of the questions and concerns about enrollment that prospective students have because she herself is a non-traditional student pursuing a degree in criminal justice at UNLV while working full-time and being a parent.

"I think being an older student and having gone through the whole enrollment process myself helps because I can be even more effective in helping other non-traditional students," she said.

Bill Lehmkohl

For a sports fan like Bill Lehmkohl, working in the athletics department is a dream job come true.

He provides support to the coaches of the men's baseball and men and women's golf and swimming programs. His duties include making sure bills are paid, ordering equipment, doing data entry, and mailing letters of intent to new recruits.

"There is a lot that needs to be done, and what I do frees up the coaches to focus on their jobs of recruiting and coaching," Lehmkohl said. "One of the great things about working here is being involved with the students. It is uplifting to see young people excited about coming here to UNLV to pursue their educational and sports endeavors and to know that I helped to play a small role in making that happen."

Gloria Zombo

This month marks Gloria Zombo's 30th anniversary at UNLV. She is the office manager for news and public information/ photo services — a position that she has held since 1978. When she first arrived at UNLV, she worked for a short time as assistant to the dean of the College of Allied Health and then moved over to continuing education, where she worked for four years.

"To give you an idea of how long I've been here, when I started, FDH had just been built," remembered Zombo, whose office is on the building's seventh floor.

As part of her duties, Zombo is responsible for keeping the office's accounting records, maintaining the university's master calendar of events, posting ads to the electronic classified ad bulletin board, sending out information e-mails to the campus community, supervising student workers, and assisting the public and the media when they call in with requests for information. In 2000, Zombo received the President's Classified Employee of the Year award.

"I really enjoy my job and the people I work with," she said. "As the news and public information office, we're often in the thick of things. When something happens, our phones start ringing, and we become the first point of contact for the outside world."

Zombo said she particularly remembers the day of the devastating 1980 fire at the MGM Grand Hotel.

"We had media from all over the world calling our office to get information," she said. "Anytime there is a crisis in the nation, this office is involved in coordinating and providing expert faculty members to talk with the media. How we respond when the public calls reflects on the whole university and so I make it a point to always go the extra mile to be helpful and provide assistance. That's why I'm here."
Web Site Features Early Las Vegas Photos

by Betty Blodgett

Historical photographs and documents from the early days of Las Vegas now are available for public viewing on the Internet as a result of a UNLV Libraries project.

Titled the “Early Las Vegas Digital Project,” this virtual gallery showcasing high-resolution images of photographs and documents contained in the special collections section of the Lied Library was accomplished through the use of cutting-edge digital technology.

“This is the first project developed by the UNLV Libraries’ digital projects personnel in collaboration with the history department and special collections and we are very pleased with the outcome,” said Brad Eden, head of the library’s bibliographic and metadata services department.

The exhibit is divided into four photographic galleries: Early Las Vegas, The Depot, The Cottages, and Now and Then. Each of the galleries is designed to simulate an actual gallery experience by having the user scroll horizontally from one photo to the next.

Accompanying each photo or illustration is a written explanation of its historical significance and its bibliographic source.

“The Web site is centered on the establishment of Las Vegas in 1905 and is based upon one of our richest historical collections, the Union Pacific Collection, which has the most comprehensive documentation of the construction of the city,” said Peter Michel, director of special collections.

The “Early Las Vegas” gallery follows the boom-town growth that hit Las Vegas in the early 1900s.

“The Depot” details the importance of the railroad in the early development of the town. “The Cottages” showcases the housing that the railroad companies built for the workers. The final gallery, “Now and Then,” presents an artist’s interpretation of Las Vegas – past and present.

The Web site was conceived by Eden and Michel who received a $15,000 UNLV Planning Initiative Award in 2000 to pursue their idea.

“We wanted to explore the possibilities of digital technology,” Michel said. “UNLV special collections is the most important repository of historical material about Las Vegas – much of it little known and not easily accessible. But rather than simply digitizing collections as collections, which have a limited use and interest to the general public, we wanted to show how collections relate to each other and can be used to create an interpretation.”

To provide the interpretation, Michel brought in the expertise of Joe Thompson, a graduate student from the history department’s new public history program, to help design the galleries. Thompson combined an interest in and knowledge of Las Vegas and the library’s historical collection with a background in art and museum studies.

“The project truly demonstrates how a historian draws on a variety of sources to present a historical interpretation,” Michel explained. “Joe digitized different types of historical materials – photographs, maps, manuscripts, and architectural drawings – from the collection and wove these together with the interpretation and contextual bibliographic information to create a dynamic exhibit for the public to use and enjoy.”

In addition to making historical photographs more readily accessible to the general public, Eden said that the digitizing process helps to protect the often rare and delicate original negatives and prints from potentially being destroyed by too much handling.

“It is a very meticulous process to create a digital image,” Eden said. “The earliest generation of each photograph, often a negative or a print, is chosen for scanning. Each photograph is inspected and dirt removed using an electrostatic film cleaner. The photograph is then placed on a special scanner, which is carefully calibrated. An archival image is produced and stored and no digital retouching or changes to the digital image files are permitted. Then a thumbnail image and an enlarged image are created for presentation on the Web. Flaws such as cracks and stains are retained in the archival image.”

Each image in the digital gallery has been cataloged in the machine-readable cataloging format.

“We are not only scanning images, we are creating information about those images, called metadata, which allows them to be identified in the digital environment,” Eden explained. “This enables a person who is viewing an image and wants more detailed information to click on a button and connect to the full cataloging record, which contains information about the image such as its original size, its condition, its call number within the special collections, and the name of the photographer.”

“It is a convergence of library, archives, and history presented in a very creative way,” Michel added.

To access the “Early Las Vegas Digital Project” on the Internet, go to http://library.nevada.edu/digproj.

New galleries will be added to the site in the future, as will further research and commentary based on the historical items presented.

“We hope to build on this project and use what we have learned to develop new projects using additional materials in our special collections in more creative and useful ways,” Michel said. “It is important as we develop digital collections and Web sites that we do not do this simply as librarians or archivists for other librarians and archivists, but also for members of the public who can use and enjoy the collections we have invested so much in maintaining.”

Michel and Eden welcome comments and suggestions from members of the campus community about the new Web site. For additional information regarding digitization efforts and digital projects at UNLV, contact Eden at ext. 2225 or beden@ccmail.nevada.edu, or Michel at ext. 2234 or pmichel@ccmail.nevada.edu.

LEMONADE stands probably were as good a way as any of beating the heat during Las Vegas summers before the advent of air conditioning. In this 1930 photo taken by Elizabeth Harrington, children are seen gathered around a homemade lemonade stand in front of some of the railroad cottages that gave a distinct architectural look to early downtown Las Vegas.

DOUBLING as the railroad depot in 1905 Las Vegas was railroad car #12, seen above. At right, two unidentified Las Vegas girls pose for a class photo during the 1905-06 school year. Their one-room schoolhouse was located on Second Street. These photos and others can be seen online in the “Early Las Vegas Digital Project” produced by UNLV Libraries. This virtual gallery was developed through the use of digital technology and makes a number of historical photos from the special collections section readily available to the public.
Business College

The College of Business Dean’s Executive Advisory Board has provided excellent dialogue and interaction with community business leaders. Dean Rich Flaherty spends a significant amount of time building relationships with these professionals to benefit the college’s programs, faculty, and students. Board members played an integral part in the creation of the Nevada Business Hall of Fame.

Each department in the college is working to establish similar relationships specific to its discipline. The department of marketing has been very active with its Executive Advisory Board. The board is composed of well-placed professional marketing professionals, some of whom are alumni, who are committed to improving the overall educational experiences of our students. The board members were instrumental in helping to make the Fall Forum Lecture a success. More than 350 students attended a presentation by the director of marketing for Coca-Cola.

The Marketing Executive Advisory Board will also help coordinate and host the Spring Marketing Forum to be held 2 p.m. March 13 in the Moyer Student Union. The campus community is invited to attend the forum, which will include a panel of marketing professionals who are also alumni of the department.

Additionally, the Marketing Internship Program has been significantly improved thanks to the increased networking effort of faculty and the advisory board. More internship opportunities have been established and a number of the students have resulted in full-time job offers. Finally, the board will host a department of marketing graduation dinner at the end of the spring semester.

Dental School

The school continues to progress toward opening its doors to students for the first time in August. So far, the school has received acceptances from 11 Nevadans. Applications will be accepted until March 1, and student acceptances are expected to continue up until the start of orientation for the fall semester. Interested students can contact the school for information on how to apply by calling ext. 2453.

This month we are starting to interview students from out of state. Qualified applicants are visiting the school at its new location in the building formerly designated as FMA. UNLV faculty, visiting faculty, and community dentists have volunteered to interview the applicants.

Last month two faculty seminarists were given by candidates for positions in the new school. Topics were related to the biomedical sciences and clinical science research areas of the candidates. The first talk was titled “Neutrophils and Cytokines in Periodontal Disease.” The second talk was called “Decision Analysis and Health Services Research: Outlook for the 21st Century.” The UNLV faculty, research staff, students, and visitors from the community attended the presentations, which were given in the FMA classroom.

With the university’s acquisition of property at 1700 W Charleston Blvd, plans are going forward for renovation of one of the buildings there as the site for clinical education and clinical services for the School of Dentistry. Preliminary planning and schematics originally started for a transitional building will be reformatted to fit the new premises. The new site will also allow the Dental School to move directly into its permanent clinical education and clinical services site just in time for student clinical rotations in fall 2003.

College of Education

The college has a history of collaborating with the Clark County School District (CCSD) to prepare quality educators for Las Vegas children through intensive field-based programs like the Paradise Professional Development School, the Urban Teaching Partnership, the Special Education Cohort, and the UNLV-CCSD Collaborative Principal Preparation Program. In spring 2002, a new field-based program (the Block Program) is the department of curriculum and instruction to be implemented at J.M. Ullom Elementary School. This new program integrates curriculum requirements in the elementary education degree program with practicum performance. The goal of the program is to link course work to the practical realities of teaching.

Professor Synyi Giorgetti and Lori Olafson, as lead faculty in the Block Program, have met with the teachers and with Ullom Principal Donna Mahler to identify classroom teachers to work with the college’s teacher candidates who will be completing university course work and their first practicum at Ullom. Nine teachers have volunteered to work closely with university faculty and with a pair of candidates to provide opportunities for them to demonstrate beginning teaching skills, including planning, implementing, and assessing instruction. Intensive technology within the integrated coursework is another major focus of the Block Program. Teacher candidates will be using WebCT, constructing data bases, electronic portfolios, and Web pages, creating multi-media presentations, and reviewing educational software. By engaging students simultaneously in coursework and their first field experience, the college hopes to create an accelerated teacher preparation program in addition to the traditional programs to help meet the increasing demand for teachers in the Las Vegas area.

Engineering College

A collaborative project headed by Robert Schill in the department of electrical engineering promises to bring exciting state-of-the-art technology to the college. Through a three-year EPSCoR grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, a team of electrical engineering (Schill, Rama Venkat, and Sarvesh Chauhan) and mechanical engineering (William Culbreth, Darrell Pepper, and Yitung Chen) faculty/staff are working on ways to enhance radiography devices used to create bursts of X-rays for imaging high-speed events.

Radiography devices are used in many applications, including medical imaging, airport security, and in studies of explosive events. Both undergraduate and graduate engineering students are working as team members on the research project. The project includes studies of the electrical properties of plastic insulators at high voltages with the goal of providing better insulating qualities. A numerical study on the flow of current near but outside the surface of high-voltage electric fields is also underway to better understand the behavior of megavolt pulses with duration on the order of nanoseconds (0.0000000001 seconds).

The team recently acquired a 500,000 volt, 60,000-ampere, 50-nanosecond (0.000000005 seconds) pulsed power source for use in the insulator studies. Originally constructed by the Naval Research Laboratory, this device has been reborn as the Nevada Shocker and is located in the Thomas Beam Engineering Complex. Initial tests with the Nevada Shocker are scheduled for early this year. It is anticipated that the Nevada Shocker will find application in the fields of pulsed power fusion energy and space propulsion.

College of Extended Studies

Spring 2002 marks the sixth semester the college has offered classes at UNLV’s Downtown Center in the old Fifth Street School at the corner of Las Vegas Boulevard and Clark Street. The Downtown Center is one result of UNLV’s ongoing strategic planning efforts and the city of Las Vegas’ downtown redevelopment.
Since the opening of the center, the new federal courthouse has opened directly across Las Vegas Boulevard to the east. Additionally, a new office building has risen across Fourth Street to the west. Both new edifices dwarf the historic gram- mophones at the center. The facility is also used for specific comprehensive schedule of paralegal courses serving the needs of the numerous law office located downtown.

Courses at the Downtown Center this semester include oral communications, offered by the Greenspun School of Communication, and principles of microeconomics, offered by the College of Business. The Professional Development Center is again offering a full slate of business courses through use of Recruitment Incentive Grants to fund department-based approaches to recruitment as well as improvements in the graduate assistant stipend package that includes health insurance. This effort was intended to maximize the growth in doctoral student enrollment consistent with university goals to evolve into a Carnegie Doctoral/Research-Extensive institution. The resulting FTE enrollment increase of 5 percent for fall 2001 over fall 2000 is a direct result of these coordinated efforts and concurrent development of several new doctoral programs.

UNLV has enjoyed generally increasing graduate stu- dent enrollments during the last several years and recent enrollment figures at UNLV (fall 2001) are consistent with the national trend. Fall 2001 information indicates that the number of applications for all graduate programs increased by 13 percent over fall 2000. This was the highest number of applications in history of the Graduate College. Also, the number of new students enrolling increased by 16 percent. This contributed to an overall headcount increase of 3.1 percent and full-time equivalents of 1.9 percent in fall 2001 over fall 2000.

These enrollment results reflect the working relationship between the Graduate College and the colleges and departments through use of Recruitment Incentive Grants to fund department-based approaches to recruitment as well as improvements in the graduate assistant stipend package that includes health insurance. This effort was intended to maximize the growth in doctoral student enrollment consistent with university goals to evolve into a Carnegie Doctoral/Research-Extensive institution. The resulting FTE enrollment increase of 5 percent for fall 2001 over fall 2000 is a direct result of these coordinated efforts and concurrent development of several new doctoral programs.

Honors College

The Honors College is pleased to recognize its Outstanding Alumni of the Year. This award has been given to Dr. Ashish Sharma, an internist who is a 1991 graduate of UNLV and the Honors College.

The college is excited about the course offerings this semester. Because of an increased enrollment in department honors classes, we have combined several of the seminars being offered this spring include: seven great novels (Mark Twain, the American experience in Vietnam (Andy Fy), politics of food and nutrition (Lesley Johnson), and the evolution of aggression: biological influences on delinquency and crime (Bo Cleveland).

The 29th Annual Western Regional Honors Conference (WRHC) will be held in Tempe, Ariz., April 19-21. The college will be sending two students to present papers from Carol Jensen’s Hon 400 fall 2001 seminar class, world religions in contemporary form. Jensen received a $1,000 UNLV Alumni Student-Centered Project Grant Award for 2001-02, which will be used to help fund these student presentations at the WRHC conference.

College of Hotel Administration

In the fall of 2000, Lauren Moody, a Harrah Hotel College student, applied for an undergraduate research grant to start an organization called Rebels Against Hunger (RAH) that would serve the community by picking up leftover food and other items from Las Vegas hotels, casinos, and restaurants. These items would then be transported to local homeless shelters and food banks. With $500 support from UNLV, Moody, with the help of 12 fellow students, met with local community groups who serve the homeless, local business development groups, and UNLV administration.

The law school also offers an ADR practicum as an upper-level elective. In the future, Boyd hopes to expand the offerings to include courses that emphasize drafting and negotiation skills, and introduce students to the relative merits of mediation and arbitration as dispute resolution methods.

College of Liberal Arts

Several projects under the direction of college faculty have direct and important implications for the community and region. First, professor Fred Preston, with student committee Bo Bernhard and Bob Smith, coordinated research on the homeless population. The use of innovative counting techniques plus observation and field interviews resulted in a study that is regarded as the baseline assessment of not only the number of homeless in Clark County, but also of their background characteristics, including addictive behavior.

Second, Andy Kirk, Sue Fawn Chung, Joanne Goodwin, and others in the department of history have made major contributions to the preservation of local and state landmarks and have gathered oral histories from persons who have lived in the community and state for many years.

Third, Vicki Casman of the department of anthropology and her students have been organizing and managing the various Native American artifact collections on campus that must meet the standards for archival maintenance set by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

College of Fine Arts

The music department is proud to present Shining Brow by composer Doron Hagen, an opera based on the life of Frank Lloyd Wright. The production is a collaboration between the UNLV Opera Theatre, Southern Nevada Opera Association, UNLV Symphony Orchestra, and the UNLV Chamber Chorale.

Shining Brow premiered at the Madison Opera Company in 1993 and was remounted in Chicago in 1996. The UNLV project is the third performance of the piece and will be a concert version for the purpose of making a CD recording. Faculty, students, and alumni are performing along with several guest artists from previous productions who will reprise their roles.

The contemporary music group Nextet will perform in the Doc Rando Recital Hall inside the Performing Arts Center on Feb. 18, and the UNLV Wind Orchestra will perform at Ham Concert Hall on Feb. 28.

Virtuoso Korean percussionists SamuNon will perform at Ham Concert Hall on Feb. 15 as part of the Performing Arts Center World Stage series. Highly praised by musicians since its 1983 debut, SamuNon is a complete theatrical experience as well. The New York Times said that the four drumming percussionists “modulated into sounds of any nuance... in the piano's range.”

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By the end of the semester the students had created a 38-page business plan for RAH that included budgets, databases of potential donors and recipients, and operating procedures. In addition, they conducted several tests of operating procedures by picking up nonperishable food items from local businesses and dropping them off at local homeless shelters. They created a logo for RAH, had T-shirts printed, and purchased equipment for safely transporting perishable food.

This past semester, two students took RAH to the next step as part of an independent study project. They reviewed the business plan and contacted local food and beverage directors for suggestions on implementing the plan. They continued to conduct test runs with a variety of hospitality organization leaders in order to gather additional information about the problems and impediments to implementation. This project is a continuing effort of the Harrah College to provide learning education. The faculty member in charge is Cheri Young, who can be reached at cyoung@ccmail.nevada.edu for more information.

Law School

In recent years, many law schools have recognized the importance of exposing students to non-litigious methods of dispute avoidance and resolution. Boyd has begun to incorporate these techniques into several areas of the curriculum. The lawyering process program, for example, includes a segment on negotiation, and the civil procedure course incorporates material on alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

The law school also offers an ADR practicum as an upper-level elective. In the future, Boyd hopes to expand the offerings to include courses that emphasize drafting and negotiation skills, and introduce students to the relative merits of mediation and arbitration as dispute resolution methods.

This increased interest in dispute avoidance and resolution has also generated a substantial body of thoughtful scholarship, exploring the comparative strengths and weaknesses of various dispute resolution methods, and evaluating new approaches for reform. In January, the school hosted a gathering of eminent scholars in the dispute resolution field. This conference, titled “Perspectives on Dispute Resolution in the 21st Century,” featured presentations by Boyd professors Jeff Sternpel and Carl Tobis, as well as distinguished faculty from the law schools at Stanford, Duke, Texas, California-Davis, Missouri-Columbia, Northeastern, Indiana, Lewis & Clark, and McGeorge.


Graduate College

In a recent report from the national Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), preliminary results indicate that graduate stu- dent enrollments nationwide are increasing for the first time in several years for the majority of institutions surveyed. From their most recent data (1999-2000), graduate enrollment rose by approximately 2 percent at public and private institutions.

This 2 percent represents a marked change from the decrease and leveling off in graduate enrollment that began in 1996. The softening economy and increased numbers of international students were identified as contributing factors. Projections of a continuing demand for graduate education along a slow but steady upward trajectory were suggested.
The reserve process for instructors will be the same as it is now. Library staff will scan and process any photocopies submitted for reserve. Paper reserves cannot entirely be eliminated as there are some things that cannot be scanned because they are too large or don’t translate well into PDF. The move to e-reserves will be accomplished slowly to ensure a smooth transition, but library staff members hope to have at least half of the documents on electronic reserve by fall.

The department of geoscience has seen significant growth in its graduate program and in its research capabilities. A new Ph.D. program now complements the department’s highly successful M.S. program. Eight Ph.D. students are currently enrolled and the program continues to grow.

Two new geoscience laboratories have been opened recently. The Nevada Isotope Geochronology Laboratory (NIGL) was funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation to professor Terry Spell. NIGL houses a state-of-the-art argon mass spectrometer and has been involved with the research of 32 scientists from 21 universities, including some in Europe, South America, and Australia, and it has produced radiometric dates utilized in many of the important research projects.

The UNLV Electron Microanalysis and Imaging Laboratory (EMIL) was funded by a U.S. Department of Energy grant to professor Jean Cline. EMIL houses two instruments, a JEOL 8900 Electron Probe Microanalyzer (EPMA) and a JEOL 5600 Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM). The EPMA is optimized for quantitative chemical analysis of solid materials on a micron scale. The SEM is optimized for imaging micron to millimeter scale topography. These instruments have a broad range of applications in geoscience, biological and medical sciences, soil science, chemistry, archeology, materials science, metallurgy, and civil engineering. Operation of the laboratory is partially supported by the UNLV Classified Staff Council.

News from the Colleges

University Libraries

The University Libraries’ reserve services function is going digital. Over the next several semesters, the libraries will be phasing in the use of a product called “eReserves.” This Web-based software helps manage and present scanned reserve readings and allows library staff to make reserve items available to students anytime, anywhere.

Students will use the software to look up reserve items by course name, department, or instructor. They will log in to the system using their barcode, after which they can view reserves online and print them out. The reserve readings themselves will be in PDF format; all scanning will be done using a high-speed scanner. The quality of documents will not be much better than the original photocopy—they will be black and white, and will be scanned at the lowest resolution possible for smaller files. What people can expect is an electronic copy of a photocopy.

College of Sciences

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College of Urban Affairs

Students enrolled in professor Julian Kilker’s interactive media design course during fall 2001 worked with various campus agencies to redesign their Web sites. Kilker’s course combines the theoretical aspects of Web site design with practical application. Students met with their campus clients from the School of Architecture, the bursar’s office, department of chemistry, department of mathematics, and student psychological services to determine how best to serve their online needs during the course of the fall semester. Students worked on creating and redesigning their clients’ Web sites, and made formal presentations at the end of the semester to unveil their work. To find out more about courses in Web design offered through the Greenspun School of Communication, contact Kilker at kilker@unlv.edu.

Greenspun School of Communication graduate students Bill Belk, Rebecca Melderhauer, Karen Roybal, Maggie Zapeda, and Christine Jansen have written research papers that have been accepted for presentation at the Western Speech Communication Association convention in March. The convention paper competition is refereed.
Points of Policy
by Tom Flagg
Director of UNLV News & Public Information/Photo Services

Last year the Facilities Use Committee was asked to develop a policy on advertising and marketing activities on campus. A subcommittee, which included several committee members and received input from representatives of student government, the Rebel Tid, and the student government business manager, drafted a policy and submitted it to the President's Cabinet for approval. The Cabinet approved the policy in the waning days of 2001.

The new policy addresses the activities of non-university marketers and advertisers on the UNLV campus and its facilities. It does not address any placement of advertising or sales of merchandise by the university or its units off campus.

During its consideration of the new policy, the subcommittee was guided by a statement from the President's Cabinet that it would like to see less, rather than more, commercial activity on the campus, while allowing certain exemptions for fundraising by campus organizations and for units that are self-supporting. With that in mind, the committee developed the following policy.

Policy for advertising and marketing on UNLV facilities and grounds

1. This policy applies to indoor and outdoor areas of the campus, unless otherwise exempted. Exempted areas/administrative units include the following:
   - The Thomas & Mack Center, Sam Boyd Stadium, Cox Pavilion, and other intercollegiate athletic facilities, including but not limited to football, baseball, softball, soccer, tennis, and track.
   - Performing Arts Complex.
   - Areas rented by non-university entities during the hours for which the area is rented.
   - Campus organizations selling non-commercial products or services for non-profit fund-raising purposes.
   - Moyer Student Union counter space.
   - The UNLV Alumni Association for its contract with MBNA credit card company.

2. Sponsored activities are presented for educational or entertainment value (concerts or lectures, for example). Campus-sponsored activities are not essentially commercial in nature. Campus organizations that wish to present such activities may obtain sponsorship and receive support in the form of money or donated products or services from off-campus entities. Such events are organized solely for presentation at UNLV and are not part of a tour presented by a commercial interest for the purpose of marketing, advertising, or selling products.

3. Sponsors may be recognized through the use of banners or signs during the scheduled hours of the sponsored event. Such banners or signs may be displayed at the event site only. Sponsors may distribute free product samples.

University Personnel Move Into Campus Services Building
by Cate Weeks

The Campus Services Building, the two-story, modular structure just west of the Thomas & Mack Center, now houses more than 250 full-time staff members in 18 departments.

While some on campus initially were skeptical about the building, CSB's new occupants are settling in. "From all accounts, most people are pleased with the final product," said Tim Lockett, assistant director of construction in the office of planning and construction. "Overall, I think everyone is finding the building very functional and nice."

If you're heading over to CSB by car from the north side of campus, take Swanston Street south to Harmon Avenue, go east on Harmon and then south on Tarkanian Way. If you're coming from the south end of campus, get on Tropicana Avenue and turn into the Thomas & Mack parking for heading north. The CSB is located on the west side of the Thomas & Mack Center between Tarkanian and Swenson.

Fortunately, there is plenty of parking on the south side of the building. Carts for visitors can be parked just to the south of the building. A fenced area on the north side is for permanent cart parking as only building occupants with controlled access cards can enter the north doors.

All visitors should enter the CSB through the central entrance on the south side of the building. Once inside, signs will direct you to the department you need.

The first floor houses:
   - planning and construction services
   - the office of the associate vice president for facilities management and planning
   - environmental health and safety
   - building services
   - administrative services
   - landscape and grounds
   - diversity initiatives
   - communication services

The second floor houses:
   - human resources
   - purchasing
   - controller, disbursements, and payroll services
   - CLASS! publications
   - Cannon Center for Survey Research
   - Nevada Institute for Children
   - Center for Health Information Analysis
   - MAP industrial outreach
   - Women's Research Institute of Nevada

Xeriscape Garden
continued from page 1

open-air rotunda between the two new buildings, and the reconfiguring of the Xeriscape Garden. The expected completion date for the entire Wright Hall project is fall 2003.

"It is impossible to renovate and expand Wright Hall without impacting the Xeriscape Garden," said Susan Hobbes, UNLV's director of planning and construction. "During the planning process much thought was given to minimizing the impact to the garden. We will retain as much of the existing garden as we can -- and eventually will add other new areas, but some of the existing garden will be lost during the project. There simply was no way to meet the need for more -- and more modern -- space in Wright Hall without taking out some of the existing garden."

"The short-term impact to the garden will be greater than the long-term," Hobbes said, noting that when all the work is complete the Xeriscape Garden actually will be somewhat bigger than it is now.

"We will lose some of the existing garden almost as soon as the project begins, but eventually will be adding on new garden areas," she said.

Dennis Swartzell, director of landscape, grounds, and arboriculture, said that while he's sorry to be losing part of the garden, he also is looking forward to the opportunities that will come with the new configuration.

Particularly interesting to him, he said, are the two garden "canyons" that will be formed. Those canyons will be located between the Wright Hall buildings and will run east from the existing garden.

The southernmost canyon will be 30 feet wide and will be covered with a metal canopy. This covering will be quite high, extending above the rooflines of the existing Wright office wing and the new office wing.

"It's that canyon and its cover that provide interesting possibilities for the garden," Swartzell said. "For the first time here on campus, we'll be trying to grow shade-loving plants or those that prefer higher elevations. We would like to try growing manzanita, redbud, and some maple species."

"Having these plants should be interesting both for our students who are interested in botany and for casual visitors to the garden who will be able to see something new," Swartzell said.
2001-02 Planning Initiative Awards Described

by Richard Jensen

The last two issues of *Inside UNLV* have provided summaries of some of the Planning Initiative Awards that were received last year. These two summaries have provided a brief overview of the richness of research and teaching at UNLV. They also illustrate the opportunities for interdisciplinary work on campus.

This issue completes the description of the awards by focusing on several of the large awards (awards between $10,000 and $30,000). These awards focus on the improvement of education on campus through the creation of videotapes on dance and on the establishment of a creative program where students can interact with nationally recognized scholars. Another grant funded a study on retention of minority students, while two more are funding the purchase of equipment that will improve teaching in biology and physics.

Charlotte Farr of distance education, Joanne Goodwin of the history department, Lorryn Gordon of the dance department, Laurel Pruth of the Hank Greenspun School of Communication, and Aniko Hegedus of distance education received $19,480 to create approximately 60 hours of videocassette on dance to be used by distance education, the history department, the Women's Research Institute of Nevada, and UNLV-TV.

Ann Casados-Mueller of diversity initiatives, Laura Latimer of academic enrichment and outreach, and Alan Schlottman of the economics department received $27,360 to explore issues pertaining to student retention in hopes of identifying factors that positively and negatively impact the retention of minority students.

Mark Guadagnoli and John Mercer of the kinesiology department, Charles Rasmussen of the department of psychology, and Carl Reiber of the department of biological sciences received $29,970 to bring nationally recognized scholars to UNLV to interact with students and faculty. Students then will receive funding for research developed through their interaction with the visiting scholars.

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