At the Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering, we teach our students how to invent, design, build, test, and collaborate. Our professors are well known in their fields and enjoy working closely with students at every level. While research is an integral part of engineering studies, we also provide students with a superb technical education and strong hands-on experience. We educate our students to become not just employees, but employers and entrepreneurs.

**Points of Pride**

- UNLV is one of 20 university teams (including groups from Stanford, Texas, ASU, USC, Austria, Ontario, and the Czech Republic) selected to participate in the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2013. Engineering and architecture students will design then build and operate a solar-powered house that is energy-efficient, affordable, and attractive.

- Every graduating major participates in the Fred and Harriet Cox Senior Design Competition as a team member working on an everyday engineering challenge. Projects involve planning, designing, testing, and then building. Prototypes, judged by a panel of experts, include everything from iPhone apps to retrofitted hybrid cars and efficient water treatment systems. Several patents are pending and at least two projects have led to local tech start-ups.

- Creativity and practicality meet in well-equipped facilities like the Science and Engineering Building’s machine shop and the Mendenhall Innovation & Design Laboratory, where students actually fabricate and test their designs.

- The multicultural engineering program at UNLV is committed to increasing the enrollment, retention, and graduation of engineers from historically underrepresented groups and offers specialized advising and mentoring opportunities.

- When engineering and MBA students collaborate, good things happen, like winning the Dominic Marrocco Southern Nevada Business Plan Competition and the Nevada Governor’s Cup Business Plan Competition. Competition winners have gone on to create LLCs to bring their inventions to market.

- Fully a quarter of the faculty members in the Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering have been named engineering fellows, the most prestigious recognition awarded in their fields.

- Professors S. Ahmad, J. Batista, D. Gerrity, and H. Stephen are studying water resources issues important to the future of Las Vegas. Their work is funded by agencies including the National Science Foundation and the EPA.

- The Applied Geophysics Center, co-directed by Barbara Luke, studies geophysical issues and hazards affecting Southern Nevada so our region is better prepared for earthquakes.
Entertainment engineering, an inter-disciplinary collaboration between engineering and fine arts, combines technical theater and pure engineering and prepares students for work behind the scenes in the entertainment industry. They learn to master the creative use of high and emerging technologies, engineering principles, and artistic vision to create the amazing shows and special effects audiences on Broadway and the Las Vegas Strip have come to expect.

**COMMUNITY**

- Many of the Senior Design Competition projects target local needs. Students have created devices for water purification or conservation, swimming pool safety, and the prevention of tragedies related to children left in parked cars during the summer.

- Prominent companies like NSTec, Varian Medical Systems, Ballytech, JT3, NV Energy, Konami, Cirque, Switch Communications, and Zappos collaborate with the College of Engineering on workforce, curriculum, and program development and R&D activities.

- Engineering faculty participated in nearly all of the Clark County School District’s high school career/college fairs—nearly 30 events—reaching thousands of potential future engineering students. More than 1,000 CCSD students also toured UNLV during the recent Senior Design Competition.

- The Transportation Research Center works with local officials to improve local traffic flow and to research the best ways to tackle challenges like distracted driving and pedestrian safety.

- In 2011, the College of Engineering brought nearly $4 million dollars in grants and contracts to UNLV and the Las Vegas valley.

- The Technology Business Alliance of Nevada has named the dean of the College of Engineering, Rama Venkat, Educator of the Year.

- The Center for Energy Research focuses on solar and renewable technologies and is working with local housing developments to improve energy efficiency.

**Alumni**

In the last 20 years, the College of Engineering has produced more than 3,000 alumni who live and work all over the world. Many still choose to call Southern Nevada home. They include professional engineers, entrepreneurs, government contractors, professors, patent attorneys, and even a Nobel Prize winner, Traci Newton, who was on the team of nuclear inspectors awarded the prize for their work toward finding peaceful uses for nuclear energy.