Highlights

In the College of Sciences, discovery and education go hand-in-hand. We provide innovative and engaging learning environments so students can go on to be researchers, private-industry employees, and health professionals. At UNLV we are conducting exciting research in several areas including biotechnology, nanotechnology, high-pressure science, renewable energy, nuclear materials, and seismic activity.

Points of Pride

• The specialized preprofessional advising program for students interested in medical, dental, and other health professions boasts impressive acceptance rates. Students in Alpha Epsilon Delta, UNLV’s pre-health honor society, achieved an 85 percent acceptance rate into medical school, and 100 percent were accepted into dental school.

• Geoscientist Libby Hausrath studies water-rock interactions and has worked with NASA to examine chemical weathering of rocks on Earth and on Mars.

• Chemists at UNLV are working together to submit a non-provisional U.S. patent for new chemotherapeutic compounds called cisplatin analogs, which may ultimately prove clinically useful in the treatment of cancer.

• The College of Sciences attracts more research grants and contracts to UNLV than any other academic unit at the university.

• Doctoral students Matthew Graham and Michael Webber were the first to discover and verify a new species of scorpion in Death Valley.

• The National Institutes of Health and the USDA are funding the research of microbiologist Helen Wing, who studies disease-causing bacteria and their resistance to antimicrobial compounds.

• Astrophysicist Ken Nagamine and his team of students and postdoctoral researchers are working to solve the puzzle of galaxy formation and supermassive black holes throughout cosmic history.

• *National Geographic* and the National Science Foundation fund the research of geoscientist Matt Lachniet, who studies stalagmites in caves to gather data on past climate changes – research that could help predict future climate cycles.

• *Science* magazine published the findings of a UNLV team that discovered and cultivated a new kind of magnetic bacteria found in Death Valley. This discovery could lead to new biotech and nanotech uses.

• Mining and exploration companies around the world work with geologist Jean Cline, who studies gold deposits, how they form, and where they are located.
COMMUNITY

• The Science and Engineering Building has created an ideal environment for interdisciplinary research that is powering the university’s and the state's efforts for greater economic diversification.

• Several graduates of local high schools have been recognized as McNair Scholars, first-generation, under-represented students who show great promise for graduate education. They are getting research experience in the lab and in the field with internationally known biologists and mentors at UNLV while they study bacterial mutations, hot springs sediments, and steroid-regulated genes.

• College of Sciences students volunteer in clinics and doctors' offices, organize blood drives, feed the homeless, and conduct health education seminars.

• UNLV faculty have worked with Clark County School District elementary school teachers to enrich their knowledge and enthusiasm for science and science education through the VISIONS program.

• The College of Sciences organizes and hosts the Beal Bank USA Southern Nevada Regional Science and Engineering Fair, which promotes science and engineering to Clark County School District students.

ALUMNI

College of Sciences graduates often continue their education, becoming scientists, health professionals, teachers, and field researchers. Here are some who have made their mark in the scientific or professional realms.

Hiba Risheg – discovered the gene causing a form of mental retardation called FG syndrome
Jay Coates – trauma surgeon known for his steady and expert responses to patients with unusual and life-threatening injuries
Jenifer Utz – assistant professor of life sciences at UNLV and a National Science Foundation researcher
Dalilah Wachs – family physician who hosts “The Dr. Dalilah Show,” a highly rated educational radio show answering medical questions