About UNLV

Since its first classes were held in 1957, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) has transformed from a small branch college into a thriving urban research institution. Along the way, UNLV has become an indispensable resource in one of the country’s fastest-growing and most enterprising cities.

Today, UNLV is a doctoral-degree-granting institution of nearly 29,000 students, 3,000 faculty and staff, and more than 100,000 alumni. A federally designated Minority Serving Institution, UNLV has nationally recognized programs in the arts, sciences and health sciences, hospitality, law, and liberal arts.

UNLV is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities

UNLV is an urban research university with a longstanding mission to serve its growing and dynamic region. Within ten years, UNLV will be recognized as a Top Tier public university in research, education, and community impact.

Through its Top Tier initiative, UNLV is educating Southern Nevada’s diversifying population and workforce, driving research and innovation, and forming community connections to support a vibrant and sustainable economy. A new UNLV School of Medicine is scheduled to welcome its charter class in summer 2017 and will be a center of excellence for medical education, patient care, and research.

UNLV in many ways represents the future American university. More than half of the university’s undergraduates come from racial or ethnic minority groups, consistently ranking it as one of the nation’s most diverse. As the entertainment capital of the world, Las Vegas offers students a “living laboratory” for research, internships and a variety of job opportunities.

Student Success – For UNLV’s students, many of whom are first-generation, the university strives to create an environment conducive to academic success – from the day they arrive for orientation, during their time on campus, and into their chosen careers. This includes a booming Honors College, an innovative curriculum with a defined course path for undergraduates, and access to academic and career advising – including a dedicated Academic Success Center.

UNLV has more full-time students than ever – approximately 75 percent – and many are calling campus home, with new residence halls under construction to keep up with demand.

Research and Economic Development – As the largest research university in the state and the only one in Southern Nevada, UNLV is dedicated to developing and supporting the human capital, regional infrastructure, and economic diversification that Nevada needs for a sustainable future. A strong partner in the governor’s economic development plan, UNLV is committed to producing the highly qualified workforce our community needs; bringing more federal and private grant funding to Southern Nevada; and partnering with industry to create new businesses through the commercialization of intellectual property at UNLV.

Community Impact – UNLV’s annual impact to Southern Nevada’s economy is $1.8 billion and growing. The university is working closely with the industry to build degree and professional development programs in health care, hospitality and gaming, engineering, and business. UNLV is home to Nevada’s only law and dental schools, is the largest contributor of teachers and administrators for the nation’s fifth-largest school district, and boasts one of the top university supercomputing centers to support its rapidly evolving big data needs. In fall 2016, UNLV and the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority will partner to host the final presidential debate. This historic event highlights the growing reputation of UNLV and its strong partnership with the community.
UNLV Facts & Stats

Students, Fall 2015

Total Headcount..................................................28,600
Undergraduate..................................................23,801 (83%)
Graduate/Professional*..........................4,819 (17%)
Men.................................................................12,552 (44%)
Women..............................................................16,048 (56%)
Minorities..........................................................15,868 (55%)
Resident.............................................................24,000 (84%)
Nonresident.......................................................4,601 (16%)
*Students enrolled in graduate/professional dual
degree programs are included in both the graduate
and professional categories. Total headcount reflects
unduplicated counts and includes state and non-state
supported enrollments.

Employees, 2015

Total Full-time Headcount.................................3,003
Men.........................................................................1,479 (49.25%)
Women...................................................................1,524 (50.75%)
Minorities..........................................................1,079 (35.97%)
Total Part-time Headcount..................................1,803

Source of Funds, 2015

Total.................................................................$605,416,000
State Appropriations.................................................25.7%
Tuition & Fees..........................................................29%
Grants & Other Contracts.........................................16%
Sales by Auxiliary Enterprises.................................9.3%
Sales by Educational Dept.........................................4.1%
Capital Grants & Endowments.................................9.5%
Private Gifts............................................................3.6%
Other Revenues.......................................................2.8%

Colleges/Divisions

Academic Success Center
Lee Business School
College of Education
Division of Educational Outreach
Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering
College of Fine Arts
Graduate College
Division of Health Sciences
Honors College
William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration
College of Liberal Arts
College of Sciences
Greenspun College of Urban Affairs
UNLV Libraries

Professional Schools

School of Dental Medicine
William S. Boyd School of Law
School of Medicine

University Highlights

Construction is underway on a new home for the Harrah Hotel College,
student housing, and a parking garage to serve a rising student population.

A $72 million modernization of the Thomas & Mack Center is nearly complete, a site for the UNLV
School of Medicine’s first building was selected, and 42 acres of
land was recently acquired west of campus for future growth.

UNLV’s “Metal Rebel” finished eighth in the 2015 DARPA Robotics Challenge,
a Defense Department event that challenged engineering teams worldwide
to create humanoid robots that can navigate a disaster simulation course.

For the third consecutive year, U.S.
News & World Report ranked the
School of Nursing among the nation’s
top 10 percent of online graduate
nursing programs. The school’s
Master of Science in Nursing program
ranked 13th out of 149 programs.

UNLV is one of just 16 universities
worldwide picked for Solar Decathlon
2017, a U.S. Department of Energy
contest that challenges students
to design, build and operate homes that are energy efficient,
affordable and innovative.

Patent applications resulting from
UNLV research, primarily in science,
engineering, and gaming innovation,
have tripled in the last two years.

The UNLV Center for Gaming Innovation,
which supports Las Vegas’ role as
the intellectual capital for global
gaming, has worked with students
on 25 provisional patent applications,
three new companies, and nearly
dozens sold student patents.

UNLV faculty are forging ahead on HIV
prevention, education and treatment. Community health researchers are
increasing participation and treatment
rates in Nigeria, and the Nevada Institute
of Personalized Medicine is using a
promising gene-editing technique to stop
the replication of the virus in its tracks.

Our Students

UNLV welcomed its largest-ever
freshman class for the fourth consecutive
year in 2015. Freshman enrollment
has grown close to 40 percent since
2011, with nearly 75 percent of the
incoming class from Clark County.

UNLV meets federal requirements as
an Hispanic-Serving Institution and an
Asian American, Native-American, and
Pacific-Islander- Serving Institution.
In 2015, U.S. News & World Report
named UNLV the second most diverse
public university in the nation.

Education undergraduate Hannah Kelley
was one of just 54 college students
nationwide to receive a Truman
Scholarship in 2016. The award for
graduate studies is based on academics
and public service leadership potential.
She’s the second consecutive Honors
College student to win the award.

UNLV’s Latin Jazz Ensemble and
drummer Colin Woodford won 2016
DownBeat Magazine Student Music Awards, one of the highest honors
in jazz education. Jazz Studies
students have won 10 DownBeat
Student Awards since 2010.

UNLV’s dance team, the Rebel Girls,
won the national title in Hip Hop at
the 2016 Universal Dance Association
College National Championship. This
is the team’s fourth national title, with

Our Students

UNLV welcomed its largest-ever
freshman class for the fourth consecutive
year in 2015. Freshman enrollment
has grown close to 40 percent since
2011, with nearly 75 percent of the
incoming class from Clark County.

UNLV meets federal requirements as
an Hispanic-Serving Institution and an
Asian American, Native-American, and
Pacific-Islander- Serving Institution.
In 2015, U.S. News & World Report
named UNLV the second most diverse
public university in the nation.

Education undergraduate Hannah Kelley
was one of just 54 college students
nationwide to receive a Truman
Scholarship in 2016. The award for
graduate studies is based on academics
and public service leadership potential.
She’s the second consecutive Honors
College student to win the award.

UNLV’s Latin Jazz Ensemble and
drummer Colin Woodford won 2016
DownBeat Magazine Student Music Awards, one of the highest honors
in jazz education. Jazz Studies
students have won 10 DownBeat
Student Awards since 2010.

UNLV’s dance team, the Rebel Girls,
won the national title in Hip Hop at
the 2016 Universal Dance Association
College National Championship. This
is the team’s fourth national title, with