Drivers & Regional Challenges

- Climate Change
- Growth of intermountain west
- Challenges
  - Infrastructure
  - Innovation
  - Human Capital
  - Quality Places

Brookings, 2008
What is Sustainability?

“Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (Brundtland Report, 1987)

Environmental—Economic
- Energy efficiency
- Incentives for green buildings

Economic—Social
- Ethical business practices
- Fair trade
- Worker’s rights

Environmental—Social
- Environmental justice
- Stewards of the environment

Adapted from the 2002 University of Michigan Sustainability Assessment
USI Mission

To reach out and collaborate with faculty, students, community groups, and national/international leaders in finding solutions for the quality of life challenges confronting the Las Vegas metropolitan area, Nevada, the Southwest, the nation, and world.
USI Goals

- Facilitate interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research, scholarship, and creative activity
- Promote sustainability education
- Conduct targeted outreach to community and beyond
- Encourage campus sustainability
USI Support

- Faculty-Staff Advisory Committee
- Division of Research and Graduate Studies
- Community Partners
- Faculty Scholarship across units
- UNLV 50-100 Strategic Plan
- Students
USI Listserv Faculty

Division of Health Sciences
Unknown
College of Liberal Arts
Greenspun College of Urban Affairs
College of Sciences
College of Fine Arts
William S. Boyd School of Law
College of Education
Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering
William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration
College of Business
Research and Support

- **Graduate Students**
  - Amanda Williams - Geoscience (Ph.D)
  - Mark Salvaggio - Sociology (Ph.D.)
  - Evgeina “Jessie” Bydanova - Economics (M.A.)

- **Urban21 Seed Grants**

- **Undergraduate Researchers working with UNLV Recycling Center**
Community Outreach

- ULI-USI Integrated Resource Management Roundtable
- National Clean Energy Summit (Aug 2008)
- Brookings Institution Roundtable (Oct 2008)
- Climate Change Conference (Mar 2009)
Campus Sustainability Efforts
President’s Climate Commitment Statement

- Campus Recycling Efforts
- Xeriscape Environments
- LEED Certified Facilities
Education Efforts

- Connections to student organizations & student-sponsored events
- Undergraduate and graduate curricular changes
- Internships
- Conferences and seminars
## Examples of UNLV Undergraduate Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENV 101</td>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENV 206</td>
<td>Introduction to Climate Change</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>ENV 430</td>
<td>Land Use Management</td>
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<td>GEOL 110</td>
<td>Global Warming</td>
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<td>GEOL 303</td>
<td>Global Environmental Change</td>
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<td>CEM 350</td>
<td>Facility Systems Design and Construction 1</td>
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<td>CEM 351</td>
<td>Facility Systems Design and Construction 2</td>
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<td>CEM 480</td>
<td>Sustainable Construction</td>
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<td>CEE 454</td>
<td>Solid and Hazardous Wastes Engineering</td>
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<td>CEE 795</td>
<td>Climate Change</td>
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<td>AAE 330</td>
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<td>ABS 331</td>
<td>Environment Control Systems 1</td>
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<td>PSC 403D</td>
<td>Global Environmental Politics</td>
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<td>SOC 407</td>
<td>Environment and Society</td>
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<td>GEOG 116</td>
<td>Introduction to Oceanography</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 140</td>
<td>Conversations With Earth</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Other Programs/Resources

- Undergrad and Graduate Programs
- Association of Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)
Sustainability and
General Education Requirements

- About ¼ of universities in 2008 had some type of requirement (down from 1/3 in 2001)
- Require courses in
  - Environmental literacy along with...
  - Social responsibility or civic engagement requirement
- Infuse sustainability across curriculum
  - Aligned with writing and critical thinking across curriculum
  - Faculty support for development
  - Ponderosa Project (Northern Arizona University)
  - Discipline specific
Outreach – USI Website
http://urban21.unlv.edu