

UNLV-GWLA Program

**Leveraging Library Strengths: Contributions to Undergraduate Education Reform**

Monday, March 14, 2011, 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. PST

Program to be webcast from Greenspun Hall Auditorium

1:30 – 1:35 Welcome and Program Overview

Patricia Iannuzzi, Dean, University Libraries, UNLV

1:35 – 2:15 *The Role of Librarians in Meeting U.S. Goals for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Education*

Alma Clayton-Pederson, former Vice President for Education and Institutional Renewal of the American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U)

[http://www.aacu.org/press\\_room/experts/clayton-pedersen.cfm](http://www.aacu.org/press_room/experts/clayton-pedersen.cfm)

Education in the United States, and higher education particularly, is under intense scrutiny from politicians, foundations, employers, parents, students and the taxpaying public. Politicians and foundations are asking "What is the value added from our education investment?" Employers want to know why college graduates cannot think critically and use information effectively—critical elements of addressing the complexities of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century workplace. Students and parents are asking "What is the return on my investment in my own or my child's education?" The general public is asking "What are students learning to address societies' big questions?" All these questions cry out for basic learning outcomes as well as curricular and co-curricular integration.

This presentation introduces several key initiatives making broad impact on our college campuses and reveals the connections between those initiatives and information literacy. In most cases, information literacy efforts support and advance the success of these initiatives. But the consensus extends beyond a shared agreement on what students should know when they leave college. It extends to a focus on the centrality of student engagement – and the challenge of creating learning experiences that stimulate students' imagination and motivates them to engage in their own learning. This focus on the *way we teach content*—as well as the learning environments we create—offer unprecedented opportunities for librarians to partner with faculty and student affairs professionals on creating these learning experiences. It challenges us to listen to students when they talk about what engages them – what motivates them. And it provides opportunities for educators to learn from each other and from those in other segments of society. These sectors, such as music and gaming, don't seem to have the same challenges in capturing students' attention and engaging them.

2:15 – 2:30 *Focusing on Undergraduate Education during Tough Budget Times: One Campus' Perspective*

Dave James, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Programs, UNLV

State budget cuts of 29% in the past two years, the largest in UNLV's history, have forced the

University to critically evaluate its approach to supporting undergraduate education. However, despite these cuts, UNLV remains committed to improving undergraduate education. Undergraduate education was identified as a major priority in the University's 2008 Focus 50-100 Strategic Plan, and significant institutional changes have taken place to improve student learning and support since that time. Despite budget cuts over the past biennium, UNLV has:

1. Improved student diagnostics for placement and increased student tutoring and advising through creation of an Academic Success Center
2. Improved student enrollment procedures through implementation of a new on-line Web System, MyUNLV, and implemented mid-semester grades
3. proposed a comprehensive reform of the undergraduate education curriculum that includes university wide learning outcomes in both the lower and upper division, first and second year courses, culminating experiences in all majors, and embedding of assessment in all proposed reform steps

In its planning for implementation of its regional accrediting body's new Standards, UNLV re-affirmed its commitment to student education by identifying Student Learning and Success as one of its three major Core Themes.

2:30 – 3:00 *The Educational Role of Libraries*

Patricia Iannuzzi, Dean, UNLV Libraries

This presentation addresses the importance of academic libraries shifting from "library as place" to "library as partner." The future success of academic libraries and librarians will be measured by their contributions as full partners in the education of students. The speaker will offer strategies to position academic libraries in this new role and identify the key factors in higher education and on our campuses to help move academic libraries from participants to leaders in undergraduate education. The talk will offer recommendations to create the necessary culture shift within libraries, on campuses, within regions, and - importantly- with donors. In conclusion, participants will consider steps to turn talk into action, action into evidence, and evidence into sustainable culture shift.

3:00 – 3:20 Break

3:20 – 4:00 *Collaboration in Action* -- Panel of three campus partnerships

1. *An Outcomes Based Approach to Undergraduate Education*

Jennifer Fabbi, Special Assistant to the Dean, University Libraries and  
Carl Reiber, Academic Affairs Fellow, Office of the Executive Vice President & Provost

For over three years, the Libraries have been heavily involved in the creation of a proposal to reform undergraduate education at UNLV. Librarians are serving in key leadership roles as

we transition from a discipline-based, turf-driven curriculum, to one that is based on a set of essential learning outcomes to be infused throughout students' entire experience, in both the curricular and co-curricular arenas. This partnership will outline some of the qualities that position librarians for leadership roles in campus-wide educational initiatives--from developing undergraduate learning outcomes to rising above the credit-count fray.

2. *All Roads Lead to Faculty Development*

Vicki Nozero, Director, Research and Education, University Libraries and  
Christine Bergman, Associate Dean, Harrah's College of Hotel Administration

Summary of three campus-wide faculty development collaborative initiatives in which the University Libraries has played a leading role: the UNLV Faculty Institute on Research Based Learning for High Impact Courses, the Hotel Faculty Institute on Course Design, and the Faculty Collaboratory. A summary of the role of the librarians in the Hotel Institute from the academic faculty point of view is included. More information about the Institutes is in your packet.

3. *Curricular and Co-Curricular Collaborations*

Anne Zald, Head, Instruction, University Libraries and  
Alicia Simon, First Year Experience Program Coordinator, College of Sciences

In addition to the collaborations discussed by preceding speakers, the Libraries is pursuing seemingly disparate collaborations that share a fundamental goal, e.g. engagement with student learning. Zald will outline several of these initiatives while Simon will provide a case study of the impact of these partnerships.

4:00 – 4:30 Discussion with Audience

