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Payment for student senators discussed at UNLV

Current lack of commitment a major argument against compensation



Yell Photo / Maureen Miller

Senate pay? - Student Government Senate has raised the question of whether or not they should be compensated for time spent doing their job.

by Thomas Moore
Reporter

The issue of compensation for student senators has again surfaced among the halls of Student Government. The debate over senate stipends has many people asking whether the benefits of being senator are equal to the responsibilities.

Currently requirements on senators include service on at least two Student Government committees or, be senate pro tempore (senate leader) and on one committee or, act as senate vice president and serve on one committee. Senators must also make at least two class visits in their college each semester of their term so as to better represent their constituency.

Student leaders had no problem with the responsibility aspect of the jobs, but there is some disagreement as to whether they should be paid.

The Senator, Kelly Best, from the College of Engineering, Senate President Gina Polovina and Student Government President Joe Bunin all agreed on the benefits of senatorial service but differed in their attitudes toward cash compensation.

They all agreed that experience was the most obvious motivator, allowing senators to inform prospective employers when applying for other jobs. They also mentioned the chance to meet and help their fellow students, although this seems to be in contrast to the spirit of senate stipends.

Kelly Best said he felt no urgent need to be paid, but did note that it was time he could have spent at work. He said that he "took the job knowing that he would not be paid," and, "if one person is paid then a fair system would pay everyone."

Both Senate President Polovina and Student Government President Bunin agreed on payment in the future, but said the current situation does not warrant stipends.

Polovina referred to the current lack of commitment of the senators as a major argument against compensation. She referred to the high turnover in senate seats as proof. Joe Bunin said he sees the current government structure as an inhibitor, and as the government grows, the time put in by the senators would naturally be worthy of payment.

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UNLV plans first medical school building

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) will begin planning its first medical school thanks to a \$760,000 donation by the late Hazel Stone.

Robert Daugherty, dean of the UNLV's School of Medicine, said that the medical school's Las Vegas programs were currently based in rented space at University Medical Center and the Clark County Community College Allied Health Center.

"As the medical school develops, Las Vegas is emerging as the most dynamic site for our clinical programs," Daugherty said. To that effect, according to Daugherty, the donation arrives at a time when it is needed the most.

The medical school is currently mapping out a strategy for its clinical programs, and trying to decide where to put a building to house its programs in Las Vegas.

Although the medical school was established on a state wide basis in 1969, the buildings were constructed in Reno. Las Vegas faculty and programs have been operating out of rented facilities.

The proposed three story structure will house a clinic for surgery, family practice, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, an administrative facility, classrooms, and a library.

The project is estimated at \$12 to \$14 million, plus land costs.

The \$760,000 donation comes from the estate of Hazel Stone, a 24 year resident of Las Vegas, and widow of character actor Lewis Stone.

Stone appeared in several Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer films, including "Mutiny on the Bounty," and "Treasure Island." He also played the judge in the Andy Hardy film series starring Mickey Rooney.

Earthquake occurrence a high probability for Las Vegas area



Yell Photo / Maureen Miller

Geoscience - Walt Raywood, mineral preparator, discusses how UNLV's own seismograph monitors earth movement from around the world.

by Tracy Clark
Reporter

Many people may not envision an earthquake in Las Vegas. However Nevada, along with California and Alaska, ranks in the top three states subject to large earthquakes.

Over the last 145 years, earthquakes ranging from magnitude three to seven have commonly occurred in Nevada. The largest historical earthquakes occurred some distance from population centers, mostly in the southwestern region of the state. However, no part of the state is far from a potential source of large

earthquakes.

Recently, small magnitude earthquakes, ranging from three to four on the Richter scale, occurred in Boulder City but caused no major damage or injuries.

Geologically young faults, which are the sources of earthquakes, can be found throughout the state. Las Vegas sits on one of those active faults according to Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology.

"In terms of the Las Vegas area, we have a low historical point (for earthquakes). We base the idea of an earthquake occurring on probability," said Dr. David Weide, University of Ne-

vada, Las Vegas geology professor.

Low probability risk is assigned to the Las Vegas area but in areas near Yucca Mountain high probability is based on historical evidence of earthquakes occurring in that area, according to Weide.

Precautions are taken into consideration in future planning at UNLV.

Eric Raecke, assistant director of UNLV physical plant said, "New buildings and future buildings would fare pretty well if we had an earthquake."

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