

# Women's Resource Center becomes a possibility At UNLV, women comprise over half of the student population

by Ilana L. Fiorenza  
Reporter

The need for a women's resource center on campus has recently been proposed by three concerned UNLV students. Many other universities already have women's centers. University of Nevada, Reno, which has half the number of students as UNLV, has had a center for 12 years.

Christine Robinson, a graduate assistant in the sociology department, Melanie McEvoy, and Patsy Borngesser, both women's studies majors, are the three students who have been organizing a proposal to outline the goals and objectives of the center.

"A lot of women and men don't even know what a women's center is," McEvoy said. This lack of knowledge may be the main obstacle in the way of the project's acceptance.

The resource center, according to McEvoy, will be available for all the women in the community of Las Vegas, not just UNLV students. There are many services on the proposed agenda, among them references on educa-

tion, legal help and childcare, information regarding women's health issues, telephone hotlines for rape crisis and abuse, as well as free self-defense courses. They also plan on promoting lectures, local women artists and "the image of females attending UNLV."

The most significant objective of the proposed women's center seems to be networking. The goal of the women's center is "to unite the students and women's community in Las Vegas." There are several small centers in Las Vegas that deal with isolated aspects of women's problems in society, but none that are as all-encompassing as the proposed UNLV center. With the rapidly growing population of the city, a resource center that could handle the many different aspects of women's issues seems to be lacking and necessary.

Although the center will be open to both men and women, McEvoy said it would deal almost exclusively with women.

"Women have different needs; they have special needs. Society tends to cater mostly to men, not women. We need something for

the women," she said. At UNLV women comprise over half of the student population.

The women's resource center is in its early planning stages and as of yet no official proposal has been made. Still, it presents intriguing possibilities for the "minority" population of women on campus. There will be a survey

conducted on campus within the next few weeks to get students' responses on possible programs

the void that exists without a women's resource center. Anyone wishing for more information,

or who wants to become involved in helping with the project may either call

Melanie McEvoy at 456-7190 or stop by FDH Room 651 between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

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