



photo Rob Weidenfeld

The Cray Y-MP 2/216 supercomputer will be used for fossil energy research by the DOE.

UNLV receives supercomputer grant

Recently, UNLV received a \$1.3 million grant to provide supercomputing assistance to the U.S. Department of Energy's Fossil Energy Research program, according to President Robert C. Maxson.

The grant will fund research in the university's Supercomputing Center for Energy and the Environment. The center's staff will train and assist DOE researchers who will use the center's Cray Y-MP 2/216 supercomputer in their

work on coal liquification and gasification, combustion systems, fuel cells, heat engines, enhanced oil recovery, and environmental restoration.

"Our supercomputing center is a magnet for research funding," Maxson said. "We expect the center to continue drawing research grants and projects for many years to come."

Research projects that will make use of the supercomputer

will be selected from all DOE offices at the Pittsburgh Energy Technology Center, Morgantown Energy Technology Center, as well as universities all over the country.

"U.S. Sen. Harry Reid, who has played a significant role in helping to secure federal funding for research at UNLV, was instrumental in our obtaining this funding," said David McNelis, UNLV associate vice president for research.

Professors must publish as well as teach

by William Holt

The reason for any university is to teach, preserve and create knowledge, according to Chris Hudgins, chair of the English department and associate professor of English.

All university instructors are expected to do research and publish their results, as well as conduct classes on a daily basis. Most universities have a seven-year tenure program. During this time, an instructor is expected to publish a predetermined amount of journal articles or books.

Instructors can lose their jobs after the seven years if he or she does not comply with this process. Lack of compliance with publication rules also makes it difficult for the individual to find another job.

"A teacher who merely sticks to the notes and teaches the same thing each year is not desirable no matter what his students think of him," Hudgins said. "A teacher should share the excitement of the new knowledge he has found through research each time he lectures."

Patrick Goodall, former president of UNLV, described the process of earning a degree and then becoming a teacher as "building on a savings account." He said when a person begins to teach, he withdraws from that account. If a teacher doesn't continue to do research and create new knowledge, he will go bankrupt.

Russell Hurlburt, professor of psychology, said he usually has to focus on one or the other, research or instruction. He said it is easier to do research when his teaching load is about six credits, but added that "UNLV makes it hard to teach less when doing semester research."

Hurlburt described the union of research and instruc-

tion as a "synergy" (a whole that consists of more than the combined parts). One enhances the other, a feeling he said he brings to his students. However, he added that one can also make the other suffer.

Currently, Hurlburt is doing work on how schizophrenics (or other mentally ill persons) think as compared to the general populace. He's published one book already.

"People who are exceptional scholars but are average teachers will do OK," said Anthony Ferri, executive assistant to the director of the Greenspun School of Communication. "But if you are not a good teacher, you don't belong in a university no matter what you've published."

Ferri said he has found that people who are excellent scholars are usually good teachers. He said an example of a teacher who does outstanding research as well as instruction is Darlene Unrue, a professor of English.

Many professors will publish books such as course textbooks to earn extra money, Ferri said. He added that much work done by a tenured instructor is judged by its quantity, rather than its quality, and he strongly disagreed.

"You have to like what you're doing," Ferri said. "A good teacher walks into the classroom thinking, 'I know a lot about this subject but not everything.'"

A good instructor should take an honest approach to the classroom and realize the dissemination of knowledge is not a closed case, Ferri said.

"There will always be more," Ferri said. "Everything is under constant change. Niagara Falls, for example, moves back (recedes) about a foot every year."



photo by Rob Weidenfeld

Phi Alpha Delta hosted a cocktail party Friday to begin the Western Regional Finals for the ABA moot Law Competition.

Correction

In the March 10 issue of *The Rebel Yell*, Christoph Micklon was addressed as a resident assistant. His correct title was floor representative. Also, his last name was not spelled correctly.

CORPORATE

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not always as easy as it sounds. There are real-world calamities such as machine failure, wildcat strikes, or even a tumultuous earthquake. But faculty advisor Wayne Label is on hand to lend his expertise.

"These students will be under intense pressure in Reno, but by that time they will be ready to face anything," Label said. "These six were chosen from 27 applicants and they are the best. They put in a lot of time outside of class to meet the competition requirements."

Accounting and finance classes have provided Amy Fletcher, vice-president of economic forecasting, with volumes of practical material. However,

Fletcher said it was SpectraTech that "taught me so much about marketing. I've learned so much about running a business and what a team is. It's amazing how close we are and how we've bonded."

"The people who comprise the Corporate Rebels are chosen because they are driven, motivated and have a high GPA, but by the time we get to Reno, grades are inconsequential because we are dedicated toward a team goal," Reid said in summary.

Being chosen to represent UNLV nationally is an honor that these select students are not likely to forget.

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