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# Student Support Services broadens help for disabled

by Karen Van Splawn

Not all of the university's 2,000 handicapped students realize it, but they have somewhere to turn if they feel they're being discriminated against.

That's why Student Support Services, directed by Anita Stockbauer, wants to broaden its horizons by starting a student access club for the disabled. The group will work to increase understanding of problems handicapped persons face, and for better access in classrooms, Stockbauer said.

"A problem might be someone who's learning disabled, but doesn't want anyone to know," she said, "or a person in a

wheelchair who may not know where ramps are."

Here is an example of what Stockbauer's means: a deaf student was in a speech class where the instructor told her she wouldn't earn better than a C because of her speaking impediment. The instructor also said a sign language interpreter would be far too distracting.

"The issue was that faculty member's ignorance," Stockbauer said. "(But) this is a process we're getting better at. The faculty is much more receptive.

"We're going building by building to enhance each site."

Some examples of this enhancement are having strobe lights, which act as alarms for the hearing impaired, or wider

ramps for wheelchair access.

Faculty can also benefit. "If you're a teacher who needs a braille syllabus, you'd go to the access center," Stockbauer said.

Ball State and Arizona State Universities have centers similar to what Stockbauer wants for UNLV, but the slower road to formation may have to do with the commuter campus nature of UNLV, she said.

"It could have been that population that was here weren't traditional students," she said, adding that now, more and more students who are handicapped are attending school full-time, so they need more services.

## CUTS from page 1

going to ask the Legislature to replace the \$10 million from this year's cuts and add an additional \$10 million."

A savings of \$650,089 will be obtained through a workforce reduction and a hiring freeze throughout campus.

"We don't anticipate laying any people off," Sparks added.

"We're not going to be able to offer as many courses," said Buster Neel, vice president of Finance and Administration, in reference to the hiring freeze and workforce reduction. "We are making every effort to pump up money into teaching positions. We will offer as many courses as possible."

Most of the new monies scheduled to be received next year, totaling \$5.64 million, will be returned. These include scholarships, faculty positions, graduate assistants, instructional support positions and equipment.

Reductions for this year's operating budget total \$600,000. An estimated \$827,469 will be deferred from the merit pool through next year, the Thomas & Mack Center will reduce its special project fund by \$449,344 and \$100,000 is cut from the law school study.

"During a recession growth goes up," Sparks said. "When people lose their jobs they tend to come back to our institution."

Enrollment for the University and Community College System of Nevada has been up 8 to 9 percent per year system-wide, with a slightly lower enrollment this year.

There were five new buildings approved for pre-design and engineering in the last legislative session, but when it comes time for the money for construction, an estimated \$62.5 million, there may be problems obtaining the money if the current recession continues, he said.

There will also be nine more building proposals put before the next legislative session, with an estimated \$10 million to \$15 million in advanced planning fees if passed,



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