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Chancellor happy with budget approved by Legislature

BY WILLIE PUCHERT
NEWS EDITOR

Despite more than a 30 percent reduction in the amount requested from the Legislature for the University and Community College System of Nevada, Chancellor Richard Jarvis says he is pleased with the \$604.2 million allocation for 1995-97.

The original budget request for the UCCSN was \$768.4 million.

"For me this is a very, very good budget," Jarvis said of the 18 percent increase from the last biennium.

According to the chancellor, the funding request focused significantly on salary adjustments. "You need to make the statement that you believe that your employees have been working hard," he said.

The new budget includes Gov. Bob Miller's recommended pay raises for state employees. For this year, professional employees, such as administrators and instructors, received a 4 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) and are eligible to share in a 2.5 percent merit pool. Classified workers, which include grounds maintenance and office assistant employees, received a 5 percent COLA increase. Next year both will receive a 3 percent COLA increase and are eligible to share in a 2.5 percent merit pool.

The new operating budget includes the following funding breakdown:

- \$462.4 million from the state General Fund
- \$82 million in registration fees
- \$28.8 million in tuition charges
- \$5.6 million in federal funds
- \$5 million in estate tax
- \$20.4 million in other funds

Students are paying \$3 more per credit in registration fees, which will in part make up for the 30 percent decrease in requested funds.

"I felt it was my job to say to (students): 'Is there a marginal amount which I could ask you for which would make a significant difference in the quality of your experience?'" Jarvis said.

The fee increase was narrowly passed by the Board of Regents earlier this year. According to Jarvis, the regents considered the input of students before the vote.

"Most of the students that we spent the time with...I feel sat down and said, 'Look, if I see something for this, if I see longer library hours, more computer labs, more counselors, more daycare...then I think it's worth the three bucks a credit.'

"On the other hand, if I don't see those, then I'm upset and you are doing it off the backs

of students," Jarvis said.

The chancellor said he welcomed reforms enacted by the Legislature such as Assembly Bill 79, introduced by Assembly Co-Speaker Joe Dini (D-Yerrington), which "requires a legislative auditor to conduct a performance audit of the UCCSN."

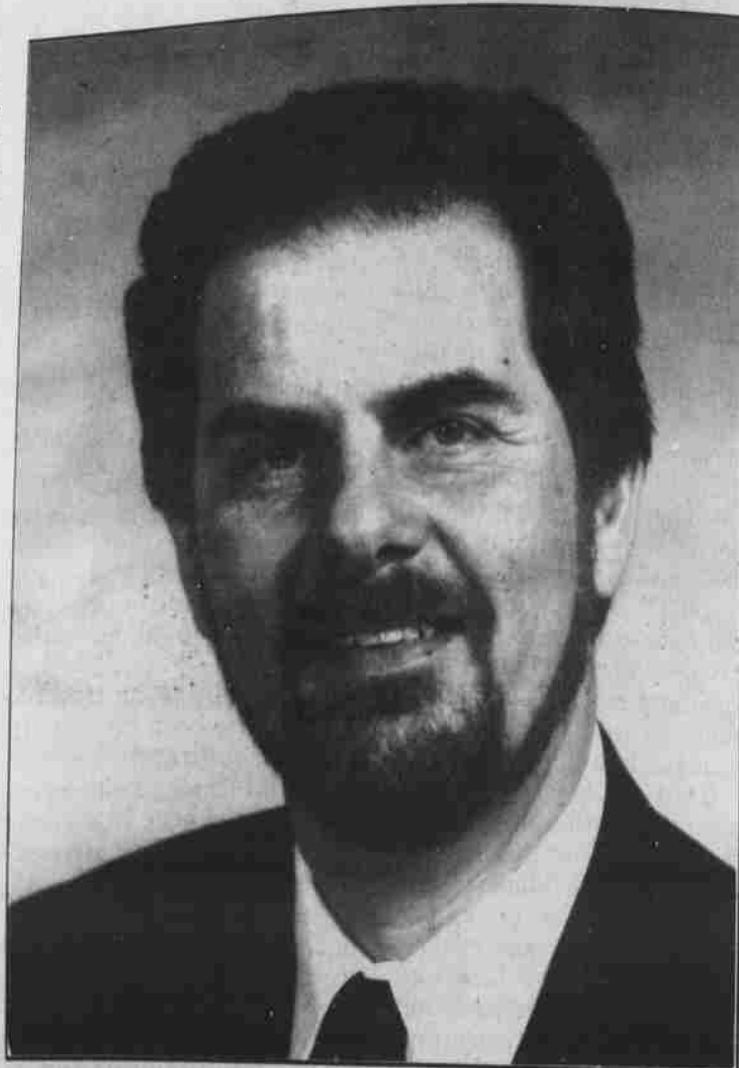
"I always welcome an audit," Jarvis said. "We have got to have the confidence of the people of the state. If they find things that we are doing that can be improved, I'm going to adopt them."

The call for an audit stemmed from the university system's handling of financial controversies, such as former UNLV Basketball coach Rolie Massimino's secret contract.

Jarvis, who was appointed chancellor last October, reflected on the past 11 months as "a very good year."

He said his accomplishments include the budget approval, sustaining fiscal accountability and working with four new presidents at UNLV, the Community College of Southern Nevada, Truckee Meadows Community College and Western Nevada Community College.

Before being appointed chancellor by the regents, Jarvis served as acting provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs and vice provost for academic programs



Jarvis

and research for the State University of New York, Albany. He has held several other administrative and teaching positions for SUNY.

Jarvis holds a Ph.D., an MA

and a BA in geography from Cambridge University, England.

"For me, this has been the best move of my life," he said

New Regent leadership

BY WILLIE PUCHERT
NEWS EDITOR

Leadership of the Board of Regents changed hands in June, with Madison Graves elected as chair and Jill Talbot Derby elected as vice-chair.

Graves, 49, of Las Vegas, served as vice-chair from 1993-95, and replaces Jim Eardley of Sparks. Graves has served half of his first six-year term, and plans to streamline the process for submitting initiatives and other reforms to the university system which go before the regents.

"I'm going to strive for openness and accountability," he said.

Graves has served on numerous committees during his tenure on the Board of Regents, including the Ad-hoc Truckee Meadows Community College Presidential Search Committee, 1994-95; the Ad-hoc Chancellor's Search Committee, 1993-94, which he chaired; and also served as legislative liaison, 1993-94.

A home builder and developer, Graves is a member of several professional organizations, including the Las Vegas Board of Realtors, the Southern Ne-



Graves



Derby

vada Home Builders Association, the UNLV President's Inner Circle and the UNLV President's Associates.

His civic service includes membership in the American Legion, the Las Vegas Elk's Lodge, the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce and the UNLV Alumni Association.

Graves holds a B.A. in political science from the University of Nevada, Reno.

Derby, 55, of Gardnerville, is serving her second term on the Board. She has a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of California, Davis and a B.A. in anthropology from UNLV.

Derby has taught at Sierra Nevada College, Western Nevada Community College and the University of San Francisco. She has also served as a lecturer and consultant in administrative law.

Derby served on the Judicial Selection Committee for the State of Nevada in 1986; the Nevada Department of Human Resources Foster Parent Review Team, 1979-87; and was chair of the Nevada Women's Political Caucus from 1979-83.

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