

Senate resignations leave five vacancies

BY CATINA HAVERLOCK
STAFF NEWS WRITER

Student government will begin the semester with five vacant Senate positions, Senate President Pat Smith announced Monday.

The resigning Senators include Melanie Trotter, architecture; Carl Tolbert, communication; Catherine Monaco, business and economics; Thrace Griffith, health science; and Erik Stengel, student development.

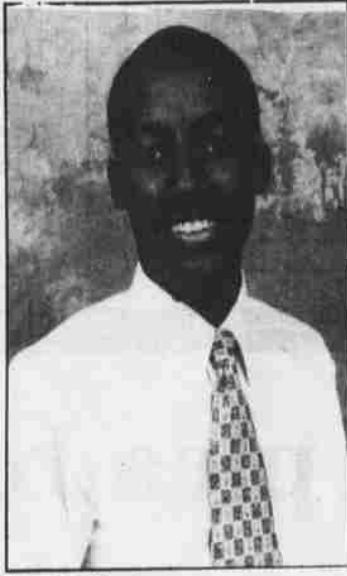
Though speculation has it some Senators were forced to resign for failing to meet the 2.0 grade point average requirement, Smith refused to comment on the issue saying only, "I have received some resignations."

Smith admitted voluntary resignation is an option for Senators failing to meet grade requirements. He added that if Senators who don't make grades do not resign, there are provisions in the CSUN constitution which allow student government to remove the Senators from their seats.

Student government also has the option to waive the CSUN constitutional bylaw for Senators failing to make grade requirements, as was the case with Organization Board Director Toby Cole.

Cole, who completed last semester with a 1.0 GPA, said a computer error was the reason for his failure to meet the 2.0 GPA requirement for student government officials.

Rumors continue to circulate among student govern-



Carl Tolbert

ment officials that some Senators resigned due to grades.

Tolbert, who sprained his ankle during the winter break, said medical reasons are forcing him to resign. He denied grades had anything to do with his decision.

"Don't believe rumors of grades," Tolbert said. "I'm having medical problems and won't be able to be as involved."

Tolbert thanked Smith for not disclosing information concerning his eligibility and said he planned on returning to the Senate next semester.

Greenspun School of Communication students circulated a petition calling for Tolbert's impeachment last semester, claiming Tolbert obtained his seat through unethical means.

Communication senior Erin Finley said she's pleased with Tolbert's resignation.

"I'm glad he's not representing us anymore and hope whoever replaces him is truly from the communication department and can represent us effectively," Finley said.

"It not only matters who the person is but how they got there," Finley continued. "I never understood how he could sit there and claim to represent a body of students who neither elected him nor wanted him there."

Trotter sighted a demanding schedule as the reason for her resignation. "It's too time-consuming," said Trotter, who takes six to seven classes each semester, including Saturday classes.

"My only regret is that I like the leadership and I want to know where the money is being allocated," Trotter added.

Despite the number of Senate vacancies, Smith said he is optimistic about students' continued interest in filling the positions.

"Historically there have always been openings," said Smith, who has been involved with student government for more than three years.

Smith said the new \$200 monthly stipend Senators now receive is probably a contributing factor to the minimal vacancies in the Senate, adding, "I think we've gone the longest with a full Senate this year."

Smith said he hopes to fill the vacancies on Feb. 11. Student government will vote as a body on who to appoint to the vacant Senate seats.

tion of learning about Internet resources, UNIX, using Windows, using Word Perfect and netscaping. The cost per seminar to students and faculty is \$10. A comparable program through a private company may cost up to \$240, according to Jean Starr, lab supervisor at UNLV.

"People love the classes," Starr said Tuesday. "Anybody who doesn't take advantage of the program is a fool," Starr continued.

According to Susan Bunyan, manager of the User Liaison for SCS, the \$10 registration fee students and faculty members are charged per seminar covers printing and other overhead costs.

Seminar instructors are User Liaison staff members who's job responsibilities include teaching seminars each semester. They receive no additional payment for their participation in the program.

Approximately 250 people participate in the program each semester, Bunyan said. A greater number of faculty and staff members than students take advantage of the seminars each semester, according to Bunyan, although program coordinators are hopeful that student participation will increase in the future.

"It is critical to learn to use computers," said UNLV senior Jim Lavender. "Computers are

the future." Lavender says he will enroll in a seminar this semester to enhance his computer skills.

Students do not receive academic credit from the university for attending a seminar but do receive a certificate of completion.

Maximum enrollment per seminar is 13. Early registration is encouraged. While it is possible to register up until the day of the seminar, early registration is advised. According to Bunyan, Internet seminars are the most popular and tend to fill up sooner than others.

For more information, contact User Liaison at 895-4585.

Crime Beat

Monday Jan. 22

7:23 a.m. McDermott Physical Education—New construction area spray-painted over the weekend.

2:15 p.m. Tonopah Hall—Bicycle stolen

2:42 p.m. FDH—Threats made to professor by student for showing work to others.

4:07 p.m. Tropicana Ave.—Male subject arrested for DUI.

5:05 p.m. McDermott Physical Education—Male dislocated shoulder during class, transported to hospital.

6:35 p.m. MSU—Female student being stalked by male subject.

Tuesday Jan. 23

10:00 p.m. Boyd Hall—Items taken from dorm room over Christmas break.

12:25 p.m. Judy Bailey Theater—Suspect left burglary tool behind after owner of vehicle frightened him away.

4:00 p.m. Maryland Pkwy—Female student reported missing parking permit after she had car washed.

4:33 p.m. Dickinson Library—Bag taken by unknown subject.

Wednesday Jan. 24

6:08 a.m. Lily Fong Geoscience Bldg.—Motor vehicle accident between car and cart, no injuries.

11:39 a.m. CBC—Purse

taken from classroom. 2:57 p.m. Tonopah Hall—Petty larceny.

9:53 p.m. T&M—Unknown suspect attempted to take vehicle.

9:53 p.m. T&M—Vehicle stolen by unknown suspect.

Thursday Jan. 25

3:15 p.m. Parking lot E—Damage done to parked vehicle.

6:23 p.m. FDH—Woman's purse taken.

7:09 p.m. CBC—Cellular phone left in bathroom.

Friday Jan. 26

11:04 a.m. Architecture Annex—Printer missing from trailer.

3:12 p.m. Physics Building—Woman stalked by husband.

4:09 p.m. Parking lot Y—attempted theft of vehicle.

11:40 p.m. Rodman Hall—Fire department dispatched for false alarm on second floor.

Saturday Jan. 27

2:14 a.m. Parking lot L—Driver arrested for DUI in front of tennis complex.

10:38 p.m. Parking lot E—Male subject arrested for attempted theft of vehicle.

Sunday Jan. 28

7:20 p.m. Williams Hall—Smoke detector went off on third floor. Two dogs and narcotic paraphernalia found while searching for smoldering fire.

9:15 p.m. Williams Hall—Student claims money and a basketball were taken out of room during fire alarm.

Computer seminars offered

BY APRIL PARTRIDGE
CONTRIBUTING NEWS WRITER

Systems Computing Services is offering computer seminars to UNLV students, faculty and staff at a reduced rate.

A variety of seminars are offered throughout the semester. Participants have the op-

tion of learning about Internet resources, UNIX, using Windows, using Word Perfect and netscaping. The cost per seminar to students and faculty is \$10. A comparable program through a private company may cost up to \$240, according to Jean Starr, lab supervisor at UNLV.

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Raise

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Steve Hagen, director of the office of student information, agrees. "Brian works quite hard," Hagen said Tuesday. "He probably spends more money out of his own pocket than he makes."

Liberal Arts Senator Shawna Campbell defended her vote to financially compensate Saliba for his hard work. "Brian didn't ask for the raise," Campbell said Monday. "But he deserves it."

"His work is exceptional,

above and beyond the call of duty," said Senate President Pro-Tempore Terry Moore.

A senior majoring in communication, Saliba was appointed to the position of E&P director in August. He served on the E&P committee for three years prior to his appointment to the directorship, and also served on the Senate as a representative for the College of Business and Economics before changing his major to communications.

Saliba's primary responsibility as director of E&P is organizing student government-sponsored musical, comedy and acoustical performances.

"I'm responsible for giving students a campus life (in addition to) the Moyer Student Union," Saliba said Tuesday. "I try to break the monotony by giving students a bit of entertainment here and there."

In addition to being a full-time student, Saliba spends approximately 40 hours per week planning campus activities, organizing events and contacting performers.

"It's a trade-off," Saliba said of his job and the work it entails. "Most students would jump at the chance to be in this position, with or without the raise."

Dorm

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to the pound. According to the roommates, the door to their dorm room was left unlocked after the search was conducted and money and a basketball were stolen from their quarters. Both students requested anonymity.

Freshman Adam Beauchamp, hotel administration, returned to his dorm room at approximately 9:15 p.m. Sunday. He claims his door was unlocked, desk drawers were removed and strewn on the floor and several boxes were pulled from underneath his bed.

"I was ready to call the police until I found out from my neighbor that they were already aware of the situation",

Beauchamp said. "I thought I had been robbed."

One student found in violation of dorm rules for the possession of narcotics admitted to violating the fire code by having candles and incense in his room. Firefighters ignored these violations during their investigation but seized the narcotics.

ACLU Attorney Kevin Keenan said Tuesday any violations of the dorm rules not associated with the fire code, including possession of narcotics, would be difficult, if not impossible, to prosecute.

"The fire department had the right to do the things they did, but that doesn't mean it was fair or proper," Keenan said. He added it would be unconstitutional to prosecute students possessing illegal substances seized during the search.