

THE REBEL YELL

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Veep Debate Results



Al Gore 50%
Jack Kemp 27%
Undecided 21%

Source: ABC News Survey

Library dean demoted by provost

By Claudia Salas
News Editor

UNLV Provost Douglas Ferraro announced Tuesday the immediate reassignment of Library Dean Matthew Simon to a tenured faculty position in the James R. Dickinson Library.

Simon, who on Monday told *The Rebel Yell* that he was publicly humiliated by the provost following an Oct. 1 Faculty Senate meeting, said, "I was called into a meeting in (Ferraro's) office at 2 p.m. on Tuesday. I was asked to resign and I answered that I was not ready. There are still things I want to do.

"I don't feel that I've been handled particularly well," Simon said of his demotion. "I feel it's less based on inadequacies but rather on personality.

"The question that stands is if they are firing me on the substantive grounds or are they firing me on grounds of personality," Simon continued. "Is it that they don't like the way that I look or they don't like the way that I talk or that they don't like the way that I handle

myself at meetings."

Simon, who headed the social sciences libraries at Columbia University in New York and was chief librarian and a professor of library sciences for 13 years at Queens College in New York prior to coming to UNLV in 1993, said, "As administrators those of us who run large organizations are frequently required to deal with people who in terms of style, in terms of administrative technique, do not necessarily match or meet seeing things."

Ferraro contends Simon's demotion was not unwarranted. "The performance of (Simon) has been on review for several months and as a result of the review he is not the best person to be leading the library at this time."

Communications professor Evan Blythin isn't convinced. "With the current leadership, anyone who sticks out either in style or substance, they're going to be knocked off at the knees," he said of Simon's demotion. (Upper administration) seems incapable of giving anybody else credit for anything.



PHOTO: Gregg Benson, staff photographer
Dean Simon packs his bags after being demoted by Provost Ferraro.

"The truth is Simon is a touch arrogant," Blythin continued. "He's good at what he does and he's been really dedicated at creating a library that is state-of-the-art and he's pushed hard to get it. "The sad thing is that when he should be getting merits and rewards, he's getting publicly humiliated and demoted."

"In general, going out and removing people and instilling fears in them isn't the best management practice," said CSUN President Aaron Rosenthal. "But I think chief administrators at UNLV have every right to bring in a manage-

ment team they feel will get the job done.

"I don't think (Simon's demotion) reflects on (UNLV President Carol Harter) and Ferraro," Rosenthal continued. "It reflects on the situation."

Director of News and Public Information Tom Flagg delivered Wednesday to *The Rebel Yell* a letter to Ferraro from Classified Staff Association President Marta Sorkin. In the letter, Sorkin expressed concern about Simon as an authority figure.

SEE SIMON, PAGE 2

Diversity report: Females underrepresented

By Willie Puchert
Contributing News Writer

UNLV makes progress in minority student enrollment

Female employees are underrepresented at UNLV, a recent University and Community College System diversity report revealed.

The report indicated a decline in UNLV female personnel in the following areas: 1 percent in administrative positions, 3 percent in faculty, 6.3 percent in professional/technical personnel, 1.9 percent in

secretarial/clerical employees and 3 percent in service and maintenance employees.

Female skilled craft employees remain underrepresented at UNLV. Female faculty and service employees at the university are the most underrepresented group systemwide. Among the university's part-time employees, females comprise 53 percent.

Regent Shelley Berkley said UNLV President Carol Harter has made progress toward increasing minority representation in managerial positions at the university, citing the recent appointments of Juanita Fane to dean of enrollment and management and Rebecca Mills to assistant to the president for planning.

(Harter) has pledged to advance

qualified women and other minorities in her administration," Berkley said.

"Our proactive stand on diversity has been in existence before California's anti-affirmative action stance. I believe Nevada will be the model for (diversity) in the nation."

—Shelley Berkley,
UCCSN regent

While progress was made in all job categories, minorities remain underrepresented among faculty, administrators and skilled craft employees at UNLV and systemwide. Forty percent of minority targets were met systemwide with an additional 16 percent progress. Little or no progress was made in 44 percent of minority targets.

The total population of minority students at UNLV increased 1.1 percent, but Hispanic, African American and American Indians remain underrepresented. Asian students have exceeded their targets at UNLV and systemwide.

UNLV and Western Nevada Community College were the only campuses to make progress towards their diversity goals with

respect to African American students.

"We probably have more black students in the Las Vegas area high schools compared to the rest of the state," said Jose Escobedo, UNLV director of Human Resources and acting affirmative officer.

"It looks like we are pretty much on target."

Berkley denied any speculation that UCCSN's positive diversity stance is a reaction to the University of California's recent changes to its affirmative action policies.

"Our proactive stand on diversity has been in existence before California's anti-affirmative action stance," Berkley said.

"I believe Nevada will be the model for (diversity) in the nation."

Writing center offers students basic skills workshops

By Kareen Hale
Staff News Writer

The UNLV Writing Center is co-sponsoring with CSUN a series of free workshops beginning Monday for students needing refresher courses in basic composition skills.

Several topics will be addressed throughout the 90-minute lectures, including "Back to Basics," which will focus on constructing an effective thesis, building paragraphs and essay structuring.

"Six Deadly Sins" will deal with common grammar and punctuation problems. "Writing with Style" will address editing sentences, while

"International English: ESITrouble Spots" will cover documentation techniques and incorporating cited works into papers.

Each workshop will be repeated several times over a four-week period, providing students instruction about various topics guiding them as they practice those skills.

Students are invited to attend any of the workshops.

To ensure a spot, students are encouraged to sign up in advance at the Writing Center located in room 240 of the Flora Dungan Humanities building or to call 895-3908 for reservations. Schedules of sessions, rooms and times are avail-

able at the Writing Center.
Writing Center Director Tracey

"We want students to come and we want them to bring their friends... These workshops are going to be a lot of fun."

—Tracey Schwarze,
Writing Center director

Schwarze said she is encouraged by the center's success in its few weeks of operation. "It's going very well," she said. "We're seeing 20 to 25 people a day."

Schwarze and the center's staff of nine graduate students have met a wide range of student needs. English essay writing pointers, easing language transitions for international students and helping graduate school applicants, are among the services rendered.

A writing lab existed at UNLV in the past but it lacked the structure and the funding required to make it as accessible and as successful as the current center,

Schwarze said.

Schwarze credits CSUN for funding the project. "(CSUN) deserves much of the praise (for the Writing Center's success)," she said.

"We knew there was a need for the Writing Center," Schwarze continued, adding that she's confident students will utilize the center once it's firmly in place and visible to students.

"We want students to come and we want them to bring their friends," Schwarze said. "These workshops are going to be a lot of fun. We just hope that students will take advantage of the program."