

**Registration for Summer Term begins April 23**  
Check the Summer Registration Schedule for more details.

## Regents to consider new two degree programs at UNLV

Staff report

The Board of Regents will vote on a proposal to establish a Master's of Fine Arts in Creative Writing and a Master's plus a doctoral program in Environmental Science during this week's meeting at the Desert Research Institute, Las Vegas.

The M.F.A. in Creative Writing is designed to develop a student's talent in writing fiction or poetry and in editing and translation skills. It is a three-year program to be offered within the Department of English and has a projected budget of \$82,500 the first four years.

"The M.F.A. is considered to be the terminal degree in the field by most state and private colleges and universities," the proposal states. "This degree program, with its unique international emphasis, has the potential to be the best in the West quite soon, and one of the best in the country as the program develops and grows."

The M.A. and Ph. D in Environmental Science will include 11 faculty from The Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies, DRI and eventually the new law school. The program will initially specialize in Environmental Chemistry, Environmental Policy and Management and Environmental Geology and eventually concentrate in such fields as Environmental Health and Environmental Law.

The program has a projected budget of \$140,000 for the first four years.

"Recent estimates indicate, depending on the area of specialization, job growth in environmental careers will occur at the rate of 1 to 25 percent per year for the next decade," the proposal stated. "Locally, problems of air and water quality, management of hazardous and radioactive materials, biodiversity and resource extraction demonstrate the need for such a program like this."

Both degree programs must meet approval with the Regent's Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee before going to a vote of the full board.

### BAYNO,

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The recruiting budget was increased to \$90,000 for the 1998-99 season. Additional money will come from outside of the university, from a single targeted game where the profits will be earmarked for recruiting.

Bayno also requested and received more available access to the T&M for basketball related events. This ensures that the Runnin' Rebels will get more practice time in the T&M and that other events, such as Disney On Ice's Pocohantas, will not be scheduled during the playoffs.

The Runnin' Rebels averaged 14,273 fans at the T&M in 14 dates which included the season ticket average. UNLV had a season high crowd of 18,024 against Fresno State on Feb. 17.

### REFUND,

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stitutions within the University and Community College System of Nevada are seeking to raise student fees.

International students at the Community College, Southern Nevada will be asked to pay a \$50 processing fee and \$15 per course.

University of Nevada, Reno correspondence students will be charged a differentiated fee of \$70 for undergraduate courses and \$90 for the graduate level

"While it is clear that any fee increases are of concern to both the student and the institution, the number and level of increases proposed for the 1997-98 year is as limited as it has been in years," the UCCSN proposal read. "The combination of low registration fee increases, ... low increases in other fees and growing financial aid should be sufficient to continue their education and attract new students."

## The last challenge of a socially conscious society?

Depression strikes millions— indiscriminately. Depression is simply a suppression of brain activity that makes life unbearable. And even though depression is readily treatable, only 1 in 5 ever seeks treatment. Why do so many just drag themselves along or eventually seek relief through suicide? First, there's the lack of awareness of depression— as an illness and as the threat that it is to each and every one of us. Second, there's the unwarranted negative stigma attached to it. You know, the 'mental' thing. It's time to collectively face depression. To know it's an illness, not a weakness. And it's a challenge that's long overdue. It's taken too many of us already.

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