

# New teaching program launched at UNLV

By **Francie Angelov**  
Staff Features Writer

A new program, which is a collaboration between the College of Education and the Clark County School District, is set to take flight this summer as some 20 teacher interns will enter several elementary school classrooms. The new program, the Urban Teaching Partnership (UTP) is set to provide a quality, intensive accelerated teaching program for students who already have baccalaureate degrees and who are interested in teaching in a diverse, urban setting.

The interns, who were selected in an earlier elimination process, represent many different ages and backgrounds but all with the same career goal: to teach in an urban setting. The onsite internship program will be held for the duration of one school year at two elementary school sites; Walter Bracken Elementary School and Oran Gragson Elementary School. Those interested in teaching in a secondary situation will have their on-site instruction held at Eldorado High School beginning this fall.

According to the UTP program goals, "The program is a unique partnership which has been developed with the CCSD and UNLV to strengthen the relationship between the two entities as well as increase the number of high-quality novice urban teachers, included those from under-represented groups, and will include experienced teachers as mentors in the preparation of novice teachers."

When the program begins, teachers and university faculty will work together to solve educational problems faced at the individual sites.

"The College of Education will work together collaboratively

for the implementation of this program," said Dr. Steven Kile, secondary education. Others working hard on the beginnings of the program, as well as those who will be there throughout the duration of the program include Dr. Marilyn McKinney and Dr. Sandra Odell (in elementary education); Dr. Susan Miller (in special education) and Sr. Peggy Perkins (in educational psychology).

The representatives with the CCSD include Assistant Superintendent George Ann Rice and CCSD Staff Development representative Karyn Wright.

After the completion of the year-long program, close to 50 interns will then receive teaching

licensing from the state as well as possible employment opportunities through the school district. Performance of the interns during the program will be evaluated closely during the program by the UNLV representatives as well as the teaching mentors the interns will be working closely with during the course of the program.

Interns at Eldorado High School will work in several departments including science, math, English, Spanish, art and theater. CCSD statistics show that there is a critical shortage of teachers in the fields of special education, bilingual education and teaching english as a second language.

Those UNLV students who are graduating this spring or summer who may be interested in participating in the program during the 1999/2000 school-year, can apply for admission to the UTP beginning in the fall. Admission to the UTP is highly competitive and is limited to a select amount of students. To be considered for the program, a student must:

- have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited educational institution. Be interested in teaching in secondary settings with a bachelor's in a teaching subject recognized by the State of Nevada.
- be committed to work in diverse, urban settings.

· be available to attend university classes and work in the classroom setting during public school hours for one academic year.

· have a grade point average of a 2.5 or higher.

· pass the three sections of the Pre-Professionals Skills Test (PPST).

· complete or test out of Nevada Constitution, US Constitution and Nevada School Law.

To get an application for the next UPT admissions, send a request to: College of Education, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 4505 Maryland Parkway, Box #453049, Las Vegas, NV 89154-3049. Or contact the UPT Office at 895-1290.



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