

Administration finally passes Graduation 101

The administration has finally passed Graduation 101. And it only took them 40 years to do it. Thanks in large part to University President Carol Harter, UNLV has decided to hold December graduation ceremonies for the first time. But if it had not been for the efforts of Za' Keisha Jones, the student who wrote the letter to the administration voicing her concerns over the lack of a ceremony for December graduates, the administration would have not seen the errors of their way. And why did it take them so long to finally have December graduation?

Last year, commencement director Donald Schmiedel said there were not enough graduates in December to actually have a ceremony. He also said that "it would not be economical or efficient to do that much work for the benefit." Well coming from an administrator at a school that supposedly prides itself on being here for the students, that is an extremely weak excuse for not having a ceremony. It seemed as though another year would pass before the December graduation dream would become a reality. But thanks to the efforts of Harter, the faculty and staff will perform ceremonies this fall for the thousand or so graduates who have earned that right. If the administration is so con-

cerned with having to work a few more hours, then so be it. These students who graduate in December deserve to be recognized in a formal ceremony instead of waiting five months to walk the line. To the procrastinators who did not want to work the extra hours: Considering UNLV recently ranked seventh in *U.S. News and World Report's* guide to the West's best public colleges, it was asinine to not have a ceremony to thank the students who helped you achieve that status. And to you Mr. Schmiedel, how can you say it is not economical or efficient? These students pay thousands of dollars a year to come to UNLV to get an education and your thanks to them for their hard work was a simple certificate.

It is about time that some of the administrators got off their high horses and realized that there are more important things in education than money. Students who spend a lot of hard work and effort to get through college should not be penalized because the administration and the faculty doesn't want to have to spend their day at graduation. It is a shame to think that someone actually thought you gave a damn about the school and the students. Since this is "the premier urban university," one would think that you would try your hardest to accommodate your students and make them feel appreciated. Considering it took you 40 years to get around to having a graduation

in December, we feel that you have not only disgraced yourselves, but the entire university. You have sent a message that you really don't care about the students and that you are only here for yourselves. We commend Harter for her action by standing up to the faculty that did not want to spend an extra weekend helping their students and for her efforts to forge ahead with the plans to get this year's ceremony rolling in the right direction. But, it is an atrocity to have to have a student bring it to your attention that you have done a disservice to yourself and every student on the UNLV campus. It only took your 40 years to finally pass this class.

CSUN: A pack of fun-loving, Delta Chi problem solvers

By Eric Gruzen
Opinion Editor

Another year, another administration. UNLV students, motivated by free pizza give-aways, went to the polls in packs last semester and voted for our new leadership, that will take UNLV to the next level, a higher plateau, if you will. These promises were all made by the three people that the students decided to elect. Student Body President Will Price, Vice President Scott Ceci and Senate President Rick Kimbrough all braved the tough elections to convince everyone they should be in charge of UNLV students. Except Kimbrough, they couldn't find anyone to run against him.

Let's look at these three guys and their "promises" for UNLV in the coming year. If I may go out on a limb, I think it is safe to say that Will Price will not, in fact probably could not, run the campus like former President Joe Mills did. You see, Will is smart, and therein lies the difference. However, Price, as recently as in last week's *Rebel Yell*, made promises that, if read correctly, did not amount to anything within his control. He said it himself, "The bottom line on what you can expect from our administration is a commitment to the needs of the students." What that means is that the administration will not do anything new, but will only cater to possible prob-

lems that may arise. He then goes on to ask for feedback from students. I think it is because there is a possible idea for him. Another well written, but meaningless sentence: "...this year more than ever, the members of Student Government are committed to doing whatever it takes to make life at UNLV the absolute best." Someone tell me what that means. In two separate paragraphs Price has eloquently said that they will fix whatever happens, and make life great for UNLV students, not how they will do it, but just that they will do it. Rest assured, Price promises that scantrons will be plentiful, blue books will generously given out, pencils will

be given out like they grow on trees. Plus legal advice to all students. And what UNLV student hasn't needed a little legal advice once in their life? Moving on to our Vice President Scott Ceci. I will not attempt to claim that I know anything about the office of the vice president (at UNLV) but I can assume that there are very small tasks involved. What they are I gather is to make everything fun and get people out to concerts and football games, etc. I'll tell you what, if Scott Ceci came up to me and told me to go to a certain event, I would go, just because I am scared of him! Anyone who has seen him knows what I mean. I am kidding, but it is up to him to actually plan events that will spend a whole lot

of our tuition money, and I would hate to see anymore of that go to waste. But relax, there is an easy way to raise more money, just increase fees, but that is the school administration, and a whole different article altogether. But Ceci also mentions "fun." Actually he typed it in capital letters. So at least we will have a fun administration, but we still aren't sure how to get that fun stuff accomplished. In fairness, Kimbrough never does mention fun, and if you have ever met him, you know why. I am only kidding about him, he is a very smart guy and I personally believe that the Student Senate will be in very

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