

UNLV: Premier urban university (in Nevada)

By Brad Tittington
Editor-in-Chief

Over and over again, I have heard the administration boast about UNLV being the "premier urban university." First of all, what does that mean? Second of all, are we there yet? Back to the first question. I believe what the administration is trying to say is that UNLV is on the cutting edge academically and that the university is the best big city school in the nation.

Where are the statistics to back this up? Granted UNLV just ranked seventh in *U.S. News and World Report's* guide to best public schools in the West. But, this ranking is deceiving. All of the national schools are taken out of the equation, leaving only the lower tier of schools, a nicer way of saying second rate colleges.

UNLV does have a lot to offer students, but not as much as other universities do. The academic standards that have been set at UNLV are among the best, but not all of the goals of the university have been achieved.

It is a given that UNLV has the top Hotel College in the country. Granted Cornell is right up there, but UNLV has emerged as the front runner in that program.

There are several other programs that have made a name for themselves nationally in the short amount of time that UNLV has existed. The Business and Education Colleges are among the tops in the country.

And there are several other programs that have the potential to be just as successful and respectable. The Greenspun School of Communication, for instance, is well on its way to being a great and successful program.

But UNLV cannot rest on its laurels. It has to forge ahead and continue to make strides to compete with other

powerful universities across the country. UNLV does not have the same draw that a Stanford or Harvard does, and it may never reach the same status as those types of schools. But for now, UNLV is heading in the right direction.

There are still several other programs and activities that the university has to improve before it can call itself "the premier urban university."

The university took a huge step

in the right direction as the administration finally opted to hold December Graduation ceremonies for the first time in the school's 40 year history.

But there is still much more to do before UNLV can be at the top of the class.

The university must take the athletic program to another level. A level that the university has not seen since the late '80s early 90's.

The school must get more support from the community, the alumni and from the faculty to generate more revenue and improve programs and expand others.

And finally, the school needs to expand the amount of dorm rooms in order to promote on-campus living. The school needs to get away from the commuter campus image it currently has in order to generate some sort of identity

and cohesion among the students.

The school is full of motivated and enthusiastic students who are eager to set the traditions for this university. They are all just looking for someone to lead them.

Perhaps in another 40 years, the university will be "the premier urban university."

But for now, UNLV is simply "the premier urban university in Nevada."

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3 Year	4/2,120	4/459	5/2,120	5/2,120	4/719	4/2,120
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capable hands. It is the senators I am worried about, many of whom I am friends with, well at least until I write an article about them.

I forgot to mention that all three of these gentlemen are members of the Delta Chi fraternity. Is that just a coincidence? Possibly. Is it just because there seems to be 200,000 Delta Chi's on campus that voted for them? Maybe. Or was it just the fact these three men were the best candidates for the job? Probably.

But we will see, and the *Rebel Yell* with the help of the trusty Opinion staff and I will be keeping a close eye on the happenings of our administration. I wish them the best of luck in trying to bring "fun" to every student that they preside over.

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