

# \$10 MILLION GIFT FOR NEW LIBRARY

In what will be the largest gift ever to UNLV or the University system, the Lied Foundation Trust has agreed to provide \$10 million toward construction of a new library on the UNLV campus.

The Board of Regents accepted the gift at its regular meeting Thursday (June 23).

The gift will come to the Uni-

versity through the UNLV Foundation, as part of an agreement between the Foundation and Christina Hixson, trustee of the Lied Foundation Trust.

The donated funds will be used as a catalyst for securing the balance of funds needed for constructing and equipping a library estimated to cost a total of \$40 million.

## UNLV SELECTED FOR NEW FEDERAL LOAN PROGRAM

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas has been selected to participate in the Federal Direct Student Loan Program beginning in the 1995-96 academic year, U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley announced recently.

UNLV is one of 983 schools announced by Riley. They are among the first to participate in a new streamlined system to restructure the nation's student loan programs.

"These schools will have an opportunity to demonstrate that direct lending can indeed simplify the administrative tasks of educational institutions, lower costs to taxpayers, and most importantly, provide better services to students," said Riley.

Under the new program, the federal government provides loans directly to students through

schools. By eliminating the middlemen — guaranty agencies, secondary markets, banks, and other private lenders — direct lending eliminates excess profits, while reducing administrative burdens and increasing efficiency to make borrowing easier for students.

By taking advantage of the federal government's ability to borrow money at a lower interest rate, direct lending will save taxpayers billions of dollars. The new program also offers students a repayment option that tailors monthly payments to the borrower's income.

President Clinton's direct lending proposal, the Student Loan Reform Act of 1993, was passed with bipartisan support by Congress as part of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-66).

"The university greatly appreciates Christina Hixson's willingness to help fund a new campus library," said Interim President Kenny Guinn. "It will help us meet our greatest need — building a new library."

"For this university to fulfill its academic function and keep up with the explosion of knowledge and the growth of its student body and faculty, it must have a library that is on the leading edge of information technology," Guinn said. "I believe that the Lied Foundation Trust donation will enable us to put together a funding package that will make such a library possible."

According to the agreement, the funds will become available to the university if the Nevada Legislature appropriates \$3 million for architecture and design costs during the 1995 legislative session and the balance (approximately \$27 million) during the 1997 session.

"I am very proud to be a part of helping the University fulfill its number-one priority. This library will serve not only UNLV's students and faculty, but also the community," Christina Hixson said, adding that it will be dedicated to the memory of Ernst F. Lied and his parents, Ernst M. and Ida K. Lied.

It is expected that the new library would be built and open by the year 2000.

The late Ernst F. Lied was a long-time Las Vegas resident who was successful in the real

estate business. The Lied Foundation Trust was created for the purpose of supporting charitable organizations.

Christina Hixson and the Lied Foundation Trust have been strong financial supporters of UNLV and UNR. This donation brings the Lied Foundation Trust's total giving to UNLV to more than \$16 million, including gifts supporting a new athletic complex, the Lied Institute for Real Estate Studies, the Ernst F. Lied Golf Scholarship Program, and construction of new scientific laboratories. The Lied Foundation Trust has given \$2.5 million to UNR.

As trustee, Christina Hixson has helped charitable organizations in Southern Nevada and across the nation. Through the Lied Foundation Trust, she has been a major contributor to such worthwhile projects as the Boys and Girls Clubs of Las Vegas, New Horizons Academy, the Economic Opportunity Board, the Lied Discovery Children's Museum, the Lied Opportunity Village Association for Retarded Citizens, the Salvation Army, and First Presbyterian Church.

"This is a perfect example of what the Foundation was created to do — raise funds to help meet academic priorities," UNLV Foundation Chair Tom Hartley said.

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## CCSN FOUNDATION HIRES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Community College of Southern Nevada Foundation has hired John A. Smith as executive director for the foundation. Smith has over 25 years of senior management experience in non-profit and higher education organizations, most recently as president of the Nevada School of Arts for the past nine years.

As executive director, Smith's primary responsibility will be to develop and implement fund raising goals for the foundation. Due to the decline in state funding, and in order to maintain the quality of education now being provided by the college, the foundation has decided that more effort should be devoted to procuring private donations.

The new director is enthusiastic about his new position and eager to move forward with plans to promote the college. "I've got a great product to sell," he explains, "any investment made in CCSN is an investment in the future of our community."

Smith's education background includes a B.S. in Choral Music Education from Hartwick College in Oneonta, N.Y. and a M.S. in Higher Education Administration from Syracuse University. He is listed in Who's Who in American Music and has served as an adjudicator, clinician and guest conductor in twenty states.

An active member of the Las Vegas community, Smith is president-elect of the Las Vegas Rotary Club, a member of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives, Las Vegas Chapter, and a charter member of the Leadership Las Vegas program. He is married to Cynthia, a professional flutist, and has two daughters.

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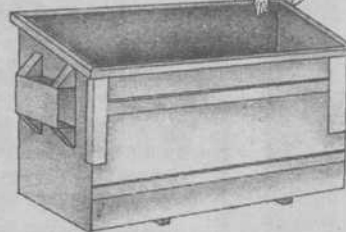
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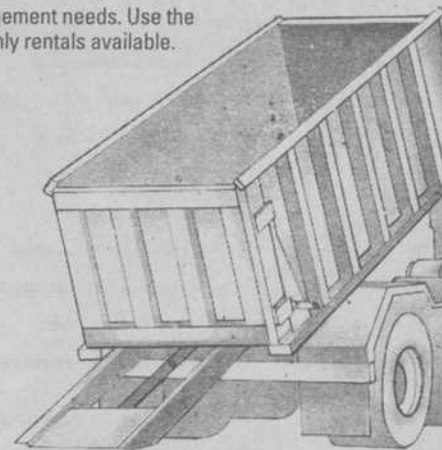
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