

Noteworthy UNLV Dates

Graduate & Professional
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Visit the GPSA at:
<http://gpsa.unlv.edu/>

Information and dates of
UNLV student activities can
be found at:
<http://activities.unlv.edu/>

Attend UNLV athletic events
for free:
[http://www.unlvtickets.com/
students/](http://www.unlvtickets.com/students/)

- August 27** Instruction and late registration begin
- August 31** Last day to add courses, switch sections, change courses, change from audit to credit, or pay fees by 5:00 p.m.
- August 31** GPSA Social Hour @ the Freakin' Frog 5 – 8 p.m.
- September 3** Labor day recess—no classes
- September 5** GPSA Council Meeting—Student Union room 208
- September 7** Final day to submit an application for December graduation to the Cashier WITHOUT a late penalty
- October 1** GPSA Council Meeting—Student Union room 208
- October 20** Mid-semester
- October 26** Nevada Day recess—no classes
- November 5** GPSA Council Meeting—Student Union room 211
- November 15** GPSA Spring 2008 Grant Deadline
- November 16** Last day to take comprehensive exam or defend thesis/ dissertation



Al Cademic's Life on a Top Ramen Budget

It's that time of year again! This summer I have grown accustomed to the "dry heat" in Southern Nevada, learned how to sneak into hotel pools, and even finagled my way into some Spy on Vegas hosted events. To me, the beginning of Fall semester doesn't signal the waning of all those joyous events. Fall mainly signals that this noodle connoisseur is forced to downgrade from Maruchan back to Nissin noodles. To maintain my standard of graduate assistantship living, I am always looking for ways to stretch my monthly stipend.

In this month's column, I will share with you some of my top haunts suitable for all-nighters. My definition of "suitable" is that these venues are 1) affordable on a GA'ship, 2) close to campus, 3) are somewhat accepting of members from the graduate student cult, and 4) employees refrain from overtly gawking at us when we engage in common graduate student behaviors (e.g., reading journal articles

at the bar, plugging in laptops to work on thesis revisions, or grading stacks of assignments).

#4. Marilyn's Café at Tuscany Suites & Casino (255 E. Flamingo Road). For those of you who like quiet, the Tuscany is like a morgue. The casino is typically deadsville all in a wonderfully nondescript ambiance. Marilyn's late night specials are around \$4. Best of all, you don't have to worry about your hip undergrad students catching you there...well, unless you wander into the Tailgate Sports Lounge on a Thursday.

#3. The Restaurant at Ellis Island Casino & Brewery (4178 Koval Lane). This restaurant features cheap eats and frequent specials all in an old-school, low roller, divey atmosphere. More importantly, Karaoke is next door until 3 a.m. nightly, and microbeverages abound--at the rate of a few packs of Maruchan. I love to belt out a rock ballad and get back to work. It keeps me sane after reading my students' writing.

#2. Bouganvillea Café at Terrible's Casino (4100 Paradise Road). I will resist all temptation to insert a terrible pun here. The Deuce's Wild is a veritable steal at \$2.99, and best of all, Terrible's

graveyard specials are in effect the longest: 11pm-7am. Carafes of coffee can be had if you request them. Terrible's patrons are some of the liveliest and most inebriated, making for the occasional amusing distractions.

Most of the Starbucks around campus and the Coffee Beanery close before 10pm. Where does that leave us after the GPSA office and library close?

#1. The 24 hour Starbucks at Hughes Center (4480 Paradise Road). I've witnessed the break of dawn here many times. Bring your Ipod and get down to (academic) business here while caffeine comrades (i.e., taxi and limo drivers, clubbers, degenerate gamblers, vagabonds) come in to get their fixes.

Any other favorite late-night spots? Please e-mail me your favorites whether they are close to campus or out in suburbia. I will try to include them in next edition's column: Al.Cademic@gmail.com

*Keep it cheap,
Al*

The Luminary

A Newsletter for Graduate & Professional Students

Fall 2007

Volume 3, Issue 1

**A Welcome to New and Returning Students
from Jeremy Houska, GPSA President**

Inside this issue:

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I send you my best wishes for a productive and enjoyable year. This is an exciting time for our campus community, in particular for graduate and professional students. This Fall we will first begin to take advantage of our University's unprecedented growth. We will enjoy the second phase of the Student Union and our new Student Recreation Center. Our Recreation Center is anticipated to be an epicenter of activity in which students, faculty, and ad-

ministration can come together. The re-emergence of our men's basketball team on a national stage has also unified the University and local community. I hope we continue where we left off last year and support our sports teams, organizations, departments, and student life. We all take responsibility in ensuring our campus is an active and supportive community.

As UNLV evolves into a premier research institu-

tion, graduate and professional students play a considerable role. We must not lose sight of that. In President Ashley's inauguration speech he stated "research is the precursor to enterprise, and enterprise is the engine that drives an economy. No research, no engine." As graduate and professional students we are fully immersed in this endeavor. We support our mentors' research efforts, we conduct our own re-

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GPSA — What we are all about . . .

The Graduate & Professional Student Association is the recognized governing

body serving the enrolled UNLV graduate and professional student population. Forty-nine representatives, one appointed from each department and professional

school, serve on the GPSA Council. The Executive Board, also members of the Council, are elected positions consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Council meets each month @ 2 p.m. in the Student Union, in an open forum to discuss current issues, activities, and address concerns that impact graduate and professional students.



GPSA Council 2006-07

The following are the Fall Council dates: Wednesday, September 5th; Monday, October 1st; Monday, November 5th and Monday, December 3rd.

The GPSA hosts regular social hours and community service events, and sponsors an Annual Research Forum held in the spring, in an effort to enhance the quality of the educational and social experience that benefit UNLV graduate and professional students.

One of the most important services which the GPSA offers UNLV graduate & professional students is the allocation of funds for research and conference travel. These grants support projects which directly affect a student's degree program as well as makes a contribution to a scholar's field. Funding is available for research/conference projects during

the Spring 2008 semester. The deadline is November 15, 2007. Applications are available on the GPSA website: <http://gpsa.unlv.edu/grants.htm>

Looking for a place on campus to: analyze data, write a paper, prepare a syllabus, make handouts for a presentation, prepare an application for a GPSA grant, read e-mail, research on the Internet, print documents in color or use a Scanner machine for quick grading? The GPSA office, located in the Lied Library,

GPSA Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 8:45 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. - 6:45 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 6:45 p.m.

room 3251 maintains a computer lab and study area equipped with a copier, fax, flatbed scanners, color laser printer, Scantron machine, typewriters, office supplies, printers, group study areas, and a small kitchen with a microwave and refrigerator. *Come and visit us.*

GPSA Executive Board 2007-08



Heather Lusty
GPSA Vice President

Heather is a doctoral candidate in the English department, working on her dissertation entitled "Inter-textual Mediations: The Culture of Mourning and the Great War in British Modernism". She completed M.A.s in English and History at UNLV. She also teaches a variety of literature and writing

courses for the English department. Heather won the Barrick Dissertation Fellowship for the 2007-2008 academic year; she also won the Outstanding PTI Award for 2007, and the Joyce Hemslow Prize in Burney Studies for 2006.

Suzanne Becker is a Ph.D. student in Sociology. She is looking forward to her second year as Treasurer on the GPSA Executive Board and to greater involvement on campus committees that affect UNLV's graduate and professional students' community. She currently works in the GPSA study facility, and additionally, is involved with a variety of university affiliated oral history projects which highlight the unique, social, historical, and cultural aspects of Las Vegas' history.



Suzanne Becker
GPSA Treasurer

Jessica is working towards her doctorate degree in English Literature. Currently, she is interested in twentieth-century British literature, fiction and prose. Jessica completed her B.A. in English and a minor in German at the University of Mississippi in 2001. She earned her M.A. degree in English Literature at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 2005. While attending UNLV, Jessica enjoys teaching courses ranging from composition to literature; she works for both the English Department and the Honors College. While she enjoys teaching undergraduates and seeks to continue teaching university students as her future profession, Jessica also values her position as Secretary of the GPSA—mostly due to the amount of interaction she has with her fellow graduate and professional students.



Jessica Lucero
GPSA Secretary

Get Acquainted @ the First Fall GPSA Social Event

Mark your calendars to meet, greet and eat with your fellow graduate and professional students, August 31st at the *Freakin' Frog*, across the street from UNLV @ 4700 S. Maryland Parkway. Appetizers are provided. Questions: contact Jessica Lucero, GPSA Secretary/Chairperson of the Activities Committee: 895-2261 or jessica.lucero@unlv.edu

Look forward to seeing you there!!!!!!

Celebrate UNLV's 50th Anniversary



UNLV's 50th birthday bash begins this fall and we invite you to be part of the fun.

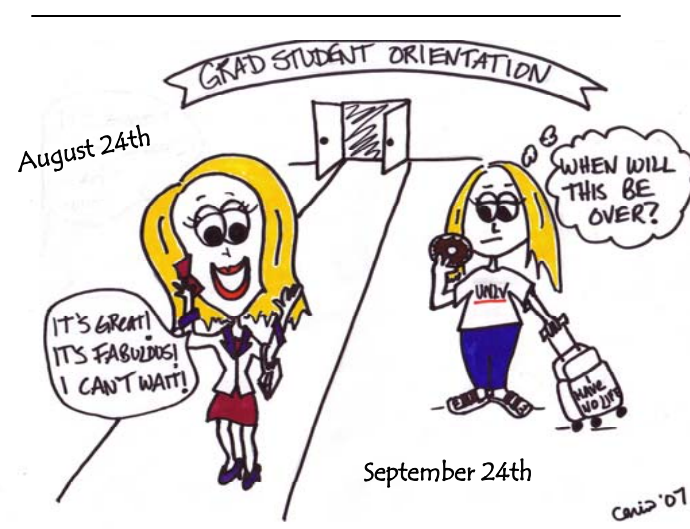
The activities listed below are just some of the campus and community events and activities happening throughout the anniversary year. Check: <http://celebrating50.unlv.edu/> for the latest details and for information about our festivities. *Mark your calendar and join us for these exciting events:*

University Days September 12-15, 2007

A celebration of the university's founding that kicks off the fall semester with a university convocation, an academic showcase, special exhibits, and more.

UNLV Homecoming October 16-21, 2007

A week of activities including exhibits, student performances, alumni dinner and dance, golf tournament, tailgate, parade, and the unveiling of a new campus monument.



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search and many of us teach courses that allow faculty to dedicate more of their time to scholarly work. For all we do in the lab, library, and classroom, we deserve a dedicated advocate who represents the best interests of graduate and professional students. The Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) is that advocate.

The GPSA is the unified voice for the over 6,000 graduate and professional students at UNLV. Composed of a Council representing each graduate department and professional school, as well as an elected Executive Board, the GPSA holds monthly meetings to discuss the issues most important to graduate and professional students. Members of the GPSA serve on campus-wide committees and work closely with the Graduate College and campus administration.

Besides advocacy, the GPSA provides support and benefits exclusively for graduate and professional students. The GPSA offers research and travel grants, hosts monthly social activities, and operates a study facility/

computer lab in the Lied Library, room 3251. A primary goal of the GPSA is to maintain a sense of community among graduate and professional students through providing these support systems. Please take advantage of these opportunities and commit to strengthening our campus community.

To get more information on any of the GPSA's programs or to become involved, please drop by the GPSA Office in the Lied Library room 3251. Our Manager, Becky Boulton, or any of the Executive Board would be happy to meet you.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Houska



Jeremy is beginning his third year as a Ph.D. student in Experimental Psychology. He earned his M.A. in General-Experimental Psychology from California State University, San Bernardino and has a B.S. in Psychology from the University of La Verne.

New This Fall: Grant Workshops

The GPSA and the UNLV Libraries' Seminar Series present a specially designed Grant/Research Funding Seminar for graduate and professional students. These workshops, approached by discipline, are open to all graduate and professional students. The goal of these workshops is to familiarize graduate/professional students with a variety of alternative research and conference funding; sources introduced and examined include university, local, regional, and federal opportunities for financial support. The following are the scheduled dates for the workshops:

Sciences - Tuesday, October 9th 2:30 -3:30 p.m.

Humanities - Wednesday, October 10th 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Social Sciences - Thursday, October 11th 2:30-3:30 p.m.



Seminars will be held in the Pioche Room in the collaborative learning center located on the 1st floor in the Lied Library. Space is limited. To sign up for sessions, call 895-2123 or register online at:

<http://www.library.unlv.edu/inst/semsignup.html>

University Forum Series

is a free lecture series funded by the College of Liberal Arts. All events are held in the Barrick Museum Auditorium, are free and no reservation is necessary. To receive updated information on University Forum events and personalities email : forum@unlv.nevada.edu and say "subscribe me".

- **Rebel in the Desert: Creating UNLV, 1957-1969:** Wednesday, September 5th @ 7:30 p.m. Lecturer: Professor Eugene Moehring, Department of History, UNLV.
- **The Climate History of the Earth: A View to the Future:** Wednesday, September 12 @ 7:30 p.m. Lecturer: Professor Matthew Lachniet, Department of Geoscience, UNLV.
- **The U.S. Constitution and the 'Lessons of Experience': Does What Made Sense in 1787 Serve Us Well in 2007?:** Monday September 17 @ 7:30 p.m. Lecturer: Professor Sanford Levinson, W. St John Garwood and W. St John Garwood, Jr. Centennial chair in Law and Professor Government, University of Texas.
- **What's Wrong With the Way Nevada Selects Its Judges? A Legal and Policy Analysis:** Thursday, September 20 @ 7:30 p.m. Lecturer: Professor Tuan Samahon, William S. Boyd School of Law, UNLV