

# CONNECTIONS

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN NEVADA MAGAZINE



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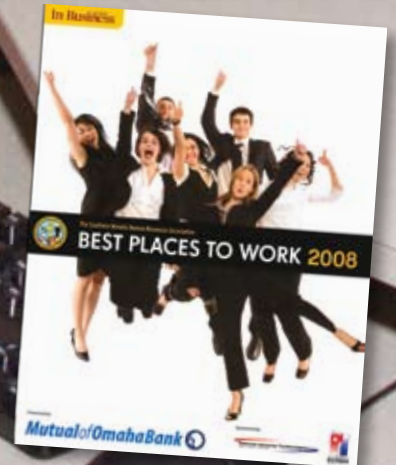
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WINTER 2009

## USN Achieves Regional ACCREDITATION!

### USN College of Dental Medicine LAUNCHES ORTHODONTIC RESIDENCY PROGRAM

### USN Named 'Best Place to Work'



# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



There's no denying that the global economic crisis has had a profound impact on our nation and our region. The resulting budget shortfalls at the state level have created unprecedented challenges for public educational institutions that are forced to juggle funding cuts while trying to maintain the quality of their academic programs.

While the University of Southern Nevada has not gone unscathed during these tough times, our private, independent, non-profit and non-taxpayer supported status combined with our high-quality and high-demand academic programs have minimized the affect of the economic turmoil on the University. This has afforded us the flexibility to continue examining the needs of the communities we serve and to seek opportunities to develop and implement programs that will have a positive impact on the region for years to come.

This distinction allowed for the creation of our College of Dental Medicine in 2007. And this month, after careful planning and preparation by our Board of Trustees, Administration and Faculty, the College of Dental Medicine will officially launch its first residency program, Advanced Education in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics. Ten remarkably talented residents and interns, under the direction of an exceptional faculty, will start the program in the University's newly opened, state-of-the-art dental clinic at 4 Sunset Way, Building C, at the corner of Sunset Road and Mountain Vista in Henderson.

The clinic will not only serve as a learning center for our orthodontic residents, but will provide a vital service to the Southern Nevada community, offering high-quality, low-cost orthodontic care to children, adolescents and adults. More about this great program can be found in this issue of *Connections*.

As we begin the new year, University of Southern Nevada is proud to continue its mission to prepare competent professionals who will address the healthcare needs of the regions we serve through innovative educational programs, scholarship and public service.

The University of Southern is also proud to announce that it has been granted accreditation by Northwest Commission on colleges and Universities (NWCCU). The NWCCU is an independent, non-profit membership organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council of Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) as the regional authority on educational quality and institutional effectiveness of higher education, institutions.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harry Rosenberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DR. HARRY ROSENBERG, Pharm.D., Ph.D.  
FOUNDING PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN NEVADA



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*Orthodontic Resident*  
Rohini Mandal

**Connections**

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## USN Named 'Best Place to Work'

By Sukanya Mandal

The University of Southern Nevada was recently nominated, and won the First Place as the "Best Place to Work" for 2008 in the midsize business category of the Southern Nevada Human Resource Association's Annual "Best Places to Work in Southern Nevada Awards" Luncheon.

The judges recognized USN for its innovative practices for attracting and retaining key talent in a competitive environment as well as many positive examples of inclusion and involvement.

"We are very proud to be recognized as a 'Best Place to Work' in Southern Nevada. It is a great honor and I congratulate the university community for this achievement," said USN President Dr. Harry Rosenberg.

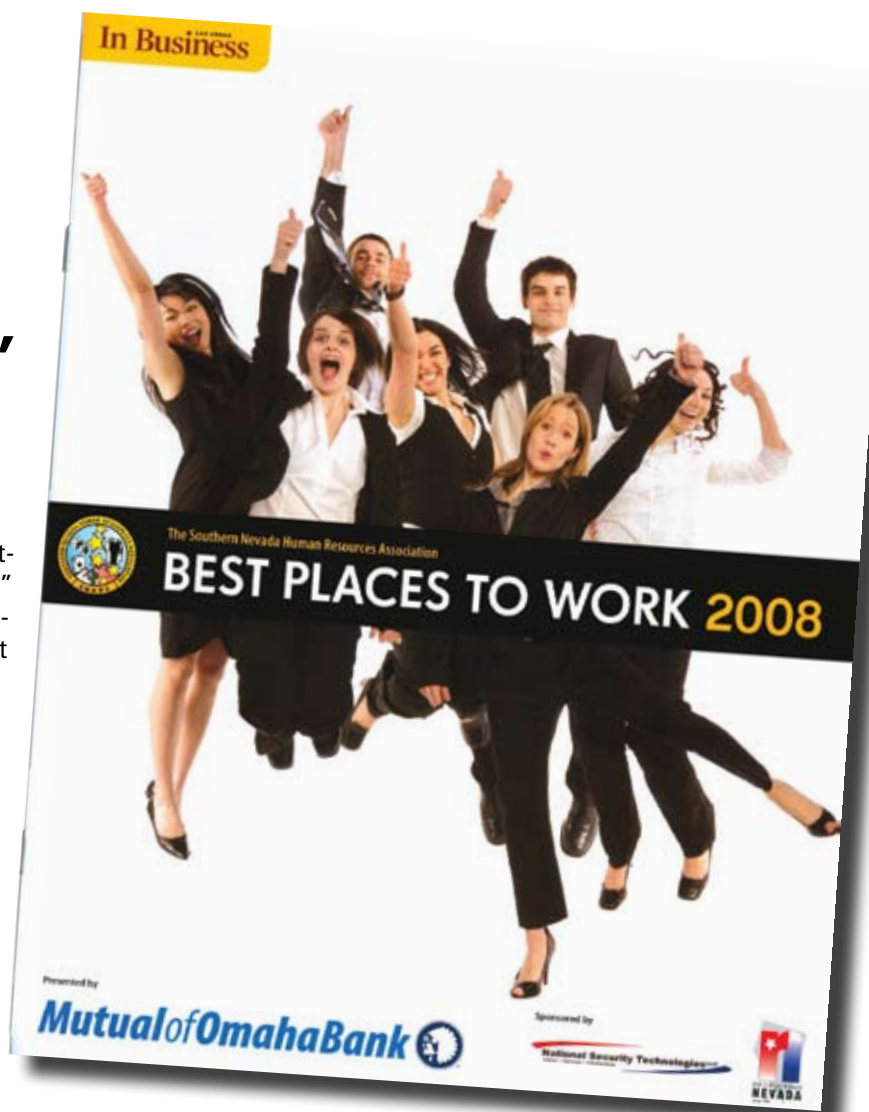
The University's ongoing efforts to recruit and retain top educators from around the world were one of the decisive factors for receiving the award. In a competitive field like healthcare education, attracting and retaining the best employees requires innovative approaches and scope for professional development. The University Planning, Priorities and Resources Committee (UPPRC) established a recruitment/retention discretionary fund to provide unit heads with additional monies to be used as incentives to lure highly competent educators as well as providing intramural research grants for new research projects to fund faculty scholarships, has been acknowledged as very innovative techniques to attract professionals.

The judges also acknowledged USN's generous and highly competitive salary and benefits package as an advantage in recruitment and retention of competent professionals.

Additionally, USN has developed an effective communication system to keep employees informed about university's financial health, accreditation updates, new initiatives, upcoming university events, new employee introductions and showcasing employee achievements. This is done through employee forums hosted by the university president, quarterly publication of *Connections*, distribution of meeting minutes from all administrative council and board of trustees meetings and annual surveys to assess the quality and satisfaction level of all employees.

The University was also recognized for its ongoing effort to create a distinct culture of inclusion. Each academic year, the UPPRC solicits help from all employees to establish and develop strategic themes and initiatives to help USN define and shape its agenda for the future and maintain its competitive edge.

USN is proud to be recognized for its efforts to create a positive work environment for faculty and staff.



# USN Achieves Regional ACCREDITATION!



University of Southern Nevada is proud to announce that it has been granted initial accreditation by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), one of six recognized regional accrediting organizations in the U.S. that review degree-granting institutions. The accreditation is effective beginning Sept. 1, 2008.

“We are very excited to achieve NWCCU regional accreditation,” said USN President Dr. Harry Rosenberg, “The commission’s affirmation recognizes USN’s unwavering commitment to excellence in education, focus on quality, and commitment to standards and accountability. It also confirms USN’s eligibility for participation in federal and state financial aid programs, acceptance and transfer of college credit, and is the prerequisite for starting many graduate and professional programs.”

The accreditation follows a comprehensive evaluation process that began in 2005 and included a meticulous self-study process, applying quality indicators developed specifically for higher education institutions by NWCCU to help them evaluate their strengths and challenges. The commission also conducted site visits in 2006, 2007 and, most recently, in October 2008.

NWCCU is an independent, non-profit membership organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) as the regional authority on educational quality and institutional effectiveness of more than 160 higher education institutions in the seven-state Northwest region of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. — *Jason Roth*



## Nursing Faculty Attend Gerontology Seminar

Regina McFerren and Linda Cox, assistant professors for the College of Nursing, recently attended the Geriatric Nursing Education Consortium’s (GNEC) seminar, “Enhancing Gerontology Content in Senior-level Baccalaureate Courses.” in St. Louis. The University of Southern Nevada was one of only two colleges from the state of Nevada to have representatives in attendance.

“There was a wealth of information presented in this recent specialized realm of Gerontology,” said McFerren. “It was exciting to be at the forefront of this segment of nursing.”

The GNEC provided the seminar largely due to a grant from the John A. Hartford Foundation’s Institute for Geriatric Nursing. GNEC has a Faculty Development Institute which provides a plethora of education and information related to Gerontology, which is the scientific study of aging and its effects. New information and resources especially related to Evidence Based Practice and application principles used in nursing was also presented.

“We already incorporate a lot of Gerontology in our medical-surgical classes, so based on what we learned, it was reaffirming to know we are on the right track in educating our students,” said Cox.

McFerren and Cox are part of a yearlong project related to developing learning objectives and measurable outcomes to be presented at next year’s seminar. — *Jason Roth*

## Dr. Sean Barclay, Pharm.D.

By Jason Roth



Citing University of Southern Nevada's positive work environment, innovative teaching philosophy and welcoming administration, faculty and staff, Dr. Sean Barclay is enthusiastic about being a part of the university community.

A native of the Detroit, Michigan area, Dr. Barclay joined the USN College of Pharmacy in October 2007 as an assistant professor of pharmacy practice and clinical specialist in Internal Medicine. He is responsible for overseeing pharmacy students while completing their experiential clinical rotations at St. Rose Dominican Hospital's San Martin Campus in southwest Las Vegas.

"Joining the faculty at the College of Pharmacy has been a remarkable experience," says Dr. Barclay. "It's particularly rewarding to introduce our students to the hospital pharmacy setting. At first they don't realize the tremendous positive and direct impact they have on patient care. It really opens their eyes to just one of the many rewarding career tracks that exist in pharmacy."

Dr. Barclay is all too familiar with the epiphany experienced by many students who begin the experiential portion of their pharmacy education. His interest in the clinical side of pharmacy developed during his residency at the Southern Arizona VA in Tucson. "I kind of fell into the clinical side," he said. "During my rotations at the VA, I found the work to be extremely fulfilling. Moving on to pharmacy academia and clinical teaching was an obvious progression for me."

In addition to his role as clinical faculty, Dr. Barclay also serves on the College of Pharmacy Planning, Priorities and Resources Committee as well as the College of Pharmacy Assessment Committee.

Dr. Barclay is also happy to be in the Las Vegas Valley. "I love out here. Despite growing up in Michigan, I'm not a fan of cold weather. Also, because it is a big tourist attraction, I always have friends and family visiting and there's always something to do," said Dr. Barclay.

He also likes the fact that it's easy to travel directly to anywhere in the U.S. from Las Vegas. "I always look forward to traveling to Michigan and other cities to visit family and friends," he said.

Dr. Barclay completed his undergraduate and Pharm.D. education at Wayne State University in Detroit. While there, he was a pitcher for the university's Warriors baseball team. He served as the team captain during his final year on the team.

An avid sports fan, Dr. Barclay follows his favorite hometown teams, including the Detroit Lions, Tigers and Pistons. He also likes to engage in sporting activities himself, including playing flag football on weekends. "I'm definitely trying to relive my glory days," he adds.

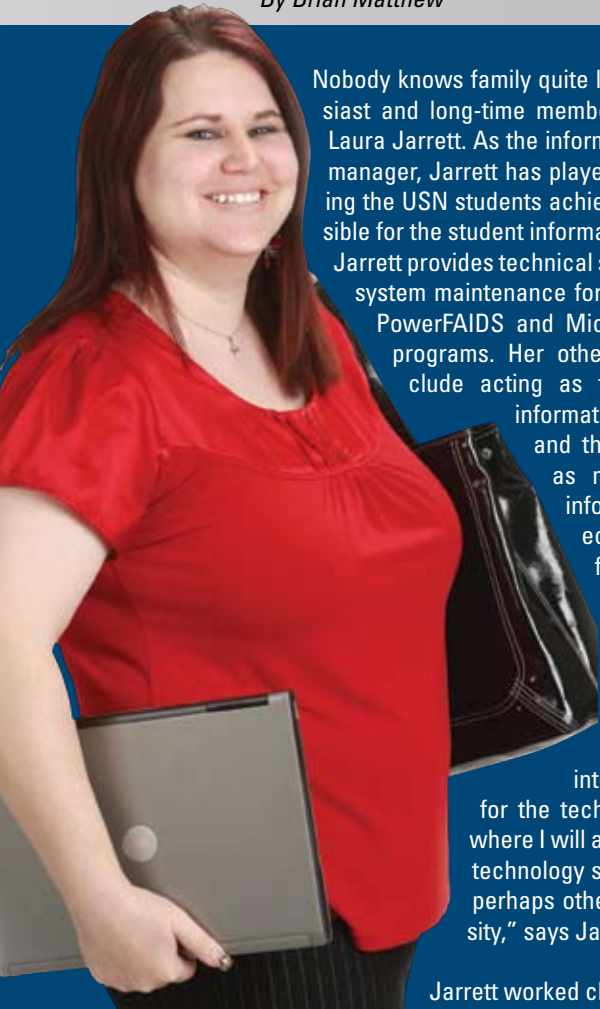
He may be trying to relive his glory days on the football field, but at USN he's on top of his game.

"University of Southern Nevada is happy to have Dr. Barclay on board at the College of Pharmacy," said Dr. Renee Coffman, dean. "He's been a great addition to our faculty, as both an instructor and clinical preceptor. He has raised the level of the student clinical experience at St. Rose."

As for Dr. Barclay, he looks forward to a long association with USN and the Las Vegas community.

# Laura Jarrett

By Brian Matthew



Nobody knows family quite like genealogy enthusiast and long-time member of the USN team, Laura Jarrett. As the information system project manager, Jarrett has played a vital role in helping the USN students achieve success. Responsible for the student information systems at USN, Jarrett provides technical support and conducts system maintenance for the PowerCAMPUS, PowerFAIDS and Microsoft Dynamics GP programs. Her other responsibilities include acting as the liaison between information system vendors and the university, as well as managing the entire information system project. She is an A+ Certified IT Technician and will be looking into getting her Project+ certification next winter or spring.

“My role is evolving into a project manager for the technology services unit where I will assist with more of the technology services projects, and perhaps other units in the university,” says Jarrett.

Jarrett worked closely with Dr. Eucharía Nnadi as she began her career at USN as Dr. Nnadi’s administrative assistant in 2003, and recently was promoted to her current position. Being involved with faculty development, degree program planning, human resources and academic affairs has allowed Jarrett to become passionate about the university and its success.

“My goal for USN is to do what I can to help it succeed, as it is now, with new colleges and programs, more educational opportunities, and to continue being unique and innovative with technology. This is a great university and a great place to work,” says Jarrett. “Dr. Rosenberg’s vision for this university is inspirational and I am always excited to hear what else he has planned for the university.”

Before working at USN, Jarrett worked as a customer service representative and technician, what is now known as Geek Squad, at Best Buy. She was later promoted to administrative supervisor before transferring to merchandise supervisor. She is a member of the Computing Technology Industry Association and a member of the Certified IT Professionals.

In her spare time Jarrett enjoys playing real-time strategy and role-playing games, including Final Fantasy and Dragon Quest, and also spending time with her family, her husband and her two English Labradors, Raven and Luna. Her real passion lies, however, in her hobby of genealogy. Jarrett has delved into studying her and her husband’s family background for the past five years, and even attends monthly genealogy meetings with her father. Though she has had some trouble finding out about her family background, she has found a lot more success with her husband’s family lineage.

“When I began researching, I found a ton of detailed information dating back to the late 1600s and early 1700s and that was in a matter of just a few months. Right now I am stuck, so I am going through my records to see if I can move on something else for the time being. As you go further back, finding actual records to validate or find more information gets really hard, can be quite expensive, and is time-consuming,” says Jarrett.

Jarrett is also an active member in the community as she volunteers at her church, St. Thomas More Catholic Community. As a member of the Count Teams, Jarrett assists in counting the money that is donated from the Sunday collections. She is also a member of the Environment Committee which decorates the church for various events and seasons.

Her most memorable moments at USN came early in her career when she worked with Jackie Seip, executive assistant to the president, on the fundraising galas and golf tournaments, before there was an office dedicated to fundraising.

“I started helping her when I came on board, and while there were some stressful times during this planning, Jackie and I still had a lot of fun,” she says.

Understanding the importance of information systems at the university, Jarrett will use her experience and passion in guiding USN into the future.

# STUDENT ORGS



## Upcoming Events for the DAAT

This year interest in the Drug Abuse Awareness Team (DAAT) has grown to phenomenal proportions. There are now 60 student members. During the fall, the team presented to Bridger Middle School (December 16), Keller Middle School (December 15) and Woodbury Middle School (November 26).

This spring, the team will be very active giving presentations to local schools and participating in community events. On January 21, the DAAT will present to the students and parents of Roger Brown Elementary School at their Just Ask Event, which is a program designed for parents and students to get information on the social issues that adolescents may face. On January 23, the team has two events scheduled. In the morning Dr. Oesterman and Darlene Banzaf

will be presenting to health teachers from each school in the Clark County School District at the Health and Driver Safety Awareness Event at Silverado High School, and then in the afternoon they will be presenting to the teachers of Miley Elementary School. These presentations will educate the teachers about the signs and symptoms of drug abuse and the trends in the drug abuse in our community.

The DAAT has a tremendous opportunity to present at the Spring Valley High School Parent and Student Drug Awareness Night with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and the Narcotic Education Foundation of Nevada on February 19. This event will be for an audience of 500 and there will be nationally recognized organizations such as D.A.R.E. and M.A.D.D. as well as the media in attendance.

In addition, the DAAT has a variety of interesting opportunities for the spring. The DAAT will give two more student presentations before the end of the academic year, on March 2 at Washington Continuing Education and May 4 at Woodbury Middle School. The DAAT has been asked to educate the Clark County School District Administrators about the signs and symptoms of drug abuse and the current trends in adolescent drug abuse on March 31.

In conjunction with the USN Student Alliance, the DAAT will give a drug information seminar for Stork's Nest/ZHOPE which is an educational program/outreach service for expectant mothers in their first trimester of pregnancy. The DAAT has found many diverse venues to provide information about drug abuse and misuse and continues to make strides toward educating our community about the proper usage of medications. - *Trennette R. Gilbert*



## USN Student Alliance

Student Alliance members have been busy with a wide variety of activities over the past several months. Twenty-five members and two advisors recently attended the APhA-ASP Midyear Regional Meeting (MRM) in San Francisco, where policies were proposed and debated with fellow student-pharmacists from colleges of pharmacy in the southwest. Additionally, members participated in round-table discussions, leadership courses, patient counseling workshops, and career-development seminars. P1 Kazong Yang ran for regional office, and

was slated as one of two candidate finalists placed on the ballot for voter consideration. All three policies from USN were approved by a vote of the fourteen COPs present, and will be potentially considered at APhA 2009 this April in San Antonio.

Student Alliance hosted the local ASHP Clinical Skills Competition, with USN's winning team, P3s Ali Reza Rejali and Maryam Rejali, receiving an all-expense paid trip to compete against winners from other COPs in the national finals at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in Orlando. Also, P3 student Galina Rollins presented her research poster, as did numerous USN alumni pharmacy practice residents.

Student Alliance provided heartburn screenings, general medication counseling, and teamed with USN student nurses to provide diabetic and blood pressure screenings at a health fair held in the Galleria Mall. On the social side, members attended a Las Vegas Wranglers hockey game to celebrate American Pharmacists Month, and had the opportunity to purchase "Know Your Medicine, Know Your Pharmacist" shirts to wear as a group at the game.

Upcoming events include the APhA-ASP Patient Counseling Competition, guest speakers, and other community events. - *Ana Louisa Negrete*





The brothers of Delta Tau were proud to welcome twenty three new brothers into the Kappa Psi fraternity on October 17, 2008. This fall, Kappa Psi hosted a variety of social as well as volunteer events which gave members every opportunity to enjoy and experience each other's company.

One project that we were very happy to see culminate into a reality was the proposed paper recycling program. This program has thus far been very productive as faculty, staff, and students alike have proactively participated by utilizing the paper recycling bins. We certainly appreciate their contributions. Kappa Psi brothers have coordinated their efforts to ensure recycled paper gets collected and the bins are continually emptied to encourage increased recycling. A special thanks to Brother Kasey Greathouse for her efforts in establishing this successful program.

Kappa Psi brothers hope to also establish their relationship with Habitat for Humanity as another ongoing program. In October, Kappa Psi members volunteered a total of 55 hours toward the building of a home for a needy family. Some brothers learned the art of landscaping while others helped out by painting.

Of course, Kappa Psi members always find time to socialize and have fun. This year was certainly not an exception as brothers enjoyed Karaoke. However, sometimes this was only enjoyable for the one who was singing and not the people listening. We found out why some brothers are attending pharmacy school and not a performing arts school. Kappa Psi held the local Halloween costume party on October 25 in order to include all brothers, since many were planning on attending the APHA Mid-year Regional Meeting in San Francisco during last weekend of October. This event was a lot of fun and many brothers attended. Some brothers were able to show off their costume twice as approximately 15 brothers attended the Kappa Psi Halloween party in San Francisco. Delta Tau also hosted a Big/Lil event which helps cultivate brotherhood between the newer and older brothers. This most recent event allowed brothers to participate in a charades contest. Needless to say, it got a little competitive, loud and crazy. Seriously, try doing "statins" as a charade. Everyone was a good sport as Big and Lil brothers competed against each other.

Brothers of Kappa Psi can look forward to enjoying the Spring as a lot of exciting events are planned such as WII tournament, paintball and the Province IX meeting set to take place the last weekend of February. - *Jenny Cross*



### Honor Society Established For USN Nursing Students

The Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society is the only international honor society for all nursing specialties. They promote evidence-based research and international practice standards, including grants for international projects. This society requires that the University of Southern Nevada have an initial "stand alone" honor society for one year, before being approved for their own chapter. Currently, UNLV has the only chapter in Las Vegas.

January of 2008, the Sigma Alpha Honor Society of USN was created. The new honor society has approximately 50 members and has already met their budget in fundraising for the year of 2008. The application for our own chapter was sent out in November 2008 before the February 2009 deadline. The Sigma Theta Tau Application Committee will meet next Fall to determine if we have completed all of the requirements for

our own chapter. There will be two delegated students sent with expenses paid by this Honor Society to the 40th Sigma Theta Tau biennial national convention in Indianapolis in November 2009.

Once the USN Sigma Alpha Charter is approved, there will be a special pinning and induction ceremony for the gold pin of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society. This pin is recognized by nursing professionals world-wide as a symbol of excellence in the medical community. In addition, active members can participate in international symposiums and sponsored events. With our diverse population, this can be a real advantage to nursing graduates as it expands their opportunities beyond the immediate three-state area.

Members of the Sigma Alpha Honor Society of USN have devoted themselves to cancer patients and survivors as part of their mission. As a result, here are some of the activities that they have participated in during 2008: setting up a marathon and passing out water and snacks for the Ronald McDonald House and walked in the Relay for Life and the Diabetes walk/run. In addition, they have produced the "change program" to give blankets to the homeless and a clothing drive, including shoes, benefiting needy children.

The Sigma Alpha Honor Society has sponsored five students who will be attending Nursing Legislature Day in Carson City on Feb. 23. These students will be sitting and monitoring legislative sessions that impact healthcare and reform in Nevada. - *Rebecca Cailor, Sigma Alpha Honor Society Advisor*

# LAUNCHES ORTHODONTIC RESIDENCY PROGRAM

by Jason Roth



After receiving initial accreditation by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, the University of Southern Nevada College of Dental Medicine officially launched its first postdoctoral dental residency program, Advanced Education in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics (AEODO), combined with a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree.

An inaugural class of nine residents are enrolled in the three-year, postdoctoral dental program that trains dentists to become specialists in orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics as well as business. The residents, all fully licensed dentists in the State of Nevada, will be teamed with board certified orthodontic faculty to provide high-quality and affordable orthodontic care in a state-of-the-art facility to the residents of Henderson and the surrounding Southern Nevada community, which includes Las Vegas.

"We are extremely proud to see our plan to launch an advanced education dental residency program come to fruition," said Dr. Harry Rosenberg, University of Southern Nevada's founding president. "The university and College of Dental Medicine administration, as well as the faculty and staff, have worked extremely hard to ensure this program meets the highest academic standards, while also ensuring that orthodontic services offered to the community will be outstanding."

The College of Dental Medicine operates in a 12,000 square-foot facility located at 4 Sunset Way, Building C in Henderson. The clinic is equipped with the latest in technology, including patient management systems and Cone Beam CT imaging equipment. It also contains a high-tech "mission control" where faculty can observe patient care via high-definition cameras at each chair. The cameras record video and still images that can be displayed on large high-definition flat panel monitors to share best practices with all residents, or recorded and utilized at a later time as additional educational tools. They will also be used to conduct distance learning, both live and recorded.

According to Dr. David Grove, associate professor, the College of Dental Medicine's goal is to provide a totally paperless clinical operation, utilizing state-of-the-art orthodontic practice management and imaging solutions to facilitate quality care to our patients and an innovative education for our residents.

"University of Southern Nevada is known as an innovator for its use of technology in the classrooms," said Dr. C. Lynn Hurst, dean of the College of Dental Medicine and AEODO/MBA program director. "We've carried that innovation over into the orthodontic clinic, creating a truly impressive facility."



# ENTAL MEDICINE

The college is now offering free screenings and consultations to the public and will begin treating patients in March, providing a full array of orthodontic services for children, adolescents (teens) and adults.

"We plan to treat between 300 and 400 patients in our first year of operation," said Dr. Hurst. "We're extremely confident that the public will respond to our focus on affordability, accessibility and quality of care."

In the meantime, the residents have begun their AEODO/MBA courses and training. Like all of University of Southern Nevada's academic programs, courses are taught using the university's revolutionary block curriculum system, a learning format developed to emphasize a student-centered, active-learning environment where students/residents participate in experiential education from the very beginning of their programs. Rather than multiple courses spread out through semesters or quarters, the curriculum is organized into blocks which allow students/residents to focus on one subject at a time. Additionally, utilization of the block curriculum allows for the students/residents to be taught by some of the world's most renowned experts in their respective fields, another unique aspect of their education at USN College of Dental Medicine.



The block system format also provides opportunities for students/residents to be active participants in the learning process by facilitating the incorporation of a variety of learning activities other than the traditional lecture format. The early clinical experiences are designed to enhance and support the didactic curriculum by allowing students/residents to actually see, feel, and understand what is presented in the classroom in an actual clinical setting.

The University's block system also requires students/residents to achieve a 90 percent on assessments for each block, ensuring an unprecedented level of competency in all its graduates.

*continued on page 12*





Dr. Prashanti Bollu, Resident  
Wilbraham, Mass.  
DMD, Boston University,  
2008



Dr. Sumit Chawla, Resident  
Chicago, Ill.  
DMD, Tufts University  
School of Dental Medicine,  
2008



Dr. Chuen Chie Chiang, Resident  
Sacramento, Calif.  
DMD, University of Pennsylvania  
School of Dental Medicine,  
2008



Dr. T. Philip Kierl III, Resident  
Edmond, Okla.  
DDS, University of Oklahoma  
College of Dentistry,  
2008



Dr. Daniel Gehani, Resident  
Long Island, N.Y.  
DDS, SUNY Stony Brook  
School of Dental Medicine,  
2006

*continued from page 11*

"The cornerstone of USN's mission is to produce top-quality graduates who are highly competent, caring, and ethical professionals capable of dealing with the daily demands, challenges and rewards of contemporary orthodontic practice and business, who are well prepared to step into the future of healthcare, armed with confidence, knowledge and professionalism," said Dr. Hurst. "Our 90 percent passing requirement is designed to ensure our residents accomplish this."

The University of Southern Nevada College of Pharmacy, the university's first academic program, has seen tremendous success with the block curriculum system. For the past three years the college's Doctor of Pharmacy graduates have consistently and significantly exceeded the national pass-rate on the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Licensure Examination (NAPLEX).

"We're extremely confident our graduates will achieve the same level of success as the university's pharmacy graduates," said Dr. Hurst.

According to Dr. Jaleh Pourhamidi, associate professor and director of student affairs, the residents currently enrolled in the program were recruited in spring 2008. Since summer, the residents have been fully immersed in the University of Southern Nevada's Master of Business Administration program.

"Since the vast majority of dental professionals end up as the CEO's of their own small companies, we felt it was essential to equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in business as well as orthodontics," said Dr. Pourhamidi. "Our AEODO/MBA residency program is the first in the nation to require an MBA to develop residents' legal, ethical and financial competency, all of which are essential in operating a successful practice in today's complex health care business environment."

The residents have completed three quarters of their MBA curriculum and will complete the remaining courses throughout the remainder of their education at the University of Southern Nevada's College of Dental Medicine.

While the USN College of Dental Medicine has worked diligently to launch the program, it has already begun the recruitment and interview process for a new class of residents and interns to begin in July 2009. "Our plan is to enroll ten residents and three interns this summer," said Dr. Pourhamidi.

The college is also looking into the future with plans to expand its dental education program offerings, says Dr. Hurst.

"We're carefully examining many opportunities," adds Dr. Hurst. "We're also exploring the possibility of expanding the College of Dental Medicine to the university's South Jordan, Utah campus."

"We see tremendous potential for the College of Dental Medicine," said Dr. Rosenberg. "The AEODO/MBA residency program complements the university's mission to prepare competent professionals and to address the health care needs of Nevada and the entire Intermountain region through innovative educational programs, scholarship and public service."



## USN College of Dental Medicine Seeks Patients

The University of Southern Nevada College of Dental Medicine is now recruiting children, adolescents (teens) and adults to participate as patients in the newly launched orthodontic residency.

The college is offering a free screening and consultation, which includes an examination to qualify patients who are candidates for orthodontic treatment (braces). Qualified patients will be scheduled for diagnostic records and may begin orthodontic treatment as early as March. Following the start of treatment, routine appointments will typically be scheduled every four to six weeks at the college's clinic located at 4 Sunset Way, Building C in Henderson.

According to Dr. C. Lynn Hurst, dean of the College of Dental Medicine, patients will receive affordable, high-quality orthodontic treatment from a team that includes both a resident doctor, fully licensed by the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners, and board certified orthodontist faculty.

"In receiving treatment at the USN College of Dental Medicine, patients will have the benefit of a highly skilled team offering the latest technology and practices used to correct orthodontic and dentofacial orthopedic discrepancies, such as crooked teeth and jaws," said Dr. Hurst. "They'll also receive treatment at a very affordable cost."

Typically braces can cost \$6,000 or more, but the college will offer braces, as well as other orthodontic treatments, to patients for as little as quarter to half of those fees. The college also accepts most dental insurance plans, including Medicaid, and will provide affordable payment plans.

To schedule a free screening and consultation, call 702-968-5222.

Dr. Jeffrey McMillan, Resident  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
DDS, Meharry Medical College,  
2005



Dr. Michael Moore, Intern  
Memphis, Tenn.  
DDS, University of Tennessee,  
2008



Dr. Ruchir R. Patel, Resident  
South Barrington, Ill.  
DDS, University of Michigan,  
2008



Dr. Mahbod Rashidi, Resident  
Los Angeles, Calif.  
DDS, University of Southern California,  
2008



Dr. Uttampal Singh, Resident  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
DDS, University of California,  
San Francisco School of Dentistry,  
2008





## MBA PROGRAM RELOCATES



University of Southern Nevada has experienced remarkable growth since the first Pharm.D. class began matriculation in January 2001. While this growth is good news for the university, additional classrooms and office spaces are needed. Based on the growth projections of its academic programs, the university recently relocated its MBA program to a new location at 4 Sunset Way, Building E, just two blocks from the main campus building in Henderson.

According to MBA Program Director, Dr. Okeleke Nzeogwu, the new location at the busy corner of Sunset Road and Mountain Vista, provides the MBA program more visibility within the community.

“The location is ideal as we continue to promote the MBA program to the surrounding community professionals who we expect, in this down economy, are eager to retool and make themselves more competitive and flexible in a complex and changing job market,” said Dr. Nzeogwu.

The MBA program occupies the entire first floor of the two-story, 14,000 square-foot building. The space includes three classrooms, one study room, one multi-group break-out room, a conference room, faculty and staff offices and a student lunch-break room. Outside there is an open courtyard ideal for studying and mingling during class breaks. Additionally, ample parking provides easy access for busy working adult students.

“USN Facilities did an outstanding job renovating the building and creating an inviting and highly functional home for the MBA program,” added Dr. Nzeogwu.

Individuals interested in the USN MBA program are invited to tour the MBA building. For more information or an appointment, call 702-968-1661. – *Jason Roth*

## MBA Program Establishes Advisory Board

The University of Southern Nevada MBA program recently established an Advisory Board to help advance the program's mission to graduate responsible leaders who are innovative entrepreneurs, sound financial managers and effective communicators.

Chaired by MBA Program Director, Dr. Okeleke Nzeogwu, the board is comprised of key business executives of various industries, MBA program alumni, community leaders and USN deans, all of whom will participate in bi-annual meetings to conduct program reviews, evaluate curricular changes and suggest program enhancements. They will also act as community liaisons and ambassadors for the MBA program.

The inaugural board includes Dave Archer, CEO of Nevada's Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology; Dr. Renee Coffman, dean of the USN College of Pharmacy; Dr. C. Lynn Hurst, dean of the USN College of Dental Medicine; Jet Mitchell, recruiting manager for Robert Half Technology; Lisa Poulin, partner of CRG Partners Group; Duane Rankin, IT executive for Catholic Healthcare West and Dr. Mable Smith, dean of USN's College of Nursing.

"We're very proud to have assembled a group of individuals who are passionate about the success of USN's MBA program," said Dr. Nzeogwu. "We value the knowledge and expertise of our board members and we look forward to their input as we continue to enhance the program to meet the needs of current and future students."  
— Jason Roth



## More Pharmacy Students Pursuing an MBA

During the 2008/2009 academic year, which started in July 2008, USN's MBA program saw its largest increase in pharmacy students pursuing the MBA in conjunction with their Pharm.D. education. Sixteen new students enrolled and started their MBA coursework, which is roughly double the enrollment of previous years.

The remarkable enrollment growth suggests an increased awareness about the added value of an MBA for pharmacy students seeking increased career flexibility and managerial leadership skills. Many of the students have expressed an interest in "owning an independent pharmacy" and "moving up into management in the future" as well as managing pharmacy related services.

— Dr. Okeleke Nzeogwu



**The University of Southern Nevada MBA program is now accepting applications for classes starting in July.**

**Visit [www.usn.edu/mba](http://www.usn.edu/mba) <<http://www.usn.edu/mba>> to download an application.**

## DISCARD UNUSED MEDICINES SAFELY

BY SUSAN DONS

The start of a new year is a good time to check your medicine cabinet to see if any medicines have expired. Medications, whether prescribed by a doctor or purchased over-the-counter, should be discarded by their expiration date, as medicines may lose their effectiveness or even become toxic over time.

In the past, many people flushed old medicines down the toilet to prevent children or pets from finding and accidentally ingesting medicines from the trash. However, the Environmental Protection Agency no longer recommends flushing medicines, as sewage treatment plants may not be able to clean all medications out of the water.

Taking just a few small steps can keep your family and our environment safe from expired medications.

- *When discarding unused medications, take precautions to protect children and pets from potentially harmful effects. The American Pharmaceutical Association (APhA) recommends that consumers crush solid medications or dissolve them in water and mix with kitty litter, coffee grounds, or sawdust (or any material that absorbs the dissolved medication), then place in a sealed plastic bag BEFORE tossing in the trash.*
- *Liquid medications should be self "treated" in some way to stop animals or children from ingesting them. A simple way to do this is to add salt, ashes from a fireplace or barbecue, or dirt from your yard to make medications less appealing.*
- *Wrap several layers of masking tape or duct tape to cover and hide blister packs (pills in a card). It is also smart to put medications in the trash as close to the pick-up time as possible to decrease the likelihood of the medicine falling into the wrong hands.*

*For more information on the potential effects of pharmaceuticals as environmental pollutants, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/ppcp/>*

- *Take the original medication container with safety caps, if available, and tape the lid to the container with duct tape or other type of sturdy tape. Use a plastic container (bleach container) when getting rid of liquid medicines to prevent spills from broken glass bottles. Conceal all medications in an additional container such as a paper bag, box, or plastic tub. Finish by wrapping in several layers of newspaper to avoid discovery and potential removal from the trash.*
- *Remove and destroy all identifying personal information from the prescription label on the medication container. Don't forget to remove your name, drug name, prescription number and other personal information from the container before disposal.*

Additionally, your neighborhood pharmacy may provide safe disposal devices/services. You may be able to take your unused medications to your community pharmacy.

Your local pharmacist is a great resource when it comes to questions on unused and expired medications. Research shows that pharmacists are one of the most accessible health care professionals. As the medication expert on the health care team, pharmacists are available to guide you on how to properly dispose of your unused medications.

"More than half the people who abuse prescription pain killers indicate that they got their prescription drugs from a friend or relative for free. Proper disposal of unwanted, outdated, or unused medications will help minimize access to these products by people for whom they were not intended," said Dr. Paul Oesterman, assistant professor of pharmacy practice with the College of Pharmacy.

Following these simple steps can help protect your family and community, minimize a potential negative impact on the environment, and prevent the illegal use and dispersion of unused medications.





## **USN honored in 10th Annual Economic Development Awards**

In any city, steady economic growth is of upmost importance for that city and its residents to thrive. At the City of Henderson, our economic growth has been impressive over the last 10 years. In fact, Henderson has grown in population from less than 25,000 residents in 1980 to more than 270,000 residents in 2008.

To honor those companies and organizations that make our city great, we at the City of Henderson's Economic Development Division partnered with the Henderson Development Association to host our 10th Annual Economic Development Awards Program, which recently took place on Jan. 29.



We have had the honor to salute and recognize more than 300 new and local businesses over the past decade for their investments in Henderson, which total more than \$1.5 billion in positive economic impacts to the community.

Honorees are divided into several different categories, including New Business, Local Business Expansions, Commercial Developer Projects, Redevelopment, and Public & Private Sector.

USN was honored as one of the top eight companies in Henderson to be recognized in the Local Business Expansion category for creating new jobs and making new capital investments through its new College of Dental Medicine. Opening up new jobs, providing high quality, affordable care to the citizens of Southern Nevada and the surrounding region, as well as helping Southern Nevada to "grow its own" highly qualified dentists, the College of Dental Medicine has quickly proven to be a great asset to our community. To have grown from a humble student count of 35 in the year 2000, USN has experienced outstanding growth in the last nine years and will clearly continue to do so.

The City of Henderson, the Henderson Development Association and the Henderson Chamber of Commerce would like to personally thank USN President Harry Rosenberg for sharing his amazing story of success as part of our award ceremony. It was truly an inspiration.

We would also like to thank USN for all it has done for the community. It's higher education institutions such as USN that provide Southern Nevada with more than just a workforce; they provide our residents with career opportunities to look forward to and care for those who need it most. It is this sort of action that better all of our lives and truly makes the City of Henderson a great place to live, work and play.

We look forward to partnering with USN on future projects.

*Bob Cooper serves as the City of Henderson's Economic Development Division Manager.*

## Suken Shah



By Susan Dons

USN alumnus Suken Shah has come a long way since he began his career in media as an unpaid intern/producer on the Tom and Nicole Morning show on Sunny 106.5 FM in Las Vegas. After his two-year stint with the morning show, Shah moved into the sales and marketing arena with Cox Media. While there, he helped put together many different interactive marketing promotions that helped drive ratings and revenue.

In 2005, Shah entered into the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program at USN because he realized that in order to be successful in today's business world he would need further education. Shah was a charter member of the newly formed weekend MBA program and attended classes while maintaining his full-time position at Cox Media. He also served as an active officer in USN's Student Governance Association and graduated in 2007.

According to Shah, his time at USN helped him receive a solid education in business and gain a better grasp of how business works, helping him achieve a high level of success in all of his endeavors.

"I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work while I was attending school. In some cases I was able to take what I had learned on Saturday afternoon and put it to work on Monday morning when I got into the office. Managing school, work and a personal life was a challenge, but in the end it was worth it," said Shah.

Due to his hard work and passion for marketing, Shah has since moved up to the position of product specialist at Cox Media. He is responsible for the successful launch of GoScout HOMES on Cox Digital Cable. He generated more than \$200,000 in revenue along with creating marketing campaigns to help promote the channel. Shah also works to help promote Video-On-Demand, Interactive Advertising, and SMS Advertising to local businesses. In essence, he helps businesses use new technology to better their bottom lines.

Inspired by his experiences at USN, Shah has become an adjunct professor at UNLV, helping a new generation of students gain the tools they need in order to make a strong impact in the marketing world. He has taught a course in creating and giving effective presentations and is currently teaching Internet Marketing for the College of Business. He has a deep passion for education and loves to teach others on how technology is helping make life and business better.

"I discovered that education doesn't end with graduation," said Shah. "Teaching has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life." Additionally, Shah has been a guest speaker for the Clark County School District's PAYBAC (Professionals and Youth Building a Commitment) program, which sends business professionals to at-risk schools to educate students about the importance of staying in school. He also participates in Nevada's Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology Small Business Expo where he speaks on how businesses can use the Internet in many different ways to reach their target audiences.

In his free time, Shah enjoys giving back to his community by volunteering for the Tiger Woods Foundation, Olive Crest and The Salvation Army.

In 2005, Shah won a national "Adoption Excellence Award" from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for his work with the "A Welcome Home" program. A Welcome Home has helped bring awareness to a high number of children in Clark County who are in need of loving families.

He also serves as communications chair for the American Advertising Federation of Las Vegas.

Even with his hectic schedule Shah still maintains close ties to USN.

"I appreciate the entire USN faculty and staff and everything they've done for me. They've truly given me the real-world experience, which is so vital to my industry. I enjoy keeping in contact with my former professors and going out to lunch to catch-up on what's new with the university and how I can help out," remarks Shah.



Graduation doesn't mean you have to say goodbye for good. Instead, it's an opportunity to develop a new connection to USN; one that will last a lifetime.

USN would like to invite its distinguished alumni to keep in touch with us. Let us know how you're doing and we'll keep you in the loop on the success of fellow alumni, community mentors and faculty as well as let you know about events at USN. Of course, "staying connected" means different things to different people; you can remain connected with your fellow alumni however you want. Here are ten suggestions:

- Keep USN updated on your professional and personal success by e-mailing [alumnirelations@usn.edu](mailto:alumnirelations@usn.edu). We'll publish your update in *Connections*.
- Get involved with an alumni chapter in your area. If one hasn't been established, take the lead and start one.
- Suggest yourself or someone you know for an "Alumni In Action" profile in *Connections* by e-mailing [connections@usn.edu](mailto:connections@usn.edu).
- Submit an article for publication in *Connections*. You can write about anything from issues affecting your industry to stories of personal and professional triumph.
- Submit a photo for either the "Connections Photo Contest" or the "Faces of USN" section.
- Utilize social networking by joining or starting an alumni group on Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn or other site.
- Attend or volunteer to help out at USN events. There's no better way to reconnect than in person. Visit [www.usn.edu/events-calendar](http://www.usn.edu/events-calendar) for a list of upcoming events.
- Plan, host or co-host an alumni gathering in your community.
- Take advantage of Continuing Education at USN. Visit [www.usn.edu/continuing-education](http://www.usn.edu/continuing-education) to learn more.
- You're proud of your accomplishments. Share the opportunity for an outstanding educational experience with an aspiring student by referring him or her to USN.



# ALUMNI UPDATES

[2004]

**Jill Marquardt (Larsen)** (Pharm.D.) - Pharmacy manager at Walgreen's in Henderson, Nevada.

[2006]

**Jim Tran** (Pharm.D.) - Critical Care/Cardiology clinical pharmacist at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene, Texas.

[2007]

**Michael Kellam** (Pharm.D.) - Pharmacy manager at Walgreen's in Kingman, Arizona.

**Burl Moore** (Pharm.D.) - Pharmacy manager at Walgreen's in Parsons, Kansas.

**Brian Quan** (Pharm.D.) - Executive pharmacist at Target in Gardena, California.

**Baby Olivia Ekeh** (BSN) - Pursuing a master's degree in public health and MBA at Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois.

[2008]

**Brooke D. Tom** (BSN) - Currently employed as an Emergency/Trauma nurse at St. Rose Sienna Campus with certifications in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, and Trauma Nursing Care.

**Josh Stanley** (Pharm.D.) - Pharmacy manager for NV Team Resource.

**Natalie Neilson** (Pharm.D.) - Staff pharmacist at Smith's Food and Drug.

**Y. Tola Faleye** (Pharm.D.) - Pharmacy practice resident at Valley Baptist Medical Center in Harlingen, Texas.

**Venerando Umalif** (Pharm.D.) - Staff pharmacist at Summerlin Hospital in Las Vegas.

**Zlatan Coralic** (Pharm.D.) - Pharmacists at University of California, San Francisco Medical Center.

## Got Updates?

*Send us your update and we'll get you into an upcoming issue of Connections. Updates may be edited for space. Personal e-mail addresses and telephone numbers cannot be published.*

E-mail: [alumnirelations@usn.edu](mailto:alumnirelations@usn.edu)

Web site: [www.usn.edu/alumni](http://www.usn.edu/alumni)

U.S. Mail:  
Connections Alumni Update  
University of Southern Nevada  
11 Sunset Way  
Henderson, NV 89014

# FACES OF USN



P3 student Adam Zold in Jungfrauoch, Switzerland in the Swiss Alps.



Cortney Kjar, a P2 from South Jordan skiing at Park City Mountain Resort where she worked as a ski instructor for kids.



Carin Haseltine with her nieces Audrey and Emily Mitchell ready to see the Nutcracker Ballet at the Houston Auditorium.



Henderson pharmacy student Yomaben Patel with her niece Tanisi at a wedding in India.

Assistant Professor of Nursing Marie Wright hits the slopes at Brianhead, Utah.



Leili Rosenberg swims with dolphins while visiting the Big Island of Hawaii.

Nursing student Uche Ike and her nephew Phillip at a New Year's Day party in Houston.



Philip Kierl, AEODO/MBA resident, and girlfriend Amanda Winsworth in Snowbird, Utah.



Dr. Allison Welder and Abbie fishing at Quail Lake in Hurricane, Utah.



Rohini and Sohini Mandal play in the snow.



South Jordan pharmacy student Preston Alberts visits Old Town San Diego, California.



Pharmacy student Jennifer Mungcal with Glenn Mungcal and Molly Anderson in California.



Andy, Ryan and Terry Sullivan at the shore of the Gulf of Mexico.



South Jordan P2 Melanie Miller got engaged to David Carr and spent the winter break with him on the east coast.



South Jordan pharmacy students Jed Milne, Brady Teuscher, Sheldon Merrill and Paul Frazier hyped up to see Twilight.



Kim Dawes and husband Ed atop the Auckland Bridge in New Zealand.



Marie Smith, a South Jordan pharmacy student, celebrates New Year's Eve in Murray, Utah with boyfriend Cassidy Rapier.



Pharmacy students David Castillo, Isaac Cheng, Heidi Chu and Sue Kim at Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort.

# TECHNOLOGY MEGABYTE

## THE FUTURE OF USN TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

by Laura Jarrett

Over the last few months, the University of Southern Nevada Technology Services team has been revising their business processes in an effort to stay current on the technological trends, while still providing quality support to USN's students and employees. In addition to these new processes, the team has determined appropriate mission and vision statements which will assist in communicating their purpose at USN:

### Vision

Working together to enable the University to advance in information technology while encouraging the exchange and formation of knowledge. Technology Services strives to be in an integrated environment that fosters an open, collaborative, and unifying culture.

### Mission

Technology Services provides and fosters an innovative, customer-focused and robust foundation for IT solutions that empowers the University community to pursue excellence in research, education, and community service.

To help support the mission and vision statements, Technology Services has prepared numerous documents, ranging from policies and procedures to best practices and recommendations. In the upcoming months, these documents will be distributed and shared throughout the University community. One document already being distributed is the new Technology Services newsletter, TechTimes. The purpose of TechTimes is to communicate helpful guides pertaining to technology, unit news, important reminders, and upcoming training dates for USN supported software.

Finally, the Technology Services Helpdesk Coordinators are approaching training from a new angle: more one-on-one trainings. One-on-one trainings are becoming more popular, as they can be geared towards that particular individual and their responsibilities. One-on-one training date announcements are coming soon!

## TECHNOLOGY SERVICES PROJECTS

The Technology Services team is comprised of four distinct areas. Each area is assigned specific projects, correlating with Technology Services' mission and vision:

### 1.Support

This area is the Helpdesk and is comprised of Helpdesk Coordinators and Technicians. Their primary responsibilities are to provide technical support for students and employees. Based on frequency of issues or questions, trainings are then prepared and completed from this area.

### 2.Server and Network Administration

This area is comprised of our Server and Network Administrators. Their responsibilities include maintaining the University's network infrastructure. Some of their current projects include building USN's intranet via SharePoint and implementing Clean Access (a Cisco application which will assist in securing threats over the network).

### 3.Multimedia

The Multimedia Systems Analyst is responsible for this entire area. Currently, his main projects include portraits, event photography, and coordinating and testing the technology equipment for the College of Dental Medicine's new location.

### 4.Project Management

The Project Manager is primarily responsible for supporting the student information systems. In addition to the information systems, the main projects being worked on by the Project Manager include the processes of project management and program feasibility, and coordinating the Technology Services' projects.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

Technology Services wants your feedback! The best way for the unit to succeed is to make sure your concerns are heard. Whether it's more training sessions, longer office hours, or if you just want to tell us how we are doing, we want to hear it. While we cannot accommodate everything; we can at least try to find a compromise. Here's how you can give us your ideas:

1. E-mail us at [usnhelpdesk@usn.edu](mailto:usnhelpdesk@usn.edu) (*Nevada Campus*) or [uthelpdesk@usn.edu](mailto:uthelpdesk@usn.edu) (*Utah Campus*)
2. Call us at (702) 968-2030 (*Nevada Campus*) or (801) 878-1010 (*Utah Campus*)
3. Complete a comment card and submit it in the suggestion box outside the Helpdesk office
4. Come on in to the Helpdesk and talk to us!



## SAVE THE DATE

**Wednesday, February 18**

7 to 8 p.m.

Continuing Professional Education: Nevada Pharmacy Law  
University of Southern Nevada, Henderson Campus

**Thursday, March 5**

5 p.m.

College of Nursing Class of 2009 Pinning Ceremony  
The Ritz-Carlton, Lake Las Vegas

**Friday, March 6**

9 a.m.

College of Nursing Class of 2009 Graduation  
Henderson Pavilion

**Wednesday, March 18**

7 to 8 p.m.

Continuing Professional Education: Nevada Pharmacy Law  
University of Southern Nevada, Henderson Campus

**Saturday, March 21**

8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Continuing Professional Education: Pain Management  
Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City

**Monday, March 23**

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

College of Pharmacy Preceptor Development  
University of Southern Nevada, Henderson Campus

**Tuesday, March 24**

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

College of Pharmacy Preceptor Development  
University of Southern Nevada, South Jordan Campus

**Saturday, March 28**

8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Continuing Professional Education: Pain Management  
University of Southern Nevada, South Jordan Campus

**Saturday, March 28**

5:30 to 10 p.m.

USN Scholarship Gala: "Hollywood Nights"  
The Ritz-Carlton, Lake Las Vegas

**Saturday, April 11**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

USN's Healthier You Health Festival  
Desert Canyon Rehabilitation Hospital

**Wednesday, April 15**

7 to 8 p.m.

Continuing Professional Education: Nevada Pharmacy Law  
Teleconference

**Saturday, May 30**

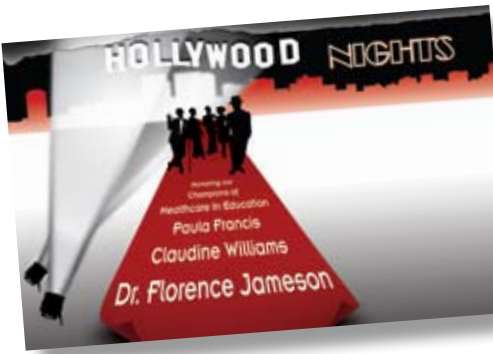
2 to 4 p.m.

Morton's The Steakhouse  
A Taste of the Arts

**Thursday, August 13**

Chefs Wine & Spirits Too  
The Ritz-Carlton, Lake Las Vegas

*For detailed information about USN events,  
please visit [www.usn.edu/events-calendar](http://www.usn.edu/events-calendar)*



## USN Hollywood Nights Gala

*By Barbara Wood*

University of Southern Nevada is proud to present its seventh annual Scholarship Gala, "Hollywood Nights," an enticing evening filled with Hollywood-style glitz and glamour created by You Name It Events. The exclusive, "Red Carpet" event premieres on Saturday, March 28 at The Ritz-Carlton, Lake Las Vegas.

The cocktail hour will begin at 5:30 p.m. and feature complementary wines, courtesy of Albertsons/SuperValu, taste-tempting hors d'oeuvres prepared by the world-class chefs of The Ritz-Carlton, and Hollywood movie scores performed by concert artist Michael Cooney.

Dinner and program will begin at 7 p.m. with the presentation of the third annual "Champions of Healthcare in Education Awards." This year University of Southern Nevada will honor Philanthropist Claudine Williams of Harrah's Entertainment, Dr. Florence Jameson of Volunteers in Medicine of Southern Nevada, and Paula Francis, KLAS-TV 8 news anchor and originator of "Buddy Check 8."

Bruce Spottleson, group publisher at Greenspun Media Group, our media sponsor, will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Entertainment will include internationally-acclaimed impressionist and "man of 1,000 voices," Mr. Rich Little.

Guests are invited to bid on a variety of fun, frivolous and practical items during the evening's Silent and Live Auctions. Proceeds benefit USN student scholarships and services.

For table reservations, to donate items for the auctions or for event sponsorship opportunities, please call 702-968-5022 or e-mail [bwood@usn.edu](mailto:bwood@usn.edu).

## USN Community Outreach For Health

*By Barbara Wood*

University of Southern Nevada's community outreach health festivals have been continuously presented quarterly since 2004 at many hospitals, clinics, surgery centers, credit unions and shopping malls throughout Southern Nevada. In 2007 and 2008, USN partnered with the South Jordan Chamber of Commerce to present them in Utah.

The outstanding and ambitious students of our Colleges of Pharmacy and Nursing have generously donated their skills, time and talents conducting free health screenings such as blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol, as well as offering crucial counseling about prescription drugs, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, acid reflux and more.

Our next health festival, the USN's Healthier You Festival, will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 11 at the Desert Canyon Rehabilitation Hospital, located at 9175 W. Oquendo Road, just off of the I-215 at Russell Road in Las Vegas. Special thanks goes to Suzanne Cram, member of the USN Board of Trustees and CEO of the hospital, for hosting the festival. As always, the entire event and all screenings are free to the public.

More than 70 non-profit and for-profit organizations partner with USN yearly to offer life-saving information, screenings and services through these festivals. You can become more proactive about your health by attending. For information, call 968-2055.

# CONNECTIONS

From the high deserts and the snow covered peaks to the beautiful blue lakes and majestic national parks, or anything that inspires you, capture the spirit of Nevada or Utah for our new Connections Photography Contest. Send us your photograph for a chance to be featured on the back cover of the next issue of Connections and for a special prize.

The contest is open to all students, alumni, faculty and staff (full and part-time). To enter, send your photo to [connections@usn.edu](mailto:connections@usn.edu) by Friday, April 3, 2009. Photos should be in jpeg format (minimum 300 dpi) and include a brief description (150 words or less).

The winning photograph will be selected by the Photo Judging Committee comprised of representatives from the university community.  
—Sukanya Mandal



## Photography Contest: Send Us Your Best Shot

**WHERE AMBITION MEETS INNOVATION.™**

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SOUTHERN NEVADA



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