

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

COMPREHENSIVE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

Executive Summary



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INTRODUCTION

As the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) approaches its 50-year anniversary it is preparing to face significant challenges to establish the necessary physical environment to meet its academic mission. These challenges include rapid community population growth, a landlocked Maryland Parkway Campus, changing pedagogic and research methodologies, advancing technological requirements, inadequate infrastructure, and restrictive funding.

To help address these issues, UNLV initiated the development of a major update of the Comprehensive Campus Master Plan (Master Plan). The Master Plan is intended to assess and quantify the campus' ability to accommodate physical expansion and provide a flexible "blueprint" to guide this growth in a consistent and harmonious manner with the institutional mission and the campus' unique character. The plan is truly an "opportunity framework" within which the university has flexibility to strategically manage physical growth and optimize its financial investments on its campus.

While the master planning effort's primary focus was for the main Maryland Parkway Campus, the Shadow Lane Campus was also studied, and specific recommendations are provided for accommodating its future development.

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

Founded in 1957, UNLV is comprised of a 337-acre Maryland Parkway Campus, 18-acre Shadow Lane campus, and several independent parcels located throughout the Las Vegas Valley. The university has rapidly grown from 13,000 gross square feet (gsf) of building space to over 3.8 million gsf in 45 years and is now classified as a doctoral degree granting institution with more than 26,162 students and 2,595 faculty/staff members (fall 2003 data). Student enrollments continue to outpace projections. This will require the consideration of several options to manage institution population growth and to maintain and potentially extend quality facilities for education, student enrichment, research, and other university initiatives and activities.



Figure 1: UNLV circa 1963



Figure 2: UNLV circa 2002

