

Media Contact: Tony Allen (702) 895-0893
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INAUGURAL MULTICULTURAL NURSING CONFERENCE TO EXPLORE CHANGING FACE OF PROFESSION

*Event Designed to Improve Understanding of Cultural Differences In Nursing
through Open Dialogue and Shared Experiences*

LAS VEGAS– September 14, 2007–As the nursing workforce in Southern Nevada grows increasingly more diverse, awareness and acceptance of cultural differences within the community and the profession have become crucial to improving patient care and increasing retention.

With those issues mind, nurses and educators from across the state will gather at UNLV Sept. 21 and 22 for the inaugural Multicultural Nursing Conference—a first-of-its kind forum for nurses from diverse backgrounds to explore their cultural and clinical differences and discuss strategies for improving communication and increasing cultural competency.

“Cultural awareness and competency are absolutely essential for nurses to be successful in today’s diverse healthcare environment,” said Carolyn Yucha, dean of the UNLV School of Nursing. “Our goal is to provide an opportunity for nurses to exchange ideas and share experiences with one another, which will ultimately lead to improved communication and teamwork within the profession.”

(more)

The conference is presented by the UNLV School of Nursing and will offer presentations from UNLV nursing faculty and healthcare leaders on topics including: marginalization, discrimination and exploitation; reality, myths and stereotypes; cultural adjustment; and the experiences of internationally-trained nurses in the U.S. nursing environment. The event will also feature a keynote presentation by renowned nursing scholar Josepha Campinha-Bacote, who will discuss models for enhancing cultural competence in the healthcare industry.

The Multicultural Nursing Conference, held at UNLV's Stan Fulton Building, is co-sponsored by the Nevada Nurses Association, Hispanic Nurses Association, Philippine Nurses Association and Southern Nevada Black Nurses Association. For additional conference information, including complete registration and program details, log on to <http://nursing.unlv.edu>.

###

UNLV is a doctoral-degree-granting institution of 28,000 students and 3,300 faculty and staff. Founded in 1957, the university offers more than 220 undergraduate, master's and doctoral degree programs. UNLV is located on a 350-acre campus in dynamic Southern Nevada and is classified in the category of Research Universities (high research activity) by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.