2. **AUTHORITY**

   The institution is authorized to operate and award degrees as a higher education institution by the appropriate governmental organization, agency, or governing board as required by the jurisdiction in which it operates.

   The Constitution State of Nevada authorizes the state legislature to establish institutions of higher education to be controlled by a board of regents. The Nevada Revised Statutes further define higher education and state that the institutions are to be administered by the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE). The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) is one of eight institutions of the NSHE, which consists of two doctoral-granting universities, a state college, four comprehensive community colleges, and an environmental research institute. The Board of Regents (BOR) governs the NSHE in a manner similar to a corporate board of directors. The board leadership is comprised of a chairman and vice chairman who are elected by the board’s membership. Thirteen board members are elected from districts defined by the Nevada Legislature to serve a six-year term. The regents set policies and approve budgets for Nevada’s entire public system of higher education.

3. **MISSION AND CORE THEMES**

   The institution's mission and core themes are clearly defined and adopted by its governing board(s) consistent with its legal authorization, and are appropriate to a degree-granting institution of higher education. The institution's purpose is to serve the educational interests of its students and its principal programs lead to recognized degrees. The institution devotes all, or substantially all, of its resources to support its educational mission and core themes.

   The mission statement of UNLV was most recently reviewed at the April 2009 NSHE Board of Regents meeting. The mission statement was developed as a component of the institutional strategic plan entitled, *Focus: 50 to 100 – Celebrating 50 Years and Planning the Future*, which was approved by the BOR in August 2008.

   UNLV’s purpose is to provide a high-quality education to students and its programs lead to recognized degrees. Resources are allocated in support of the mission and core themes. Consistent with UNLV’s mission and core themes, the university is working with the community and the state to create the workforce of tomorrow.

4. **OPERATIONAL STATUS**

   The institution has completed at least one year of its principal educational programs and is operational with students actively pursuing its degree programs at the time of the Commission accepting an institution's Application for Consideration for Eligibility. The institution has graduated at least one class in its principal educational program(s) before the Commission's evaluation for initial accreditation.
The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) began offering classes in 1957 and was first accredited by the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools the following year under the accreditation of the University of Nevada, Reno, and has maintained its accreditation status ever since. UNLV awarded its first degree in June 1964.

5. OPERATIONAL FOCUS AND INDEPENDENCE
   The institution's programs and services are predominantly concerned with higher education. The institution has sufficient organizational and operational independence to be held accountable and responsible for meeting the Commission's standards and eligibility requirements.

   Education and research are the primary missions of the institution, and UNLV operates as an academic institution with appropriate autonomy. As a state institution, it has no particular official, social, political, or religious affiliations; its organizational and operational independence is consistent with other state institutions. The parameters of its autonomy are defined in the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents Handbook.

6. NON-DISCRIMINATION
   The institution is governed and administered with respect for the individual in a nondiscriminatory manner while responding to the educational needs and legitimate claims of the constituencies it serves as determined by its charter, its mission, and its core themes.

   UNLV is administered in a non-discriminatory manner and responds to the educational needs of the local community and the state of Nevada through its various degree programs, the Division of Educational Outreach, and community services such as the low-cost counseling available at the Center for Individual, Couple and Family Counseling1.

   As delegated by the president, the Vice President for Student Affairs also serves as the university’s Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action officer. In this capacity, the vice president is responsible for insuring that the institution complies with the terms of the Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action policies set forth by the NSHE as well as all applicable Federal and State statutes, laws, orders, and regulations. The vice president investigates complaints of persons who allege acts of discrimination.

   All registered student organizations sign agreements annually to abide by all state and federal laws including unlawful discrimination and they are governed by the UNLV Student Conduct Code.

7. INSTITUTIONAL INTEGRITY
   The institution establishes and adheres to ethical standards in all of its operations and relationships.

1 [http://urbanaffairs.unlv.edu/client_services/]
The administration is committed to the high ethical standards that are clearly expressed in numerous governing documents. Regulations and guidelines on ethical behavior are addressed at the state level through the Nevada Revised Statutes, particularly in the “Code of Ethical Standards”. Similar regulations are addressed at the NSHE level throughout the Board of Regents’ Handbook, with special emphasis in such areas as “Compensated Outside Professional Services” (Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 8); “Standards of Conduct” (Title 2, Chapter 6, Section 6.2.2); and “Conflicts of Interest Prohibited” (Title 4, Chapter 10, Section 1, number 7).

UNLV’s bylaws address guidelines at the campus level, and specific units within the university develop policies to address more targeted ethical concerns. The list of policies below represents just a sampling of the many designed to assist the campus community in achieving and maintaining ethical standards.

**Finance and Administration (including Human Resources)**
- UNLV Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace Policy
- UNLV Disclosure of Improper Governmental Action Policy
- UNLV Nepotism Policy
- UNLV Sexual Harassment Policy
- UNLV Consensual Relationships Policy
- UNLV Purchasing Code of Ethics
- Internal Controls and the Roles and Responsibilities of University Financial Administrators
- University Business Operations Guide

**Research**
- UNLV Conflict of Interest and Commitment Policy
- UNLV Research Misconduct Policy
- UNLV Policy on Laboratory Animal Care and Use
- Institutional Review Board (IRB)/Human Subjects Research Policy

**Student Affairs**
- UNLV Financial Aid and Scholarships Code of Ethics
- UNLV Student Conduct Code
- Students of Concern Policy
• Student Email Policy

The above policies are on posted on the university’s website.

7. GOVERNING BOARD
The institution has a functioning governing board responsible for the quality and integrity of the institution and for each unit within a multiple-unit institution to ensure that the institution's mission and core themes are being achieved. The governing board has at least five voting members, a majority of whom have no contractual or employment relationship or personal financial interest with the institution.

The governing board for UNLV and the other institutions of higher education in Nevada is the Nevada System of Higher Education. The Board of Regents governs the NSHE in a manner similar to a corporate board of directors. The board leadership is comprised of a chairperson and vice chairperson who are elected by the board’s membership. Thirteen board members (regents) are elected from districts defined by the Nevada Legislature to serve a six-year term. The regents set policies and approve budgets for Nevada’s entire public system of higher education.

As elected officials, regents are held to numerous state statutes which govern ethical behavior, such as Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), Title 23, Public Officers and Employees².

Additionally, NRS 396.122 states: “A member of the Board of Regents shall not be interested, directly or indirectly, as principal, partner, agent or otherwise, in any contract or expenditure created by the Board of Regents, or in the profits or results thereof.”

The BOR handbook contains more details regarding the operation of the board in Articles III-VI, appendix 2.A.4, including the prohibition of any board member from receiving funds or other earnings from any of the institutions of the NSHE.

No other boards are involved in the governance of the system of higher education in Nevada.

8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – The institution employs a chief executive officer who is appointed by the governing board and whose full-time responsibility is to the institution. Neither the chief executive officer nor an executive officer of the institution chairs the institution's governing board.

The university is led by President Neal Smatresk, Ph.D., who was appointed to the role by the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents. Dr. Smatresk serves as president of UNLV on a full-time basis and holds no other competing positions. He does not serve on the governing board, the NSHE Board of Regents, in any capacity. None of UNLV’s executive officers serve on the Board of Regents.

9. ADMINISTRATION
In addition to a chief executive officer, the institution employs a sufficient number of qualified administrators who provide effective leadership and management for the

² [http://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-281.html](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-281.html)
UNLV’s administration is headed by the president who is responsible for the functioning of the university as prescribed in the NSHE handbook. The president creates the administrative structure that best fits the mission of the institution. The president reports to the chancellor and through the chancellor to the board.

The president has a cabinet which meets weekly. Its mission is to provide advice and counsel to the president on matters regarding policies, procedures, and strategic planning. The president's cabinet is composed of these positions:

- Executive Vice President and Provost
- Vice President for Advancement
- Vice President for Diversity Initiatives and Government Affairs
- Vice President for Finance and Business
- Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate College
- Vice President for Student Affairs
- General Counsel
- Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
- Senior Advisor (a faculty member)
- Chief of Staff

The Executive Vice President and Provost (EVP & P) and the vice presidents listed above are responsible for assisting the president in administering the university. The EVP & P is the chief academic and budget officer for the campus and is responsible for overseeing and aligning academic and budgetary policy and priorities, ensuring the quality of the faculty and student body, and expanding the research enterprise. The position reports to the president and serves interchangeably with him in the capacity of chief academic officer and chief administrative officer. The deans of the academic colleges and schools report to the EVP & P.

Reporting directly to the President, the Senior Vice President for Finance and Business (SVPFB) is an executive position responsible for supporting the university’s teaching, research, and public service mission by providing quality financial, business, and administrative services to the university community and ensuring transparency in planning and budgeting.
The Vice President for Advancement (VPA) reports to the president and is the senior executive in charge of all external relations for UNLV. The VPA provides overall leadership for development, alumni and external relations, marketing and public relations, strategic communications, public affairs, Reprographics (the on-campus publishing unit), and the UNLV Foundation which is the fund raising unit of UNLV.

Established in 2007, the Office of the Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion underwent a name change in September 2011 to the Office of Diversity Initiatives and Government Affairs. The interim Vice President of Diversity Initiatives and Government Affairs reports to the president and serves as the chief advisor and representative in diversity matters. As a member of the president’s cabinet, the vice president is charged with promoting and advancing excellence through equity, diversity, and inclusion at the university. The government affairs responsibilities include working with local and state representatives to regain as much of the lost state funding as possible and attempt to move forward the case of a new funding formula.

General counsel reports administratively to the Chief Counsel of the Nevada System of Higher Education. The general counsel position is housed on the UNLV campus, serves as the principal legal counsel to UNLV, and is a member of the cabinet.

The Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate College is responsible for serving students, faculty and staff’s involvement in research; strategically managing growth in new and existing graduate programs; and improving the overall infrastructure and quality of graduate education. This vice president is also expected to increase and diversify research and creative works, extramural funding, public-private partnerships, and technology transfer through strong working relationships within the university community, the NSHE, local and national businesses and industries, state and federal agencies, regional research centers, and national laboratories.

The Vice President for Student Affairs provides vision, leadership, and strategic direction to the Division of Student Affairs in supporting the academic mission of the university. The vice president oversees the departments, services, facilities, and programs to provide support for undergraduate, graduate and professional students. As delegated by the president, this vice president also serves as the university’s Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action officer. In this capacity, the vice president is responsible for insuring that the institution complies with the terms of the Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action policies set forth by the NSHE as well as all applicable Federal and State statutes, laws, orders, and regulations. Additionally, the vice president investigates complaints of persons who allege acts of discrimination.

The Director of Intercollegiate Athletics (AD) is responsible for a comprehensive athletic program that includes expenditures in excess of $25 million, 150 employees, and 17 men’s and women’s National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I programs currently competing in the Mountain West Conference (MWC). This position ensures that student athletes and athletic staff comply with all rules, regulations, policies, and decisions established or issued by UNLV, the NCAA, and the MWC in a sportsmanlike and ethical manner. The AD is responsible for external fund-raising, community relations, hiring and termination of head coaches and department staff, sports schedules, student eligibility, and maintaining reasonable discipline with student athletes while promoting all aspects of university life and endeavors.
A dean is the chief academic and administrative officer of a college or school and reports directly to the EVP & P. Deans provide leadership in the college or school’s research, teaching, and service missions and have significant community relations and fundraising responsibilities. Deans must be committed to:

- Excellence and continued growth in undergraduate and graduate education
- The support and expansion of faculty scholarship and research activities
- The promotion of academic policies and use of resources consistent with the college and university strategic plans
- Capitalizing on present and emerging departmental strengths
- The provision of facilities adequate to support expanding college programs
- The expansion of cooperative interactions and partnerships with both local and other governmental and private organizations

Deans are also responsible for managing the academic, fiscal, physical and human resources of a college or school and work collectively through the Council of Deans to strategically deploy resources to advance the university’s strategic plan. A dean must possess an earned doctorate in a discipline appropriate to the college or school and an outstanding record of research, academic and professional achievement meriting appointment at the rank of tenured professor. UNLV adheres to human resources procedures consistent with other large, public universities in its hiring and annual evaluations of administrators.

10. FACULTY

Consistent with its mission and core themes, the institution employs and regularly evaluates the performance of appropriately qualified faculty sufficient in number to achieve its educational objectives, establish and oversee academic policies, and ensure the integrity and continuity of its academic programs wherever offered and however delivered.

Consistent with its mission and core themes, the institution employs and regularly evaluates the performance of appropriately qualified faculty sufficient in number to achieve its educational objectives. Although state funding has been reduced in recent years, student enrollment has only decreased slightly and faculty have taken on increased workloads in order to meet the student demand for courses. About 75 new faculty were hired effective fall 2012 to assist with the workload.

The colleges have each developed a college/department mission and a strategic plan which is consistent with the university’s mission, core themes, programs and service characteristics. This is used as a basis for establishing academic programs and policies, developing current faculty and recruiting future faculty. By employing and developing sufficient qualified faculty, the university has maintained specific program accreditation for many of its programs. New faculty
is selected based on their abilities to engage in teaching, service to the university and industry, research, and their commitment to the fulfillment of UNLV’s mission.

The UNLV Bylaws and the NSHE code require annual faculty evaluations regarding teaching, service, and research. Faculty are also evaluated every semester by students in the courses they teach and these results are available to the faculty member and to the relevant administrators. Faculty members are evaluated in terms of teaching, research, and service.

11. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The institution provides one or more educational programs which include appropriate content and rigor consistent with its mission and core themes. The educational program(s) culminate in achievement of clearly identified student learning outcomes, and lead to collegiate-level degree(s) with degree designation consistent with program content in recognized fields of study.

UNLV offers 963 undergraduate programs and 1103 graduate degrees and certificate programs. Several processes maintain appropriate content and rigor of these academic programs. When developing courses and academic programs, UNLV faculty benchmark course structure, content and assignments against similar courses and programs at other institutions. This information, and when applicable, discipline-based accreditation organization standards such as those for nursing or engineering are used to develop programs, courses, and competencies, or learning outcomes expected of graduates.

UNLV uses program level academic assessment to establish learning outcomes for all undergraduate and graduate degrees. All units submit program level assessment plans that describe expected learning outcomes, in summary format, the minimum set of expected knowledge and capabilities the degree recipients should attain upon graduation. Annually submitted assessment reports document results of departmental efforts to evaluate collective student attainment of the major’s learning outcomes.

Course syllabus guidelines issued each semester by the provost specify that course level learning outcomes are required as part of the minimum content for all course syllabi. Teaching faculty establish course-level learning outcomes and develop the instruments and assessment procedures that will be used to document student attainment of course level learning outcomes.

UNLV’s academic organizational structure is similar to the majority of public and private four-year institutions in the United States. Academic department names, fields of instruction and research, and faculty staffing are similar to other institutions. Degree programs are consistent with its mission and lead to collegiate-level degrees or certificates with designators consistent with program content in recognized fields of study, and are similar to degree designations generally used by public and private institutions of higher education.

UNLV classifies its degrees at all levels in a manner consistent with titles and Classification of Instructional Programs codes used in the Integrated Postsecondary Data System (IPEDS) maintained by the National Center for Education Statistics

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3 As of December 2012.
12. GENERAL EDUCATION AND RELATED INSTRUCTION
The institution's baccalaureate degree programs and/or academic or transfer associate degree programs require a substantial and coherent component of general education as a prerequisite to or an essential element of the programs offered. All other associate degree programs (e.g., applied, specialized, or technical) and programs of study of either 30 semester or 45 quarter credits or more for which certificates are granted contain a recognizable core of related instruction or general education with identified outcomes in the areas of communication, computation, and human relations that align with and support program goals or intended outcomes. Bachelor and graduate degree programs also require a planned program of major specialization or concentration.

Both UNLV’s General Education webpage and the 2012-2014 Undergraduate Catalog state: “The purpose of the UNLV General Education Program is to foster attainment of knowledge and skills that will enable students to perform better in their academic majors and in their post-graduate careers.”

There are five broad University Undergraduate Learning Outcomes (UULOs) that provide a framework for curriculum and course design to attain the mission statement:

- Intellectual Breadth and Life Long Learning
- Inquiry and Critical Thinking
- Communication
- Global and Multicultural Knowledge and Awareness
- Citizenship and Ethics

The UULOs describe the knowledge and skills that empower students to be successful in and after college. They challenge students to:

- Become effective inquirers, critical thinkers.
- Become effective oral and written communicators.
- Participate knowledgeably and ethically in civic life.
- Develop knowledge of the world’s diverse societies.
- Understand and integrate basic principles of natural and social sciences, humanities, and fine arts into their learning.
- Continue their learning throughout their lives.

4 http://generaled.unlv.edu/overview.html
Each broad UULO is phrased as a general capability statement for students to demonstrate. Six specific outcomes are established for each UULO, with each outcome defining a specific skill or area of knowledge that students are expected to demonstrate. A complete detailed description of the five broad UULOs and their associated learning outcomes is found in the General Education section of the 2012-2014 undergraduate catalog and on the general education webpage.

The UULOs foster development of student capabilities in communication, critical thinking, and inquiry that improve their abilities to acquire and demonstrate content knowledge in their majors.

To implement the UULOs at both the general education and academic program levels, the Faculty Senate adopted curricular revisions in November 2011. The revisions establish a vertical curricular framework of four courses that intentionally address the UULOs, establishing a purposeful sequence of learning from the first year, to the middle years, to the senior year.

This sequence includes two new general education courses, the First Year and Second Year Seminars that are intended to be completed in the student's freshman and sophomore years, respectively. The next two courses in the sequence are two courses that address the UULOs within the context of the major, designated as Milestone and Culminating Experiences.

The Milestone Experience orients students to the expected learning outcomes of their major field of study and reinforces the UULOs. Students should complete the Milestone Experience in their sophomore or junior year. All Milestone Experiences reinforce the inquiry and critical thinking and communication UULOs within the context of the major. Milestone Experiences may take the form of a single course, components of multiple courses, and/or defined assessable outcomes of a major field of study.

The Culminating Experience is a final review, consolidation, and assessment of the UULO as well as the learning outcomes of a student's major. Students should complete the Culminating Experience in their last year before graduation. The Culminating Experience has an assessable project that may take a variety of forms. Examples are:

- an original undergraduate research project
- a designated capstone course
- development of an e-portfolio of artistic or scholarly work completed over a student's college career
- a required internship or service learning project with an academic component that requires development and presentation of a report
- standardized exam questions from a course or courses
- a professional licensing examination

5 [http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=532&hl=undergraduate+learning+outcomes&returnto=search](http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=532&hl=undergraduate+learning+outcomes&returnto=search)

6 [http://generaled.unlv.edu/uulo.html](http://generaled.unlv.edu/uulo.html)
In addition to the four above-described courses in the vertical curricular framework, the general education program requires all students to complete two courses in English Composition, instruction in both the US and Nevada Constitutions, two courses in life and physical sciences, one of which must be a laboratory science, one course in analytical thinking, one course in college-level mathematics, and courses in two distribution areas that are outside the designated distribution area of the student’s academic major. Not including the Milestone and Culminating experiences, which are accounted for in the student’s major, the general education program requires students to complete between 36 and 40 semester credits.

UNLV does not offer associate degrees, but does offer one for-credit undergraduate certificate programs, the Certificate in Radiography: 73 semester credits, offered through the School of Allied Health Sciences.

The four goals, associated learning outcomes and curriculum of the applied Certificate in Radiography are described on its webpage. Within the 73-credit radiography program curriculum, there are 24 credits of related instruction in standard semester long UNLV academic classes consisting of English Composition, Human Anatomy and Physiology, Life Sciences and Computers, taught by UNLV teaching faculty. Radiography classes and clinical education comprise the remaining 49 credits.

All of UNLV’s baccalaureate majors require a planned program of major specialization or concentration. Curricula are available in the Undergraduate Catalog. Degree planning worksheets are available on-line at the UNLV Academic Advising Center web page.

All of UNLV’s graduate degrees require a planned program of major specialization or concentration. Curricula are available in the UNLV Graduate catalog. Students obtain degree planning worksheets from their academic departments, complete their plans in consultation with their graduate advisor and their graduate advisory committees, and then submit them to the Graduate College.

Completion of graduation requirements is monitored through the degree audit process, which is integrated into UNLV’s student program and course registration system, called MyUNLV.

13. LIBRARY AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

Consistent with its mission and core themes, the institution maintains and/or provides access to library and information resources with an appropriate level of currency, depth, and breadth to support the institution's programs and services wherever offered and however delivered.

University Libraries supports UNLV’s mission and core themes through its physical and digital collections and services, which support and enrich the teaching, learning, scholarship, and development of our students, faculty, and community; ongoing assessment of those services and

8 http://go.unlv.edu/about/academics/catalogs
9 http://www.unlv.edu/advising/centers
10 http://catalog.unlv.edu/index.php?catoID=8
resources informs future resource allocations.

14. PHYSICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The institution provides the physical and technological infrastructure necessary to achieve its mission and core themes.

UNLV’s facilities support the mission of the university by creating and maintaining a physical environment that enhances learning and research. UNLV has three instructional sites in Las Vegas: the main campus on Maryland Parkway, Paradise site on Tropicana, and the Shadow Lane site.

Maryland Parkway has ninety-five buildings on the 332-acre campus and is centrally located within the metropolitan Las Vegas valley. The Paradise site (south of the main campus, across Tropicana), with almost 40,000 Gross Square Feet (GSF)\(^{11}\), houses Educational Outreach, the School Refusal Clinic, UNLV Food Pantry, storage for the Office of Academic and Research Space, and Army ROTC storage. Shadow Lane, located in the Las Vegas medical district, houses the School of Dental Medicine, the Health Sciences Clinical Skills laboratories, and research labs in 170,000 GSF.

UNLV has been able to construct facilities at a rate sufficient to maintain the ratio of GSF/Headcount within the 150-200 GSF/Headcount which was the direction of the NSHE in its 2004 master plan. In 2012, an update of UNLV’s master plan was completed and the BOR approved it at its November 2012 meeting.

As documented in Standard 2.G.5 – 2.G.8, UNLV provides a comprehensive technical infrastructure to support the university’s programs and services. The university employs industry standard network and server hardware sufficient in capacity and quantity to meet existing and near-term future information systems needs. The technical infrastructure of the institution is maintained and upgraded to keep up with changing technological needs and requirements.

UNLV is served by infrastructure from the NHSE, NSHE’s System Computing Services (SCS), and the UNLV Office of Information Technology (OIT). Human Resources and Financial services infrastructure is provided and managed by SCS on IBM mainframe technologies. Student Information Systems service is provided by SCS on IBM pSeries infrastructure and is jointly managed by SCS and OIT. Campus applications such as the Course Management System (known as WebCampus) and integrations to SCS services are provided and managed by OIT.

SCS serves as the ISP (Internet Service Provider) for all higher education institutions operated by the State of Nevada. UNLV’s network is connected to the Internet via a 10-gigabit primary and 1-gigabit backup connection to SCS. UNLV uses firewalls and access control lists to prevent unauthorized access to internal devices; initiatives are underway to provide campus wide firewall service. The configuration and auditing of firewall and router access controls follow best practices as recommended by NSHE and the National Institute of Standards and Technology guidelines.

\(^{11}\) UNLV gross square feet (GSF) includes instructional facilities, recreational facilities, physical plants and residential student housing, and represents the total footprint of all floors in each building.
15. ACADEMIC FREEDOM
The institution maintains an atmosphere in which intellectual freedom and independence exist. Faculty and students are free to examine and test all knowledge appropriate to their discipline or area of major study as judged by the academic/educational community in general.

The university recognizes the importance of academic freedom to the common good. Academic freedom is extended to both the classroom and research. In the classroom academic freedom is acknowledged for the instructor and the student. Faculty members have the freedom and obligation to investigate subjects with openness and integrity, regardless of potential political, social, or scientific controversies. To assure this freedom, faculty members are not subjected to censorship or discipline regarding expressed opinions or views which are controversial, unpopular or contrary to the attitudes of the university or community. The concept of academic freedom is accompanied by the equally demanding concept of academic responsibility. A member of the faculty is responsible for the maintenance of appropriate standards of scholarship and instruction.

16. ADMISSIONS
The institution publishes its student admission policy which specifies the characteristics and qualifications appropriate for its programs, and it adheres to that policy in its admissions procedures and practices.

UNLV has admissions and graduation requirements that are standardized and widely accepted in higher education. Admissions information for undergraduate, professional and graduate programs is available in the undergraduate and graduate catalogs and on the Office of Admissions webpage. The catalogs and webpage provide links to admissions information and processes for freshman, transfer, international, non-degree-seeking, re-entering, senior citizen, professional, and graduate students. Program-specific requirements are in addition to the minimum admissions requirements for all graduate students, and may include minimum standardized test scores. Basic transfer information is available in the catalogs, the Admissions Office can answer student questions, and UNLV has a webpage devoted to transfer agreements for students in a NSHE community college. UNLV does adhere to its admissions policies and procedures.

17. PUBLIC INFORMATION
The institution publishes in a catalog and/or on a website current and accurate information regarding: its mission and core themes; admission requirements and procedures; grading policy; information on academic programs and courses; names, titles and academic credentials of administrators and faculty; rules and regulations for student conduct; rights and responsibilities of students; tuition, fees, and other program costs; refund policies and procedures; opportunities and requirements for financial aid; and the academic calendar.

UNLV updates its undergraduate catalog every two years and its graduate catalog every year. The graduate catalog has moved to an annual update to better reflect current opportunities for
students. The catalogs, current and archived, are available on UNLV’s website\textsuperscript{12}. They are also easily accessed from the home page, in the \textit{A to Z index}\textsuperscript{13}, under \textit{Catalogs}. Paper copies of the catalogs are no longer published.

The catalogs document the university’s mission and core themes (also available on UNLV’s \textit{About} webpage\textsuperscript{14}) and provide information on the institution’s academic programs and courses, admission requirements, tuition and fees, financial aid, academic policies, academic integrity and student conduct, and graduation. The departmental websites also contain information on program entrance requirements and procedures; academic programs including degree and program completion requirements; expected learning outcomes; required course sequences and projected timelines to completion and can be accessed through the \textit{A to Z index}\textsuperscript{15}. Academic advisors in each college or academic advisors working in the university’s Academic Success Center are additional resources for students with questions on this information\textsuperscript{16}.

Entrance requirements and procedures are available online at: \url{http://go.unlv.edu/futurestudents} or by visiting UNLV’s Admissions homepage online at: \url{http://web.unlv.edu/admissions/}.

Tuition, fees and other program costs are available online at: \url{http://cashiering.unlv.edu/undergrad_calc.html}. Tuition and fee calculators are available for use by both undergraduate and graduate attendees. Refund policies and procedures can be found online at: \url{http://cashiering.unlv.edu/faq.html}. Financial aid opportunities and requirements are available online at: \url{http://finaid.unlv.edu}.

The grading policy can be found online at: \url{http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531 - Grades} \url{http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=745#Grade_Point_Average}.

A list of faculty and administrators, including names, degrees held, and conferring institutions is available in the undergraduate catalog\textsuperscript{17}. Biographical information for full-time faculty may be found by visiting their respective college websites, which may be found by following the links on this webpage: \url{http://www.unlv.edu/about/academics/units}. Student conduct, rights, and responsibilities is available online at: \url{http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/}.

Academic calendars are available at: \url{http://registrar.unlv.edu/calendars/}.

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\end{thebibliography}
18. FINANCIAL RESOURCES
The institution demonstrates financial stability with sufficient cash flow and, as appropriate, reserves to support its programs and services. Financial planning reflects available funds, realistic development of financial resources, and appropriate risk management to ensure short-term solvency and long-term financial sustainability.

The university financial planning process begins with the strategic planning process which broadly defines priorities for the operating and capital budgets with a multi-year forward-looking view. UNLV’s annual budgeting process incorporates a number of important elements to ensure sufficient cash flow and maintenance of reserves in order to support programs and services.

UNLV has maintained a healthy level of unrestricted net assets which have continued to grow, even during periods of state budget strain. All the revenue sources are carefully monitored by senior level administrators to ensure sufficient funds are available to support all programs and services, and that funds are utilized in accordance with applicable policies. Complete details on UNLV’s financial resources are contained in 2.F.

19. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY
For each year of operation, the institution undergoes an external financial audit, in a reasonable timeframe, by professionally qualified personnel in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Results from the audit, including findings and management letter recommendations, are considered in a timely, appropriate, and comprehensive manner by the administration and governing board.

UNLV is audited annually as part of the NSHE combined annual external financial statement audit. The annual financial statement audit is completed in a reasonable timeframe, normally concluded for presentation to the Board of Regents at their regular December meeting. Results of the annual audit and all required communications, including recommendations to management as well as the Single Audit Report (OMB Circular A-133) audit findings are also reported to the Board of Regents at their December meeting. The reporting of recommendations to management and OMB Circular A-133 audit findings include responses from management.

20. DISCLOSURE
The institution accurately discloses to the Commission all information the Commission may require to carry out its evaluation and accreditation functions.

UNLV regularly communicates with the NWCCU on developments, initiatives, and Board of Regents actions that affect programs and degrees. UNLV openly discloses information that the Commission may need to carry out evaluation and accreditation functions. In an effort to keep the campus community and other interested stakeholders apprised of its current status, the institution maintains an accreditation website on which it posts self-study reports, the Commission’s evaluation reports, recommendation(s) from the Commission, and reports responding to the recommendation(s), http://provost.unlv.edu/nwccu/.
21. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ACCREDITATION COMMISSION

The institution accepts the standards and related policies of the Commission and agrees to comply with these standards and policies as currently stated or as modified in accordance with Commission policy. Further, the institution agrees that the Commission may, at its discretion, make known the nature of any action, positive or negative, regarding the institution's status with the Commission to any agency or members of the public requesting such information.

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas accepts the standards and related policies of the NWCCU and agrees to comply with the standards and policies as currently stated or as modified by the Commission. UNLV understands that the Commission may make known the nature of any action, positive or negative, regarding the institution's status with the Commission to any agency or member of the public requesting it.