

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Center for Gaming Research Update
March 2012

2012-13 Gaming Research Fellowship Application Cycle Begins

The Center invites academic faculty and graduate students to apply for the 2012-13 cycle of research fellowships, which facilitate research into many aspects of both gambling and Las Vegas at UNLV Special Collections. The Center will award two kinds of fellowships: Four-week Resident Fellowships offer a \$3,000 stipend; Two-week Visiting Fellowships offer a \$1,500 stipend.

Junior (recent post-doc and untenured) faculty and ABD graduate students are encouraged to apply for the Resident Fellowships. Established and senior faculty are encouraged to apply for the Visiting Fellowships. Those who have the time to invest in the Resident Fellowships are also encouraged to apply. Applicants primarily represent the fields of history, economics, English, history, sociology, and anthropology, though those from all disciplines with relevant research interests are encouraged to apply. Suggested fields of research include Las Vegas history, the history of gambling, and comparative studies of gambling in literature, history, and society.

For more information, see: <http://gaming.unlv.edu/about/fellowship.html>.

Three Podcasts Released

This month, the Center produced three podcasts:

39-March 14, 2012: Jessalynn R. Strauss

Strauss is an assistant professor at Xavier University. Her teaching and research interests include public relations, corporate social responsibility, nonprofit organizations, and the history and culture of Las Vegas. She recently completed a dissertation examining corporate social responsibility in the Las Vegas casino industry. Her colloquium talk examines the history of public relations and promotions by Las Vegas casinos.

40-March 23, 2012: Scott and Melanie Russell

The Russells have recently published a unique Las Vegas guidebook, *Betcha Missed It--Las Vegas!* that doubles as a guide for new visitors and as a game. In this interview with CGR Director David G. Schwartz, they discuss how they got the idea for the book, their favorite places in Las Vegas, and much more.

41-March 29, 2012: Kathryn R.L. Rand and Steven Andrew Light

This talk, "Gambling Law and Legal Education: Educating Lawyers, Forming Identities," was delivered at Boyd Gaming School on March 27, 2012 as part of the gaming law program's

continuing commitment to legal education. Rand and Light are the co-directors of the Institute for the Study of Tribal Gaming Law and Policy at the University of North Dakota.

Cristina Turdean's Paper on Slot Technology

The Center published the 15th in its Occasional Paper Series, Cristina Turdean's "[Computerizing Chance: The Digitization of the Slot Machine \(1960-1984\)](#)." This paper examines how digital slot machines changed the composition of the casino floor and created new opportunities for casino managers.

New and Updated Jurisdiction Pages

In March, the posted new or updated Jurisdiction pages, with historical data and other information, for the following states: [Colorado](#), [Delaware](#), [Mississippi](#), [Pennsylvania](#), and [Indiana](#). Much of the data for these pages came as a result of the Center's ongoing partnership with [GamblingData.com](#).

Five Reports Updated with 2011 Information

With the release of the December 2011 revenue data from the Gaming Control Board, we have been able to update many of our most popular reports detailing various aspects of the Nevada gaming industry:

- [Las Vegas Strip Table Mix](#)
- [Las Vegas Strip Casino Employment](#)
- [Nevada Statewide Casino Employment](#)
- [Atlantic City Gaming Revenue](#)
- [Major Gaming Jurisdictions: Eleven-Year Comparison](#)

Two New Reports: Nevada Casino Credit and Boulder Strip Employment

Casinos grant a great deal of credit, particularly to high-end players. In the past, several high-profile bad debt cases have given the impression that casinos grant credit capriciously. But a thorough study of bad debt ratios throughout Nevada from 1980 to the present reveals that casinos are doing the best job of making credit decisions in history.

[Nevada Casino Credit, 1980-2011](#)

An Analysis of Bad Debt Write-offs by Reporting Area

Continuing our on-going series of reports detailing casino employment statistics, in March the Center release a reported on the Boulder Strip:

[Boulder Strip Casino Employment](#)

Productivity, Revenues, and Payroll: A Statistical Study, 1990-2011

Two Reports on Monthly Nevada Gaming Revenues

The Center released the [Nevada Gaming Statistics: January Comparison](#), which examines revenue trends for Statewide, Las Vegas Strip, Downtown Las Vegas, Boulder Strip, and Washoe County for

the month of November for the past eight years. In addition, the [Nevada Gaming Statistics: The Last Six Months](#) summary was updated with current information.

Sharing Expertise with the Media

In March, Center Director David G. Schwartz spoke with approximately 41 print, online, radio, and television media contacts. National gambling expansion continued to be a topic of interest, as was the recovery of the gambling industry in Las Vegas.

Coming Soon: Fellows in Residence, Reports, Podcasts

April will have at least two podcast releases, and the Center will be producing new reports on Nevada's gaming industry as well. April Gaming Research Fellows **Lynn Gidluck** and **Christopher Wetzel** will be in residence: both are giving Colloquium talks. Gidluck's is called "**Halos, Alibis, and Community Development: A Cross-National Comparison of How Governments Spent Revenue from Gambling,**" and it is scheduled for 3:30 on April 5. Wetzel will give a talk called "**The Big Game: Dynamics of State Lottery Legalization**" at 3:30 on April 12 in Special Collections.

In addition, we will be adding several jurisdictional summaries to the site.

Getting in Touch

If you are interested in learning more about the Center's work, discussing how to get involved with supporting the Center, suggesting programming or collecting initiatives, or simply sharing your comments, please contact director **David G. Schwartz**, 702 895 2242, or dgs@unlv.nevada.edu. Thank you for your continued engagement with the Center's work.

About the Center for Gaming Research

Located within Special Collections at UNLV's state-of-the-art Lied Library, the Center for Gaming Research is committed to providing support for scholarly inquiry into all aspects of gaming. Through its website, <http://gaming.unlv.edu>, the Center offers several unique research tools and information sources.

About the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

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, masters and doctoral degree programs. UNLV is located on a 332-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.