



## **ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT ELIMINATION FORM**

**DIRECTIONS:** Use this form when proposing to eliminate an organizational unit, center, institute, department, school, or college.

**DATE OF REQUEST:** 12/18/2014

*Date of AAC Approval:*  
March 4, 2015

**INSTITUTION:** University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT TO BE ELIMINATED:** Caesars  
Hospitality Research Center

*Date of Board Approval:*

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF ELIMINATION:** Upon approval

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### **A. Reason for proposed elimination of the organizational unit**

We are requesting that the "Caesars Hospitality Research Center" be discontinued and closed as a "Center". We will continue to utilize endowment income from the Caesars Endowment Gift account for research needs of the college but will no longer be sponsoring outside conferences and awarding open competitive grants to other universities and colleges.

### **B. Specify plan to phase out the organization unit, including description of how the needs of currently enrolled students will be met**

Prior to 1989, the Board of Regents approved the Hospitality Research and Development Center within the Hotel College. This unit provided industry survey information and professional development courses to industry professionals. In September 2007, the college received a substantial gift from the Harrahs Foundation designated for research, recruitment, internal training and education over a period of 5 years. The Center was renamed as Harrahs Hospitality Research Center and later Caesars Hospitality Research Center when the Foundation changed their name. Funding for programs of \$250,000 annually was received as well as \$750,000 each year toward the endowment.

A major program of the Center was a competitive grant program on selected research topics open to the hospitality academic community. An annual conference to present findings was also held. The original HRDC professional development programs also continued. The annual gifts from Caesars have ended without renewal and the endowment income is closer to \$100,000 each year. The endowment income is being directed to internal faculty research institutes to enhance research skills, college faculty summer research grants, publication incentives, and other research expenditures. The professional development courses held by the HRDC have also ended and will now be provided by our new proposed Center for Professional and Leadership Studies.

The Caesars Hospitality Research Center no longer seeks extramural funding or engages in public service and industry outreach activities. It no longer operates as a Service Center as defined by policy.

**C. Impact of organizational unit closure on faculty and staff, and related academic programs**

Former functions will continue under IGI and the PLS Center.No longer a unit. The endowment will provide income for college research needs.

**D. Description of the process of notifying other institutions regarding impact of organizational unit closure on transfer and articulation**

Not applicable.

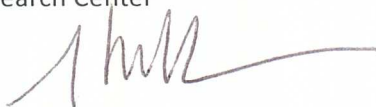
*Please attach any supporting documentation (i.e. support letters from community, industry).*

Date: December 18, 2014

To: UNLV Council For Centers, Institutes, Museums & Labs

Re: Closure of Caesars Hospitality Research Center

From: Stowe Shoemaker, Dean



I am writing to support the closure of the College of Hotel Administration's Caesars Hospitality Research Center. This unit is no longer serving as a center which furthers collaborative research or facilitates a link between the academic community and the professional community. The College no longer receives annual extramural support for this center and is using related endowment income to fund internal college research and scholarship activities.

In the past, this center sponsored conferences, workshops, and seminars as well as awarding competitive research grants on topics of interest to industry. The proposed Center for Professional and Leadership Studies will now fill this role and is better positioned to interact with a variety of industry professionals and the local community. The PLuS Center has received funding for staff positions to support these activities while the Caesars Research Center doesn't have any dedicated staff.

We feel that the Caesars Hospitality Research Center should be closed since it no longer provides an outreach link between the academic and local community and doesn't sponsor activities that typically would be related to a center.