



# NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

## BUDGET CUT IMPACTS ON NSHE INSTITUTIONS

### University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Over the past five years, nearly three quarters of the cuts were taken by slashing personnel budgets, operations budgets and through salary reductions; increasing student fees covered the remaining 26.5%.

UNLV lost 744 positions during these budget cuts - approximately 20% of the total positions prior to the cuts and over 540 filled positions - including 140 faculty and 17 degree programs.

The severe reduction in faculty size moved UNLV from about 75% to 60% of the faculty its peers have, thus reducing UNLV's ability to effectively compete when it comes to obtaining grant funding, improving student to faculty ratio, supporting economic development, and offering desired degree programs for students.

### University of Nevada, Reno

Program closures from 2009-2013 included 14 graduate (master and doctoral) degrees; three graduate degrees have been deactivated; and seven bachelor's degrees.

The College of Education and the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources have been reorganized and absorbed multiple department closures.

Cooperative Extension has been reduced. A service program is being maintained with extension educators fulfilling county agreements, specialists supporting statewide extension education and programs such as 4-H and Living With Fire.

Bureau of Mines and Geology has been reduced. A core public service program is being maintained and statutory responsibilities are being fulfilled.

### Nevada State College

During FY 2013, NSC received \$9M from the General Fund, approximately 40% less in state general fund support than it received only five years earlier. During this same period, NSC increased its enrollment by more than 50%.

The cuts led to the elimination of eight academic programs, four academic and faculty support centers, and nearly 20 percent of its full-time academic faculty positions.

The reduction in student support levels, coupled with continued projected increases in student head count, is severely straining NSC's ability to find part-time instructors, provide appropriate student support services, meet classroom, laboratory and library demands, and graduate students in a timely manner.

### College of Southern Nevada

In fall 2009, nearly 5,100 different students tried unsuccessfully to register for CSN's classes. When they could not enroll they "walked away" from CSN. In fall 2010, as enrollment rose to the college's highest level of 44,100 students, approximately 5,300 students could not enroll.

Locations were closed or services diminished at the following centers and sites: Lincoln County, Moapa Valley, A.D. Guy, Boulder City and the Latin Chamber.

CSN was unable to expand tutoring, financial aid and registrar staff and services.

The lack of funding prevented CSN from addressing needs not deemed "emergencies," resulting in a deferred maintenance backlog of more than \$100 M.

### Great Basin College

Budget cuts to Great Basin College during the immediate past biennium resulted in a 25% reduction in non-personnel operating budgets.

Seven programs were either eliminated or suspended: the Battle Mountain Dual Credit Diesel program, the Broadcast Technology A.A.S Degree, the Commercial Driver's License training program, the Fire Science program, the Sonography (Ultrasound) Certificate, the EMS-Paramedic program and the Underground Miner Training Certificate. Two other programs, Agriculture and Physical Education and Exercise were restructured while enrollment caps were instituted in the Nursing, Diesel, Electrical, Welding, Mill Maintenance and Instrumentation programs further limiting student options.

### Truckee Meadows Community College

From FY 2009-2012, TMCC has sustained more than a \$12 million (29%) reduction in its state operating budget. These cuts were implemented in all college areas and severely hindered the ability to serve students at all levels.

Seven tenured faculty members have resigned since January 2011, for a variety of reasons including more stable job opportunities in other states.

Morale declined as conscientious employees had to leave projects unfinished and students not served to take required time off. Some employees scrambled to find part-time jobs to offset pay reductions and furloughs to make ends meet. Some lost their homes.

### Western Nevada College

Reduction to the total number of course sections offered from fall 2008 (967) to fall 2012 (669) for a total reduction of course offerings to students of 31%.

Elimination of degree programs after spring 2011 (e.g., Computer Engineering Technology, Electrical Engineering Technology, Electronics Technology, Medical Laboratory Technician, Health Information Technology, Paralegal Studies, and Drafting Technology).

Elimination of all college personnel positions and college-maintained sites at rural centers, resulting in a significant reduction of course offerings and services to the citizens of Fernley, Yerington, Hawthorne, Lovelock, and Smith Valley.

### Desert Research Institute

Over the past five years, DRI has lost 43 research faculty.

Faculty loss is due to significantly decreased funding for and the significantly increased competitive nature of federal and state awards for contracts and grants.

DRI invests large amounts of financial resources and professional development to retain research faculty members who are successful in a soft-money environment. Some faculty members have risen from GRAs and postdoctoral fellows. To lose these research faculty members to other institutions is very costly to DRI considering the years that have been invested in developing projects, securing funding and professional development.