

Coffin and Keys



The Spring 2005 Edition



History

On the night of October 24, 1916, ten men representing each of the various factions existing at the time at the University of Nevada, and comprising men of all walks of college life, met together with the idea of promoting the common good. The consensus was that a force was needed to give the proper impetus to affairs of school life. At the time the rivalry among the various groups threatened to supplant the steadfast loyalty to the university that all its citizens should unite in giving. It was evident that unless energetic steps were taken at once, our community would become a collection of wrangling cliques instead of a united whole. Under such conditions, no progress would be possible. The very life of our university would be threatened.

Realizing this, and bound by a pledge to work for the common good, these men founded this society in which all the component parts of our school may be represented around the council table.



A name so nice, they used it twice

Few UNR students have ever had a reason, or the desire, to make the trip across town to the UNR farms. But ask those who have; and they will surely tell you about the raunchy stench lingering about. No, this foul odor is not a gust of wind from Manzanita Lake, it is from the shit storm that erupted when Professor Hussein S. Hussein filed complaints with the USDA alleging animal abuse and retaliation from our administration. Since that day our darling President Lilley has been looking for (and manufacturing) any excuse to fire the bastard that dared to make him look bad.

Late in January, after a flurry of allegations involving someone contaminating his lab and intimidation, Hussein had a private investigator sweep for listening devices. Although the search inside the lab turned up nothing, right outside the lab pointed directly at the door was a camera concealed in a fake smoke detector. The administration is claiming, that apparently the biotechnology department head Esmail Zanjani, found a swastika drawn on the door of Hussein's lab. He claims that he immediately erased it and reported it to UNRPD. Apparently, Lilley felt

that this crime was so heinous that it required a secret camera be placed in the hall. Now we are all for campus safety, but what a coincidence that the only person who saw this swastika, Esmail Zanjani, is also one of the people that has been most outspoken against Hussein's allegations. Also, if the symbol was serious enough to warrant a secret camera (even though it never appeared in the blotter), why was Hussein not notified about the crime committed against him? Could it be that there was never any swastika and it was only a story fabricated to gather information to use against Hussein? We will let you make up your own mind on that one.

But wait, there's more! The administration, which President Lilley runs, had the Nevada Attorney General open a criminal investigation against Hussein for tampering with the secret camera and interfering with their own "hate crime" investigation. So let us get this straight, you are investigating Hussein because he found your hidden camera that he didn't know was spying on him, and for interfering with your investigation into a crime committed against him, which he did not know even took place? Not willing to be a minion of our President, the Nevada Attorney General found as much substance in the charges as in one of Lilley's speeches. Wow, we sure are glad the Regents gave you a raise and extended your contract.

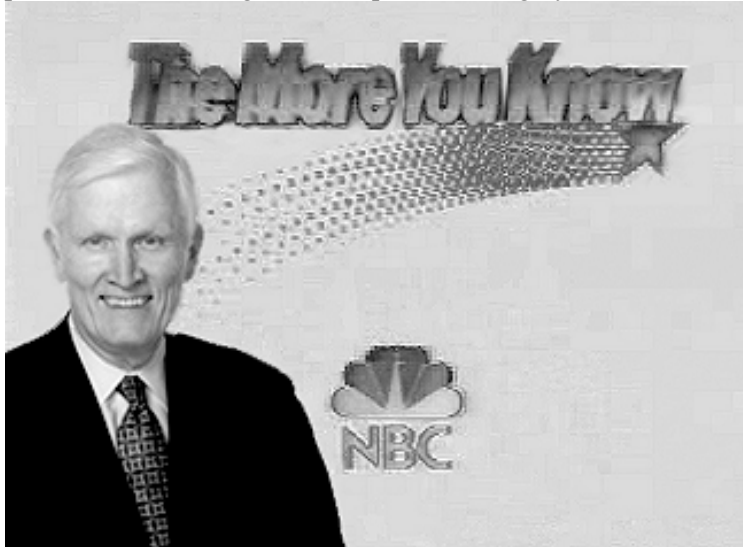
But Lilley was not about to stop there. He again tried to tarnish Hussein by having a committee look into his "Willful misappropriation of university property". This was the result of another incident where Hussein came out of pocket for a vet to look at some pigs on the UNR farm that were foaming at the mouth and showing signs of dehydration. The University argued that he had no right to interfere with other's experiments. What did Hussein have to gain by doing so? He could have been looking for proof to substantiate his lawsuit or he may have been looking out for the welfare of the animals. We are not going to guess at what his true intentions were but the panel agreed with Hussein and again cleared him of all charges. Is it just us, or is there a pattern forming here?

Unlike the legal system, our University has no checks and balances, and the all powerful President Lilly had the final decision. He was hoping that the panel would do his job for him and find Hussein at fault. We heard that when Lilley received the panel's recommendation of innocence a

deafening stream of profanity poured out of his mouth and since he has not announced his decision yet, we can only assume he's still foaming.

The committee might not have given Lilley the ammo he needed but he is a stubborn old man and we have heard a rumor that he has circulated a petition among the faculty that states Hussein has caused disruption to their work. He is planning to use his reason to eventually fire him. Now, we can think of a few professors at UNR that in our mind should be immediately terminated, but Hussein is not one of them and he certainly does not deserve the wrath that Lilley has brought down on him.

Bits and pieces of this case have been in both the Sagebrush and the RGJ throughout the semester but neither have given Lilley the shifty and underhanded credit he deserves. We just wanted to lay out all the facts and let the student body come to their own conclusion about the president that our regents have praised to highly.



A Day in The Life

You are a new employee here at "The University." You are excited to be here, and you can't wait to get started. For most federal/state jobs (such as a University job) one would assume that a background check would be required. But not here, you show up, you're hired. Especially since you're married to Mr./Mrs. J. Doe whom is already a faculty member here on campus. So, no real qualification basis, no "best candidate" basis, man this is the easiest hiring process I have ever been through. I did not even have to meet with the Affirmative Action office because it is a part of human resources now. But doesn't that affect the autonomy and the very reason we have an Affirmative Action office?...hmmmm...oh well, no skin off my back!

First day:

Man am I nervous! I've met many of my new colleagues, and most of them seem really friendly! (Especially my department head whom grabbed my ass when he/she greeted me this morning!) But I won't worry about it. Next the provost informed me that The University has a strict sexual harassment policy encouraging victims to come forward. That sounded good to me. He then proceeded

to inform me that if I did file a claim however, I would be ostracized, my job security would be in jeopardy, and my annual evaluations would be lowered! I think I'll just keep it to myself. Anyhow, it's still the first day of a new job, let's get to it!

One month:

Everything is going well. I keep seeing some creepy, old, ghostly man walking to and from Clark hall all the time... Man he has a great view of the library on his walk, I wonder if he saw that black coffin in the reflecting pool last week. That was so cool! I was also appointed to sit on a committee to look into low faculty morale on campus. Why are so many of the faculty/staff angry with the administration? I think that a raise and \$90, 000 more a year is completely justified for the figure head of our university. He does a great job...uhhhh...at least that's what they tell us to say in the faculty handbook! Go Pack!

End of 1st year:

My department chair came to me today and told me he/she had found a big "smiley face" written on my laboratory door in black marker. I sure am glad he/she took care of that without letting me see it at all. Then I went to check the batteries in the smoke detectors outside my door and a camera fell out. I immediately called campus police, but they quickly told me that president "Willey" had them on a G-14 classified mission (a.k.a operation stalk the frat guys and wait till they do something stupid again, only a matter of time really). Then I attempted to notify president "Willey's" office, and they quickly offered me a pension to keep my mouth shut. Man, I've only been here a year and already offered a raise...sweet!

Summer:

I just received my annual evaluation from my department head, and it did not go well. I think he/she really has it out for me. (If I only would have gone back to his/her house that one night...shit!) Hopefully everything will be okay, plus I've heard you can file grievances if you feel that your evaluation was unfair.

15 minutes later...

Crap! I just found out that faculty/staff cannot grieve their evaluations. What kind of shit is that? I'm doomed! Not even the fact that my wife/husband works here can save me now, and I thought that I was untouchable!



IFC= Incompetent Fat Child

Nobody cares what the IFC says because it doesn't say anything. The University Interfraternity Council should be the leadership vehicle for all Greek men on campus. IFC (and Panhellenic) should lead the way with scholarship, philanthropy and with social events that bring the Greek community together. The council should have its proverbial finger on the pulse of the entire campus community. Instead, this year's IFC has been a place where the chapter presidents go to relax on Monday afternoons and listen to Jimmy Gleich crack jokes – unless you are the Lambda Chi president – then you send two monkeys as a proxy.

We are still waiting for the IFC to do something. To date all you have done is show up and talk about getting a trophy case for the JTSU – unless you are the Lambda Chi president – then you send two monkeys as a proxy.

Perhaps IFC president “Chubbs” could address some of the topics he spoke of when running for his position such as the alcohol policy. But for some reason he insists on wasting his time trying to nix a position such as Greek Times Editor and replacing it with a University Relations Chair w/ 5x the responsibility. What was President Chubbs reasoning for nixing Greek Times? You Ask? “I think there might be a little too much work for one person.”

At the end of last year, the IFC council was fired up and ready to take action about the University’s alcohol policy. The current IFC exec board ran, and was elected, on a platform that included promises to deal with the University’s alcohol policy. But what have you done? According to our records the only mention this semester of the alcohol policy in IFC has been when the IFC president promised to deal with it over the summer.

That brings up a good point, though. The IFC president has been running around the ASUN offices bragging about the new job he is going to get, and how he will not be coming back to the University next semester. So, IFC Pres, when were you going to break that news to the other members of IFC? And another question; is it a DUI when you take the \$11,000+ ASUN golf cart to baseball games for a couple of beers? Maybe you should ask the Lambda Chi pres! We hear that he has some experience with DUIs.

So anyways, chapter presidents, if your IFC leadership is too busy driving golf carts around campus to do anything, then maybe you should impeach those guys and elect some fellas that want to make some things happen!



94% Don't give a shit

These last couple months gave us some things to think about and the more we thought, the more a disturbing issue seemed to be flushed out. We are left with this question: what does a University do when student involvement is bleak at best? 6 percent turnout for elections, an almost non-existent turnout for events such as Mackay and Homecoming Week, and a general malaise about nearly every other event on campus makes us wonder what should be done and who should do it? Do the students that work the Wolf Call (think 20 students on phones 40+ hours a week in the attic of Morrill calling alums and asking for money) tell the alums about these awesome percentages? Probably more concerned about mentioning the “Knowledge Center” as much as possible.

“Hello? Yes, I’ll contribute. Do you still have Homecoming and Mackay Week? How did ASUN Elections go? What do you mean only 6 percent ofKnowledge Center....whoa, that sounds heavy. What is this....a center for Knowledge!? Larger JTSU!! Great! Expansions....a 200 year plan...pay now and possibly see later! Super! Sounds like the students are getting it great over there at the old Alma Mater!”

Now, we think that if 6 out of every 100 students were passing their classes, someone in an administrative position would be hollering for action. At the very least, someone would have an opinion on the issue. So, that is what we are asking for. We are asking for an opinion. We are going to put this challenge to administrators (Ellis? Lilley?), students and faculty (professors?, TA's?, Buildings & Grounds?). Is the problem in programming, lack of good events, Flipside? Why do so many students not give a shit about this University? Well, this is your chance to tell us. We would love to hear what President Lilley or Executive Vice President John Frederick have to say about this. What about the Vice President of Student Services Shannon Ellis or possibly the Associate Vice President of Student Success Services Dave Hansen? Last time we checked, they all make pretty good money (Lilley-\$227,00 Frederick-\$167,960 Ellis-\$151,049 Hansen-\$125,396), they should have wondered why only 6 percent of students choose to be involved right? We mean, it's only our tuition money that pays their salaries! If 6 percent of the people that cut their checks showed up for work they should be concerned right? Hey, we know!! They should respond to this in the Sagebrush so that all could read how they feel about it. Hell, the 'Brush has resorted to printing the garbage that Bill Hamma spews weekly, they wouldn't object to putting something in there that revolves around some actual faculty at UNR right?

As students, we are not exempt from this issue either. We are always surprised to see the student body so narcoleptic when so many things are directly affecting them. For example: you are paying for a student union that you most likely will never see or use. A portion of the money you pay on tuition goes into a budget that pays for events such as Homecoming and Mackay week yet few voice their opinion on what will make students show up to these events. How great would a keg regatta be? How about a naked jog around the Quadrangle to raise funds for a deserving cause (a la Vann Wilder)? Even a 100 foot slip n’ slide across the Manzanita Bowl would be fun with 300+ people there!

We are DEMANDING that this problem is addressed adequately by the people who are in charge of this institution! We are shocked that the Board of Regents have not taken notice to the fact that less than 6% of the student body gives a shit about anything that happens here. The student body DOESN'T CARE about the University; we show up, sit through class, then leave without the college experience. People....we have become a commuter school!! Here is a cold-hard fact that the administration has seemingly overlooked: a degree will get graduate money but it is that graduates college experience that will put that money back into the University. NOBODY is making any memories here save for those that remind them how dreary and bleak this University has become. We are demanding an opinion from administration as to how they feel about this epidemic. We don't want some puppet to philibuster as the "higher-ups" tell them what to say....we want an OPINION and we want it from the fucking top. Maybe this will be the defibrillator this corpse needs to find it's pulse again.



“TO V.P. OR NOT TO V.P.”

Earlier this semester, ASUN Executive Vice-President Antonio Trillo stepped down from office amidst an impeachment trial and much publicized information regarding his actions and inactions as the chairperson for the Publication Board. For those scratching their heads, the publications board is responsible for many important things including the allocation of funds to publications like the Sagebrush (TRUE or NOT?) and appointing/removing editors and managers. It seems that Senator Alvarez and Tracy were not too happy with how Mr. Trillo was handling those aforementioned duties and levied the charges against him. It seems that Mr. Trillo was having trouble setting meeting times and sticking to them. For example, out of seven meetings planned, six were either misagendized, quorum was broken (lacking enough voting members to legally conduct business) or cancelled. When the publications board cannot do what is intended for it because something as simple as meeting cannot be established and upheld, there is a problem. That problem came by the way of typos (Nov. 2003 instead of Nov. 2004 – this happened twice), not enough senators at meetings, and plain cancellations without definitive rescheduling. Mr. Trillo said it was an attempt by the corrupt ASUN to defame his name and character for upcoming student body elections in the future. The senators that brought the charges against him said that he was not doing his job correctly and these were the proper steps that needed to be taken. We say that despite all the back and forth over this matter, the answer to the “whodunit?” questions is quite simple. Mr. Trillo did not adequately chair the publications board and thusly, important meetings were missed and ultimately, the law was broken.

Now, we agree that something like a typo on the agenda for a meeting shouldn't be a cause for everyone to throw their hands in the air and bellow for an impeachment by this is a vital part of this equation. Without a proper agenda (yes that includes proper date and time) Nevada Open Meeting Law is violated. Nevada Open Meeting Law, which governs ASUN meetings, so that you, the tuition-paying, bright-eyed college student, can sit in on these meetings to ensure that those people you don't know, that were elected by all 6% of the students, are actually doing their jobs. When it's time for your graduation, and you're left wondering why there's no yearbook, ask Trillo. We know what you're thinking, “No one cares that much to sit through a meeting and hold these people to what we elected them for.” However, the issue does not lie in the number of people that participate, but the fact that all who choose to can fairly be involved at some juncture of the process. If you were to get a wild hair up your ass and decide to go see how the Artemisia was coming, you would find that the meeting was a year behind, and you could assume that there were in fact no meetings. Thus your participation and rights to said meetings would be disallowed.

Mr. Trillo should have been more thorough in his agendas as well as scheduling in general. Four meetings in four months is not a wise way to do business. Senator Alvarez and Tracy were correct in their decision to take the necessary actions to rectify this situation and get the ball rolling again on something that should have been working correctly in the first place.

We're glad your gone, and good luck with life!



The Coffin and Keys Midterm Grades



- A Rollerhockey Team:** Congrats on being National Champs!! Too bad it's not 1985 or you guys would be rock stars!!
- A+ Buildings and Grounds:** Keeping the grounds, maintaining the buildings, shoveling the shit that comes from the administrator's mouths, you should be getting that \$90,000 raise instead of Lilley.
- F Vino!! No no!!** Jack and GHB, Roofies on the Rocks?
- C- ΣN + ↓21 + D.M.V. + R.P.D. + F.B.I = 8 Felony Counts:** it looks like you guys took your regular police blotting adventures national, and we thought you were all just burnouts.
- D Flipside:** great call with Maya Angelou...and we thought rappers were overpaid for talking. Maybe someone should've run that by the business fraternity? She only cost the campus \$16,000!!

Existing solely for the betterment of the University of Nevada, we are the Men of Coffin and Keys.

*Noah, Elk, Goofy, Oompa, Dumbledore, Seabiscuit, Wormser, Nacho, Ace, Chuck T Uh Stanley
FlipFlop, Pikachu, Escobar, Forest, Apprentice, WWJCD, Lamar, J.Sherman, RIV, Queso, Sleeping Beauty*

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