



## Guide to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Nursing Records

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. School of Nursing
<b>Contributor:</b>	Matteson-Kane, Maureen
<b>Title:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Nursing Records
<b>ID:</b>	UA-00011
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1950 to 2025
<b>Physical Description:</b>	6.49 Cubic Feet (5 boxes and 5 oversized boxes)
<b>Physical Description:</b>	12.06 Linear Feet
<b>Physical Description:</b>	60 Digital Files (1.596 GB) JPG, MP4, M4V
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Nursing Records (1950-2025) contain records documenting the history of the UNLV School of Nursing. The materials include records from the nursing school's Alumni Association, including financial reports, bylaws, correspondence, and membership information; recruitment materials from the School of Nursing, including brochures, photographs, and program requirements; history of the School of Nursing, including photographs, newspaper clippings, a short summary of the program, and a short documentary film comprised of digital video files; and accreditation information, including newspaper articles, accreditation reports, and evaluations of the program from the Nevada State Board. The materials also include nursing student uniforms, caps, and nursing capes from the 1950s and 1960s.

### Preferred Citation

University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Nursing Records, 1950-2025. UA-00011. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1md3z>

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## Historical Background

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In the 1950s and 1960s, Nevada experienced a nursing shortage, largely as a result of the lack of nursing schools in the state and rapid population growth. To address the problem, the Nevada Board of Regents approved the implementation of an associate degree program at the campus of Nevada Southern University (now known as the University of Nevada, Las Vegas) in 1965, and that fall the first students were admitted. The program was initially administered by the Orvis School of Nursing at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), but by January 1966, control was transferred to Nevada Southern. The first students graduated in spring of 1967. Because Nevada Southern only offered an associate degree program, students were given the opportunity to take baccalaureate-level classes from UNR via the Intercampus Television Project. In 1969 NSU became the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), and in 1971 UNLV began offering a full baccalaureate program in nursing. In 1983 the Board of Regents approved the Master of Science in Nursing program at UNLV, and it admitted its first students in 1984. The associates program was phased out beginning in 1987 and ending in 1989, leaving only the baccalaureate and masters programs. The nursing program established its own alumni association in 1991. As enrollment grew, the Department of Health Sciences needed a bigger building, and in 1992 the Health Sciences Building was dedicated, and the nursing program settled in on the fourth floor. The department also added the Family Nurse Practitioner graduate program that same year, and alumna Dr. Janet Quillian, from the first associates class, served as its director. At the start of the new century the department continued to grow, both in number of programs and in student enrollment. In response to another nursing shortage in 2001, the Nevada legislature mandated the school double its nursing enrollment. Year-round classes began in 2003, the total length of the program was shortened, and the lengths of semesters were standardized. In 2004 the department was renamed the UNLV School of Nursing. In 2005 the program welcomed its first PhD students, who began teaching baccalaureate-level classes as part of their PhD requirements. The UNLV School of Nursing remains one of the primary sources for training nurses in Southern Nevada.

Source:

"A History of the UNLV School of Nursing," *University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Nursing*, 2017. <https://www.unlv.edu/nursing/about/history>.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Nursing Records (1950-2025) contain records documenting the history of the UNLV School of Nursing. The materials include records from the nursing school's Alumni Association, including financial reports, bylaws, correspondence, and membership information; recruitment materials from the School of Nursing, including brochures, photographs, and program requirements; history of the School of Nursing, including photographs, newspaper clippings, a short summary of the program, and a short documentary film comprised

of digital video files; and accreditation information, including newspaper articles, accreditation reports, and evaluations of the program from the Nevada State Board. The materials also include nursing student uniforms, caps, and nursing capes from the 1950s and 1960s.

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## Arrangement Note

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Materials have been organized thematically into four categories: the history of the School of Nursing, nursing program recruiting materials, accreditation and evaluation of the School of Nursing, and the Alumni Association.

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## Administrative Information

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### Access Note

Collection is open for research. Advance notice and arrangements are required for access to digital files; please contact UNLV Special Collections and Archives for more information.

### Publication Rights

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### Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2016 by Maureen Matteson-Kane; accession number 2016-056. One folder of records previously transferred from the School of Nursing, consisting of its program requirements, was added to the 2016 accession. Materials were also donated in 2019 and 2020 by the School of Nursing; accession numbers: 2019-144 and 2020-031.

### Processing Note

Processing of the UNLV School of Nursing records was funded in part by the Zeta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau. The materials were processed, arranged, and described by Lindsay Oden in 2017. Files were transferred off of optical discs and access surrogates were created. In 2021, Tammi Kim accessioned the 2019 and 2020 additions and updated the finding aid. In 2026, after reviewing miscellaneous donated materials, Landon Paljusaj added one item to the collection and updated the finding aid.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Collections

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

History of Nursing in Southern Nevada Oral History Project Records, 1965-2014. MS-00784. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Nevada Nurses Association Records, 1945-1995. MS-00240. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Patricia van Betten Healthcare and Nursing Papers, 1985-2009. MS-00098. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Bigelow, Jane A. Interview, 1985 November 05. OH-00193. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Barnett, Barbara Ann. Interview, 1981 March 08. OH-00082. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Names and Subjects

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- Nursing
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Public health
- Women in medicine
- Medicine
- photographs

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Containers
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History of the School of Nursing	
Sigma Theta Tau Zeta Kappa honors society invitations, programs, newsletters, photographs, and tassel, 1982-2010	box 02
Conference on Neuman Systems Model with Dr. Betty Neuman: textbook, photographs, and student nursing patch, 1999-2002	box 02
Sunrise Hospital newspaper clippings, correspondence, and pamphlet, 1970-2010	box 02
First class of nursing students photographs, 1965-1967	box 02
History of the School of Nursing (1957-2005) short essay by Maureen Matteson-Kane and Rosemary Witt, 2005	box 02
History of the School of Nursing short documentary film, 2006 March Physical Description: 4 Digital Files (0.89 GB) M4V, MP4	digital file 00
Newspaper clippings: School of Nursing, 1966-1984	box 02
Photograph of Governor Mike O'Callaghan signing bill establishing four-year nursing program at UNLV; also shows Dorothy Button, Ruth Flanigan, Jo Albaugh, Senator Norman Hilbrecht, and Elizabeth Hilbrecht, 1971	box 02
History of the School of Nursing presentation slides and photographs, 1980-1986, 2006	box 02
Deans of the School of Nursing: newspaper clippings and photographs, 1971-2006	box 02
Nevada Southern University Nursing School pin designs, 1968	box 02
Photographs of students in a History of Nursing elective class, 1990-1992	box 02
Groundbreaking of the Rod Lee Bigelow Health Sciences Building photographs, 1992	box 02
Scrapbook, 1965-1966	oversized box 04
Pins and patches, undated	oversized box 04
Nurses' caps, undated	box 05
Nurse's wool cape, approximately 1950-1959	oversized box 07
School of Nursing faculty lab coat and student uniform, approximately 1965	oversized box 08
School of Nursing class photographs, 1993 to 2019 Physical Description: 54 Digital Files (0.706 GB) JPG	oversized box 10  digital file 00
School of Nursing event programs, 2025	box 03

Nursing program recruitment materials

Photographs of Archie C. Grant Hall, Maude Frazier Hall, and students, approximately 1970-1979	box 01
Correspondence and invitations, 1964-2014	box 01
Graduate studies in nursing: pamphlets, 1991	box 01
Pamphlets, brochures, and class schedule, 1968-2006	box 01
Catalog for University of Nevada, Reno-Nevada Southern University extension courses, 1974	box 01
Nursing program pamphlets, 1978-2010	box 01
Nursing school recruitment newspaper articles, 1964-1965	box 01
"Inside Out" newsletter, 1986	box 01
Nursing program information and requirements, 1969	box 02
UNLV Issue Brief: Nevada's nursing shortage, 2001	box 02
School of Nursing visor, undated	box 05
50th Anniversary banners, 2015	box 06
School of Nursing t-shirts, approximately 1998	oversized box 09
Accreditation and evaluation of the School of Nursing	
Nevada Nurses Association calendar, 1990	box 02
School of Nursing accreditation newspaper clippings and correspondence, 1976-2014	box 03
Newspaper clippings: nurse shortage, 1979-1981	box 03
"Nursing in Nevada: A Survey of Needs and Resources" by the US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1954	box 03
"Progress Report: University of Nevada, Las Vegas Department of Nursing Associate Degree", 1977	oversized box 04
Nevada State Board of Nursing Accreditation Report, 1986	oversized box 04
University of Nevada, Las Vegas Department of Nursing NLN Progress Report, 1986	oversized box 04
University of Nevada, Las Vegas College of Health Sciences Faculty Handbook, 1989	oversized box 04
Department of Nursing Associate Degree Program Accreditation Report (Chapter 5--Curriculum), 1974	oversized box 04
Department of Nursing Self-Evaluation Report, 1974	oversized box 04
Alumni Association	
Alumni correspondence and newspaper clippings, 1992	box 01

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Alumni Association correspondence, bylaws, newsletter, photographs and meeting minutes, 1986-1993	box 01
Alumni list, newsletter, and correspondence, 1992	box 01
Alumni Association records: member lists, newsletters, financial reports, minutes, and correspondence, 1995-1999	box 01
Alumni Association photographs and newsletter, 1993-1996	box 01

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