

Art Nadler, Public Information Officer (702) 486-1100 x1139 or (775) 688-1141 x1139

## **\$79K In Construction Education Grants Awarded**

On Oct. 15, 2010, the Nevada State Commission on Construction Education awarded grants to four Nevada organizations totaling \$79,080 for furthering their educational services in construction.

The **Construction Management Program (CMP) at UNLV** received \$49,080 for the purchase of 20 new computers with up-to-date hardware and software that will allow students to learn programming skills currently used in the construction industry. CMP has been delivering high-quality construction education to Nevadans since 1988. The program was accredited by the American Council for Construction Education in 1999. Without these new computers, CMP felt future accreditation would have been difficult.

The **Plumbing Heating Cooling Contractors of Nevada Education Foundation** received \$10,000 for instructional costs of its training classes designed to add qualified journeyman plumbers to the local workforce. Topics for first-year apprentices cover ethics, integrity, credibility and enhancing the image of the plumbing and construction industry. The management education program is designed to provide training for personnel to retain them in the industry.

The Western Apprenticeship Coordinators Association (WACA) received \$10,000 for its annual Building Women Career Fair that targets women interested in construction careers and related areas. The fair, scheduled from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., April 15, 2010, will be at the TMCC/IGT Applied Technology Center on Edison Way in Reno. Participants receive hands-on experience in mixing cement, painting, operating a crane, etc. Besides WACA, the fair is sponsored by the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada; Join, Inc.; Truckee Meadows Community College and Western Nevada Supply.

The (Northern) **Nevada Chapter Associated General Contractors** received \$10,000 for its NEVADABUILDUP program designed to provide emerging, small and reorganized construction companies with the tools and tactics to maintain a viable business and survive in a recessionary economy. The program offers seminars to hone management skills, employee educational and networking opportunities and training aimed at promoting safety on jobsites.

The Construction Education Commission was created by the Nevada Legislature in 2001 for the purpose of encouraging programs that meet the mission of improving quality and integrity in the construction industry to attract and retain an educated and skilled workforce. It consists of one member from the Nevada State Contractors Board and six members appointed by the governor. Four members represent the construction industry and the other two have knowledge of construction education program.

The commission is totally funded through voluntary contributions and fines levied through the Nevada State Contractors Board disciplinary process. A goal of the program is to increase awareness that a career in the construction trade is a viable profession that offers competitive salaries and high job satisfaction.

Grant applications are available on the Nevada State Contractors Board website at: www.nscb.state.nv.us.

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