

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Center for Gaming Research Update
April/May 2012

Note: beginning with this issue, we are dating the Update using the month it appears, not the previous month whose work it chronicles.

Oral History Project with El Cortez Announced

In April, the Center reached an agreement with the **El Cortez Hotel and Casino** to launch a groundbreaking oral history project that will document and preserve the history of this Downtown mainstay. To honor the history of the property, and to preserve it for coming generations, the Center will conduct a series of oral history interviews with two to three dozen longtime executives, employees, and customers. This will give the property's rich history a written form and ensure that its early memories remain vibrant and accessible to new generations of employees and guests. As this project develops, we will keep you posted.

Two Podcasts Highlights Gambling, Governments & Impacts

This month, the Center produced two podcasts:

[42-April 5, 2012: Lynn Gidluck](#)

Gidluck is a doctoral candidate in history and public policy in the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Regina in Saskatchewan, Canada. Her current work includes a cross-national comparison of how governments around the world distribute revenues from state-directed gambling and how these choices have been justified by proponents and vilified by critics.

[43-April 12, 2012: Christopher Wetzel](#)

Wetzel is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Stonehill College. His project looks at how issues of race, class, and gender have shaped debates over gaming legalization since the 1930s. His talk examines how casino proprietors, civic organizations, and elected officials in Nevada have framed subsequent efforts to establish pari-mutuel wagering and a state lottery.

Lynn Gidluck's Paper Gambling Revenues and Government Spending

The Center published the 16th in its Occasional Paper Series, Lynn Gidluck's "[Halos, Alibis and Community Development: A Cross National Comparison of How Governments Spend Revenue from Gambling.](#)" This paper provides a cross-national comparison of how governments around the world distribute revenues from state-directed gambling.

New and Updated Jurisdiction Pages

In April, the Center posted new or updated Jurisdiction pages, with historical data and other information, for the following states: [Massachusetts](#), [New Jersey](#), [Atlantic City](#), [Florida](#), [Kansas](#), and

[Maine](#). Much of the data for these pages came as a result of the Center's ongoing partnership with [GamblingData.com](#).

Two Reports on Monthly Nevada Gaming Revenues

The Center released the [Nevada Gaming Statistics: February Comparison](#), which examines revenue trends for Statewide, Las Vegas Strip, Downtown Las Vegas, Boulder Strip, and Washoe County for the month of February for the past eight years. In addition, the [Nevada Gaming Statistics: The Last Six Months](#) summary was updated with current information.

2012-13 Gaming Research Fellowship Application Cycle continues

The Center invites academic faculty and graduate students to apply for the 2012-13 cycle of research fellowships, which facilitate research into many aspects of both gambling and Las Vegas at UNLV Special Collections. The Center will award two kinds of fellowships: Four-week Resident Fellowships offer a \$3,000 stipend; Two-week Visiting Fellowships offer a \$1,500 stipend. For more information, see: <http://gaming.unlv.edu/about/fellowship.html>.

Sharing Expertise with the Media

In April, Center Director David G. Schwartz spoke with approximately 27 print, online, radio, and television media contacts. National gambling expansion continued to be a topic of interest, as was the recovery of the gambling industry in Las Vegas and Las Vegas Sands' potential Spain project.

Coming Soon: El Cortez Oral History Project Details, More

Later in May, the Center will be announcing more details of the El Cortez Oral History Project, publishing the next in the Occasional Paper Series, and adding more jurisdictional summaries to the site.

Getting in Touch

If you are interested in learning more about the Center's work, discussing how to get involved with supporting the Center, suggesting programming or collecting initiatives, or simply sharing your comments, please contact director **David G. Schwartz**, 702 895 2242, or dgs@unlv.nevada.edu. Thank you for your continued engagement with the Center's work.

About the Center for Gaming Research

Located within Special Collections at UNLV's state-of-the-art Lied Library, the Center for Gaming Research is committed to providing support for scholarly inquiry into all aspects of gaming. Through its website, <http://gaming.unlv.edu>, the Center offers several unique research tools and information sources.

About the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

UNLV is a doctoral-degree-granting institution of 28,000 students and 3,300 faculty and staff. Founded in 1957, the university offers more than 220 undergraduate, masters and doctoral degree programs. UNLV is located on a 332-acre campus in dynamic Southern Nevada and is classified in the category of Research Universities (high research activity) by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.