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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**VISIT WITH DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR
AMERICAN WOMEN IN POLITICS AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY**
Hosted by UNLV's Women's Research Institute of Nevada

Las Vegas – October 17, 2016 – The University of Nevada, Las Vegas's Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) will be hosting a visit with Debbie Walsh, Director of the Center for American Women in Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers University. During the visit, Walsh will be honored at a private event by the Institute for her role in bringing the NEW Leadership program to the UNLV campus. The public will also have an opportunity to hear her speak at the University Forum Lecture: *Gender Watch in the 2016 Presidential Election*. Both events will take place on October 24, 2016, in the Marjorie Barrick Museum on the UNLV campus.

As director of the Center for American Women in Politics (CAWP) Debbie Walsh created the National Education for Women's (NEW) Leadership program which helps college women from diverse backgrounds develop civic engagement and leadership skills. Walsh was instrumental in helping WRIN start its NEW Leadership Nevada program in 2003 "for which we are so grateful," said Dr. Joanne Goodwin, Director of WRIN. "Through NEW Leadership Nevada we have been able to help 286 college women with their leadership journeys from their NSHE campuses to their careers."

For more than four decades CAWP's education and outreach programs have translated research findings into action, addressing women's under-representation in political leadership with effective, innovative programs while providing a foundation and context for discussion. CAWP's latest report, *Poised to Run*, provides an unprecedented look on how women reach state legislatures and how women being elected to office has changed over time; its newest initiative, "Teach a Girl to Lead" is a unique resource that strives to refocus the picture of public leadership to include women.

Walsh is frequently called upon by the media and to speak to a variety of audiences on topics related to women's political participation. She is a member of the *Circle of Advisors* to Rachel's Network and was named one of the *21 Leaders for the 21st Century* by Women's eNews. She earned her bachelor's degree in political science from SUNY Binghamton and her M.A. in political science from Rutgers, where she was an Egleton Fellow.

In addition to the Women's Research Institute of Nevada, the University Forum Lecture: *Gender Watch in the 2016 Presidential Election* is also sponsored by UNLV's College of Liberal Arts, Department of Political Science; Gender and Sexuality Studies Program, and Women's Council; additional sponsors include the League of Women Voters of Las Vegas Valley and Soroptimist International of Greater Las Vegas. The Women's Research Institute of Nevada is grateful to The Eleanor Kagi Foundation – A Lynn M. Bennett Legacy for its ongoing support. To learn more about sponsorship and programming opportunities, call (702) 895-4931 or email wrin@unlv.edu.

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About WRIN

A part of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the mission of the Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) is to champion Nevada women and their communities through research and education. For more information about WRIN or NEW Leadership Nevada, visit the website at www.wrinunlv.org or call (702) 895-4931.

UNLV is a doctoral-degree-granting institution of 27,000 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.