

## **Peter L. Starkweather**

### *Brief Bio*

Dr. Starkweather is the Dean of The Honors College and Professor of Life Sciences. He graduated from Union College (Schenectady, NY) in Biology and received his Ph.D. from Dartmouth (that in 1976) in Biological Sciences. He arrived at UNLV in 1978 following post-doctoral work with colleagues at Dartmouth and Yale University.

He was elected Chair of the (then) Department of Biological Sciences in 1983 serving in that role for a total of 6 years; it was under his guidance that UNLV's first Ph.D. program was approved by the Board of Regents – establishing UNLV as a fully-featured research university. Dr. Starkweather was selected as a Fellow of the American Council on Education in 1987. Other administrative duties on campus have included: Director of the Limnological Research Center (that's freshwater ecology, with the Center focusing on Lake Mead, the Colorado River and other surface waters throughout the state), Associate Dean and Interim Dean of the College of Sciences, Interim Dean of The Honors College and Acting Chair of the Department of Mathematical Sciences (!).

Dean Starkweather is the author of some 40 referred journal articles and one edited book. He has presented over 100 scholarly papers at national and international meetings throughout North America and the world. His sabbatical leaves have been in residence at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, the Institute for Ecosystem Studies (Verbania/Pallanza) of the Italian National Research Council and the University of Valencia (Spain). Peter has served as an Associate Editor (for North America) of the international journal *Hydrobiologia* and on the Editorial Board of the journal *Limnology and Oceanography*.

Prof. Starkweather has taught across the biology curriculum at UNLV for 30 years, with 20 of those including science curricula for the Honors College, and has offered graduate “short courses” in plankton ecology at M.I.T. and the University of Milan (Italy).

Peter has pursued his passions other than biology and honors education as a student of Native American Puebloan pottery at the Idyllwild School of the Arts (California) and in fine art printing under the guidance of the late Galen Rowell, the famed landscape photographer of the American mountain west. Dean Starkweather is an accomplished and award-winning landscape photographer in his own right, grudgingly having made the transition from film to digital only recently. His work currently is on display in the administrative and study areas of The Honors College.