Hello OSA Colleagues,

This summer and fall, we welcomed new staff to our Division, and many new and returning students to our programs and the UNM campus. We celebrated milestones including the 50th anniversary of El Centro de la Raza, and the 18th summer of the Curanderismo class. We spotlighted the work of staff members as we celebrated Careers in Student Affairs Month with our national affiliation, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA).

We were graciously awarded grants including another four-year CCAMPIS funding for the UNM Children’s Campus, and gave back through scholarship initiatives, and community service. We educated many students through summer programs and conferences; and made education more accessible through renovation projects.

As the main student services provider for the University’s large and varied student population we provide access, support, and encouragement to all students in pursuit of academic excellence. We strive to establish inclusive partnerships, programs, facilities and services, build leadership, enrich academic and career goals across campus and with Academic Affairs.

-Dr. Eliseo “Cheo” Torres, VP for UNM Student Affairs
OSA honors staff through national initiative

NASPA Careers in Student Affairs Month

“I really love working in Student Affairs because this is a place where people truly want to help other people—and regardless of how you want to help them, you can find a home at Student Affairs,” says UNM Career Facilitator, Marty Apodaca.

Ask any staff member from the UNM Division of Student Affairs what they love about their career and you are likely to get that same answer or a similar sentiment.

Led by vice president, Dr. Eliseo “Cheo” Torres, the Division is home to both student service- and student life-oriented programs and services for students from all backgrounds including non-traditional and first-generation. “As members of the Student Affairs team, we provide access, support, and encouragement to UNM’s diverse population of students as they work to attain their educational goals,” Torres says.

As one of the University’s largest and most diverse collection of departments and programs on campus, the Division of Student Affairs employs nearly 300 staff members. Every October, the Division along with its affiliate, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), celebrates some of those careers via Careers in Student Affairs Month.

Torres encourages those seeking a career in Student Affairs to network with professionals in the Division and learn what it’s all about. “The rewards of being in Student Affairs are many—especially working with students and making a difference in their lives,” he says.

Rosa Isela Cervantes, director for UNM El Centro de la Raza enjoys the level of variety in her day-to-day activities. “Every day is a different day whether you’re tackling a challenge or problem for a student, or celebrating one of their successes,” she says.

Throughout October the Division of Student Affairs highlighted the careers of several staff members through a special video series on our Careers in Students Affairs web page.
With 26 departments and programs in the Division, the Careers in Student Affairs Month video series features a small sample of employees from Accessibility Resource Center, African American Student Services, Career Services, UNM Children’s Campus, El Centro de la Raza, and Student Health and Counseling.

These Student Affairs professionals share stories of how they began their careers, why they take pride in working with students. “I think it’s truly an honor to be with students on their journey of self-exploration and discovery,” Apodaca says. “I really love that students feel safe enough to share their stories with us.”

#wearestudentaffairs

OSA honors staff through national initiative
El Centro Celebrates 50th Anniversary

This academic year El Centro de la Raza celebrates 50 Años de Excelencia y Justicia Social—fifty years of providing support services and academic programs for the largest and fastest growing ethnic population at The University of New Mexico. El Centro has a legacy of being a “home away from home” for thousands of students and alumni.

Rosa Isela Cervantes, director for El Centro de la Raza, says that this year’s 50 Años de Excelencia y Justicia Social theme represents the affirmation that El Centro continues to strive for equity and inclusion for UNM students and community.

The year long celebration, which kicked off on September 17 with an event featuring speakers from every decade of El Centro talking about their evolution, also hosted the installation of a new 50th anniversary logo that was created by a current UNM student Olivia Rosa Luján.

Currently housed in the UNM Division of Student Affairs, El Centro began in 1969 along with Chicano Studies and later separated to better serve the needs of the Latino/Hispano population on our campus.

According to Cervantes, since El Centro de la Raza was founded, numerous students have been transformed by their interactions with El Centro’s staff and other students determined to succeed at UNM. Cervantes, herself, was one of those students and credits both El Centro’s services, and UNM’s vision to increase accessibility, for providing her with the education and skills to serve the community.

El Centro’s services are focused on student advocacy and educating the campus community on the diverse issues that affect Latina/o students either currently enrolled or planning to enroll at UNM, however, their services are offered to all UNM students.

Leroy C. Martinez, Jr., a UNM senior majoring in athletic training and vice president of UNM’s Athletic Training Student Association, is honored to be a part of the El Centro family and says that El Centro goes ‘above and beyond’ to serve students and community through continual advocacy.

“The past 50 years have laid the foundation for future endeavors, and I cannot wait to see how El Centro will continue to grow and serve the various communities that benefit from our services,” Martinez says. “I am honored to have been a small part of the process and to call El Centro my home.”

According to Cervantes, students will continue to be celebrated not only this year but for many years to come. “We continue to recognize their intersectionality and all that these students bring to UNM,” she says. “We continue to celebrate familia y comunidad!”
The UNM McNair Scholars Program and Research Opportunity Program hosted a 2018 UNM McNair Scholars Research Conference, *Discover the Power of Networking*. This national conference which emphasizes the importance of undergraduate research and the pursuit of a Ph.D. had 237 undergraduate scholars of all majors from 49 different universities showcasing their high-level research.

The conference was one of the largest of its type, and aside from the great networking opportunity with over 50 faculty and 40 graduate students serving as evaluators, the benefits for participants are great.

“Just by participating in this conference, these students will increase their chances of getting into graduate school,” says Ricardo Romero, director, McNair & ROP Programs.

**Welcomes** *(cont. from page 1)*

**JUNE 2018**
Alijah Huerta, Children’s Campus
Adam Crespin, Women’s Resource Center
Billy Jeffords, Air Force ROTC

**JULY 2018**
Katherine Myer, Student Union Building
Dennis-Ray Armijo, Student Union Building
Andria Gilligan, Dean of Students

**AUGUST 2018**
Emily Prebay, Dean of Students
Joni Jason, Children’s Campus

**SEPTEMBER 2018**
Alyssa Cisneros, Children’s Campus
Anthony Hernandez, Student Health & Counseling
Renee Archuleta, Children’s Campus
Janelle Stoermer, Children’s Campus
Victoria Kirikos, Career Services
Justin Lopez, College Enrichment & Outreach Programs
Sophie Shemas, LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center

**PROMOTIONS**
Alyssa Cisneros, Children’s Campus

**Andrea Marquez, Student Activities Advisor**
Rudy Montoya, Student Activities Specialist
UNM Children’s Campus Receives CCAMPIS Funding

When we’re young, many of us dream of growing up, going to college, starting a family, and succeeding in our chosen careers. For many of us, however, the only certain part of that scenario is the growing up part. Luckily for student parents at The University of New Mexico, the other parts—especially the going to college and family parts—are also manageable.

“Student parents represent approximately one in four students on college campuses nationwide or over 6,000 students on UNM’s main campus alone,” says Daniela Baca, Director, UNM Children’s Campus. Because of a heavy course load or non-traditional course schedules, many student parents don’t need full-time care for their children, but instead only need drop-in or evening care options.

Currently, the UNM Children’s Campus provides UNM’s student parents with a high quality early childhood experience through various all-day child care and also evening and drop-in care options through the Child Care Access Means Parents In School (CCAMPIS) program. And thanks to a newly re-awarded U.S. Department of Education CCAMPIS $1.8M grant, the UNM Children’s Campus will continue to do so for the next four years.

“The Child Care Access Means Parents In School (CCAMPIS) program enables the Children’s Campus to provide a variety of services that directly support the recruitment, retention and graduation of student parents at UNM” Baca says. “These resources help student parents overcome many of the barriers they encounter when pursuing a college education and are critical to supporting their future educational success and ultimately have a positive impact on a student family’s long term economic security.”

(first page)

First Generation Students Celebrated

“I am first-generation,” those are the words, and these are the students who are first in their family to attend a four-year college and attain a bachelor’s degree. These are the scholars that the First-Generation Celebration, hosted by UNM Student Support Services, slated for Friday, Nov. 9 at noon in the Student Union Building Atrium honors.

The University of New Mexico joins many college campuses across the nation in celebrating the 53rd anniversary of legislation which has helped countless low-income students become the first in their families to earn college degrees.

“The celebration is the second annual at UNM and is designed to commemorate the Higher Education Act of 1965—specifically November 8, 1965—the day that the term ‘first-generation’ was coined into legislation,” says Dawn Blue-Sky Hill, director for UNM Student Support Services-TRIO (SSS).

According to Blue-Sky Hill, the inaugural celebration (cont. on page 12)
This funding enables drop-in and evening care services Monday-Thursday 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Fridays from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for student parents while they are in classes, studying, or meeting with professors. The program also includes additional resources such as student parent discounts, a dedicated student parent study space, family engagement opportunities, access to a toy and resource lending library, organized study nights with free childcare, and support of UNM’s Chartered Student Parent Organization, the Lobo Parenting Cubs.

Akil Andrews, a UNM student working toward a doctoral degree in computer science, values the UNM Children’s Campus CCAMPIS program and the access it gives to quality, affordable early childhood care and education. “Without it, it would be difficult for student parents like myself to successfully complete and achieve our education dreams,” Andrews says. “And such dreams are not only transformative for us as individuals but also for our family. I am happy that the UNM Children’s Campus can make this dream a possibility for my family and me.”

The UNM Children’s Campus is a nationally recognized program that has been accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children’s (NAEYC) Early Childhood Program Accreditation and The Children, Youth and Families Department’s AIM High Program, providing the children of UNM’s student, staff, and faculty parents with a high quality early childhood experience. The Campus is a site for UNM student and faculty research, observation, and practicum.
Navy Bell Relocated  (by Katie Williams, University Communications & Marketing)

You might have walked past it before, unassuming, placed in a turquoise metal frame near the edge of Smith Plaza before it was renovated. An aging bell, benignly weathering the elements of time and the New Mexico sky. But that’s not why you should stop, you should stop because this bell has saved lives and honored those who gave theirs.

Known as the “Queen of the Fleet,” the USS New Mexico was a 624-foot U.S. Navy battleship that was commissioned in 1918. At the time, the ship was the most technically advanced battleship in the U.S. Navy. And to recognize the irony of the ship being named after a land locked desert state, the Navy paid homage to it by christening the vessel with water from the Rio Grande.

From 1941–1945, the men, many actually just boys, who served on this ship during World War II, experienced the worst of the war—kamikaze attacks and bombings, one of which killed the ship’s commanding officer, CAPT. Robert W. Fleming and 29 other crewmen, while another 56 sailors were killed during a second kamikaze attack.

To alert these sailors of impending danger, and to honor those buried at sea, two bells were used both frantically for their pitch and ceremoniously to honor sacrifice.

After decades of service, the USS New Mexico was decommissioned in 1946, and sold for scrap in 1947. The history of the ship and its sailors was saved in part due to the preservation of its two bells, and its iconic helm.

Smith Plaza Renovated

The newly renovated Smith Plaza—the heart of main campus at The University of New Mexico, and one of the main pathways for students to access all parts of campus—reopened just in time for the fall semester. The renovation was possible through an initial budget of $3M from 2016 and 2017 Institutional Bonds, student fees, and private donors.

The 3.3 acre space, which was once mostly concrete, was transformed into a vibrant safe, accessible and comfortable environment for students to study and
Smith Plaza  (cont. from page 8)

socialize. The renovation includes new plateaus and landings with trees, grass, and comfortable seating for both academic and social events. Nusenda Credit Union, a long-time university partner, sponsored one of the landings—the Nusenda Lobo Landing.

The plaza renovation also honors Ferrel Heady, who served as president of UNM from 1968 – 1975, with a plaque. Heady was at the helm when universities across the nation were seeing Vietnam war, civil rights, academic, and freedom protests; and is credited with protecting both the educational mission of the university while maintaining the rights of protest, advocacy and dissent.

Navy Bell  (cont. from page 8)

Thanks to requests from the New Mexico Governor at the time, Thomas Mabry, the state has two bells from the ship. When the state was provided the second bell, Governor Mabry agreed to give The University of New Mexico one of the ship’s bells that had been in the basement of the old Capital Building, now the Bataan Memorial Building.

That bell arrived at UNM in 1948, and was placed in the west tower of the Administration Building, now called Scholes Hall. A plaque noted that it was dedicated on April 17, 1948 as a “Memorial to those men and women who served their country during World War II.” In 1964, the bell was moved to a tower — at the east end of Smith Plaza — that had been designed by architect Max Flatow and financed by Alpha Phi Omega.

In the summer of 2018, the Plaza underwent a major renovation, revitalizing what is known as the heart of the campus. The stairs and landing where the bell was placed, were completely taken out during the construction. The display for the bell was redesigned and placed in a location more visible to the public, directly in front of Zimmerman Library.

“This historic bell is on loan from the United States Navy as a reminder of the courage and commitment of those who defend our nation, and in its new location it will serve to remind and inspire future generations of students,” said Greg Trapp, a member of the Navy League New Mexico Council and a co-author of Images of America USS New Mexico (BB-40).

“New Mexico earned six battle stars during World War II, and fired its 14-inch guns in support of many of the most crucial island invasions of the Pacific War,” added Trapp.
Academically Speaking
Conferences, lectures, classes, and fairs

Popular Summer Class Returns for 18th Year

This summer, just like the past 17, Dr. Eliseo “Cheo” Torres, UNM Vice President for Student Affairs and professor of Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies, presented the annual Traditional Medicine without Borders: Curanderismo in the Southwest and Mexico two-week course at The University of New Mexico.

This popular summer class is an opportunity for Mexican traditional healers to share their knowledge about “Curanderismo,” the art and science of Mexican traditional healing through a unique class setting.

Dr. Torres takes an integrative approach to medicine and his class features demonstrations incorporating Curanderismo with various traditional and holistic health techniques. The course uses healers and health practitioners from Mexico and the Albuquerque community as instructors.

“During the class, participants and the UNM community are invited to a free traditional health fair held on the UNM campus to receive treatments such as firecupping, spiritual cleansings, and reiki.

Although the summer session of the Curanderismo is the biggest draw for students, Torres also offers two online UNM credit courses on the subject and will soon be offering a set of free Coursera courses.

Annual Mentoring Conference

This year, the Mentoring Institute at UNM hosted its 11th annual mentoring conference themed Mentoring, Coaching and Leadership for Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the UNM Student Union Building. Nearly 500 Faculty, staff and students of higher education, researchers, K-12 educators, community leaders, administrators, and other professionals participated in meaningful conversations, networking opportunities, hands-on workshops, and engagement among scholars and professionals in the fields of mentoring, coaching, and leadership.
**Golf Tournament Celebrates 10 Years**

Every August, for the past 10 years, UNM has teamed up with El Mezquite markets to host the annual El Mezquite Golf Tournament to raise funds for students. Teams of four can sign up to participate via sponsorships ranging from $750 to $5,000 each. All told, the tournament has raised $950,000 for students with $57,000 coming from this year alone. In honor of the 10th anniversary, the teams had a little fun with a photo booth and mariachis during the banquet dinner.

**Students Give Back During Annual Fall Frenzy**

Students help beautify the campus for homecoming week during the annual Fall Frenzy coordinated by ASUNM Community Experience on Sept. 21.
was held last year in part with the Council for Opportunity in Education, and the Center for First-Generation Success program with the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA). “It was a huge success nationwide and they have decided to have a celebration every year,” she says.

The SSS program at UNM targets 160 of the university’s undergraduate students who are first-generation to college, low-income and/or have a documented disability. Many of the students they serve go on to give back to the program through mentorship and advisement.

Tamara Martinez, a current SSS advisor earned her undergraduate degree while participating in the SSS and Ronald E. McNair programs and is now striving to earn her graduate degree by the end of this semester. “I wouldn’t be here without these programs,” she says.

Minh Le, a UNM student majoring in Biology and double-minoring in Chemistry and Psychology, also serves as a peer coach in the Student Support Services at UNM as a way to help first-generation students like himself. He has plans to become a family practitioner after college.

Student Support Services-TRIO aims to increase the college retention and graduation rates of program participants at UNM through a holistic framework where participants receive individualized support by addressing their educational and personal needs. The program is 100% federally funded through a grant from the US Department of Education TRiO Programs.