Welcome to the Connection!

This new online publication will be produced near the end of every semester to recap the specific events and programs our Division provided to inspire learning and academic success, and enhance the lives of our students.

This spring, the Division welcomed students and the community to the campus and installed the latest group of UNM Fellows. We were honored to recognize outstanding students and staff through awards and ceremonies. We graciously gave back to the community and those in need, and educated through colloquiums, conferences and fairs.

As the primary 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, and enhance the quality of life for potential and current students, and alumni.

Dr. Eliseo “Cheo” Torres, VP for UNM Student Affairs

Welcome Back Days

UNM Student Activities hosted two Welcome Back Days in January to help students get a running start for the semester. Campus departments, Greek life and student organizations all manned booths to provide information to new and returning students about new and returning programs, services, and ways to get involved.

2016 Fellows

Cheo Torres welcomed the 2016 Fellows cohort which includes: Jamila Clayton, program Specialist with African American Student Services; Moe Copeland, area coordinator with Residence Life and Student Housing; Margaret Ortega, associate director with the UNM Foundation/Office of Annual Giving; Lisa Ortiz, master teacher with the UNM Children’s Campus; and Jacqueline Paul, program coordinator with the Center for English Language and American Culture (CELAC), (see photo on page 4)

OSA Open Houses

Several Student Affairs departments hosted “open houses” and welcomed the UNM community into their areas to showcase their programs.

Many celebrations this spring including this year’s Louie Awards. (see p. 4)
Who’s Who Reception
Students were honored at the annual Who’s Who Among Colleges and Universities awards ceremony. These awards honor UNM’s most outstanding juniors, seniors, and graduate students for their achievements. “Who’s Who” is a national program, which was established in 1945 by H. Pettus Randall II to recognize academic achievement on college campuses.

African American Student Services Black History Month Celebration
AASS celebrated the month of February with several Black History Month events including talks, workshops, movies and a fashion show. The month kicked off with a flag raising ceremony outside of Scholes Hall and a reception.

CEP Honors Dan D. Chavez
Dr. Dan Chavez, founder and first director of the College Enrichment Program at UNM was honored during a tree planting ceremony. He is credited with bringing this unique program specializing in recruitment, retention and placement for low-income and minority NM high school graduates to UNM in 1970. He served as the CEP director until 1990, and recruited over 3,000 students to the University. His pre-college orientation program enhanced college retention with tutoring, counseling, and help with employment or admission to graduate programs.

2016 Annual Service Awards
Human Resources honored several employees at their annual Service Awards Ceremony. This annual event recognizes UNM employees who have served at the University for 15 years or more. Our Division has several employees who have worked at UNM for 25+ years including: Dr. Tim Gutierrez, 40 years; Debbie Morris, 35 years; Jim Todd, 25 years; and Laura Veytia, 25 years.

UNM Army ROTC Celebrates 100 years
The UNM Army ROTC was honored at the UNM Men’s Lobo basketball game as the Unit celebrated its 100th anniversary. The Unit was honored during the half-time celebration as a way to bring awareness to the benefits the program brings to students.

National Women’s History Month
The UNM Women’s Resource Center celebrated March with several Women’s Herstory events in honor of National Women’s History Month. The WRC teamed up with the UNM Feminist Research Institute and the UNM LGBTQ Resource to offer free events including Herstory Trivia, Mocktails, lectures and workshops.

2016 Farmworker Awareness Week
The College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) honored Farmworkers during their 3rd annual Farmworker Worker Awareness Week at UNM to help bring awareness to the issues that farm workers face in the Southwest while recognizing local farmers, and agricultural advocates including Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta. A blood drive, lectures, and films were also part of the week.
It’s an **Honor** *(cont.)*

**Louie Louie!**

The 2016 annual Louie Awards were given to outstanding employees in our Division who make a difference in the lives of students every day. Employees can be nominated by any member of the UNM community based on their outstanding service to our students. Winners are chosen by a committee comprised of a diverse group of people from various UNM departments. Congratulations to this year’s winners!

Anna Trillo is honored with this year’s Fellow of the Year Award.

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**And the winners are:**

**Outstanding Service Providers:**  
**Linda Melville**, senior operations manager, Global Education Office, and **Elizabeth Barton**, associate registrar, Registrar’s Office

**Fellow of the Year:**  
**Anna Trillo**, student affairs specialist, Dean of Students Office

**Student Employee of the Year**  
**Nandi Baldwin**, Women’s Resource Center

**Student Affairs Employee of the Year**  
**Natalie Brigance**, executive assistant, Vice President for Student Affairs Office

**Community Service Award**  
**Kiran Katira, Vanessa Apodaca, Theresa Clark, Magda Dathe**, Community Engagement Center

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**2016 Recognition Reception**

UNM honored nearly 50 of its best and brightest at the annual Recognition Reception hosted by the Student Activities Center. This annual reception recognizes the accomplishments of many of our outstanding student leaders through various awards including the Clauve Outstanding Senior Awards, African American Student Services Award, Outstanding American Indian Student Service Award, Raza Excellence Outstanding Student Awards and several more. UNM seniors were recognized for their contributions to student life, service to our community, leadership, and exceptional volunteer service to the campus all while maintaining a positive academic performance and serving as an academic ambassador to the institution.

Deyanira Nunez, a Student Affairs student employee won a Raza Excellence Outstanding Student Award.
Good Gracious
Students, staff, pay it forward through kindness

Alternative Spring Break
For the 6th consecutive year, the Dean of Students office hosted the Alternative Spring Break (ASB) service-learning opportunity during the University’s Spring Break. Students traveled to New Orleans, LA to participate in community engagement projects in areas still feeling the effect of Hurricane Katrina. The students aided in home building, teamwork, and leadership, while experiencing historical sites and culture.

BeKind UNM Celebration
For the seventh year, the Division of Student Affairs partnered with the UNM BeKind Committee, which includes staff members, students and the community, to celebrate National Random Acts of Kindness Week. Members delivered teddy bears and other toys to Albuquerque Police Chief Gordon Eden and area commanders as the final event of the annual celebration. The bears will be kept in APD patrol cars to be given to children in traumatic situations to help ease some of the stress. Eden says that The University of New Mexico has always had a generous heart when it comes to the Albuquerque community, and the bears give the police department the opportunity to comfort the children they deal with in crisis.

ASUNM Community Experience Spring Storm and Fiestas
The Associated Students of UNM (ASUNM) Community Experience hosted their annual Spring Storm and fiestas—a city-wide annual event in which countless students, staff, and faculty from UNM participate in a one-day service project. This event is a great way of giving back to the Albuquerque community. After the community services projects are done for the day, participants are treated to the annual fiestas celebration at Johnson Field.
UNM Career Expo 2016
The Office of Career Services held its largest career fair of the year, Career Expo 2016 in February. Career Expo is Career Services’ premier recruiting event and is designed to facilitate the recruitment of the best and the brightest that New Mexico has to offer and to encourage job seekers to network with professionals from across the nation. Employers in attendance represented a diverse range of careers and opportunities.

Undergraduate Opportunities Fair
El Centro de la Raza hosted an Undergraduate Student Opportunities Fair this Spring. This was a great way for students to learn about several opportunities available to them including research, travel, scholarships, graduate school preparation and network with UNM staff and other students.

Career Services Educator’s Job Fair
The UNM Office of Career Services hosted their Educator’s Job Fair in April. The Educator’s Career Fair is designed to connect those interested in education related jobs and careers with multiple schools and employers in one place. Employers in attendance represented a number of schools and internship opportunities.

STEM Gateway Colloquium
The STEM Gateway program hosted a STEM Cultural Colloquium: Getting at the Gap, in April. The colloquium brought professionals from STEM initiatives across campus together to engage in dialogue about how to best structure and implement STEM programs for optimal levels of student success. The focus was particularly on the success of STEM students from underrepresented populations, with presentations from esteemed leaders in STEM initiatives from UNM and other universities.

NSSP 7th Annual Symposium
The UNM National Security Studies Program hosted their annual symposium: Global and National Security: Rapidly Evolving Challenges, in April. The event featured noted New York Times national security reporter Shane Scott, as well as a panel focusing on national security and muslim communities.

Looking Ahead
Curanderismo Class
Dr. Eliseo “Cheo” Torres, UNM Vice President for Student Affairs and LLSS professor, in conjunction with the UNM Women’s Resource Center, will host the “Traditional Medicine without Borders: Curanderismo in the Southwest and Mexico,” two week course at The University of New Mexico from July 11-22. Registration is open through both UNM for credit at registrar.unm.edu and Continuing Education for non-credit at ce.unm.edu

Mezquite Golf Tournament
On Friday, August 19 at 11 a.m. at the Isleta Golf Club, El Mezquite Markets and the Bermudez family are teaming up with UNM Student Affairs to host the annual Mezquite Golf Tournament to raise funds for scholarships for UNM students. Teams of four can participate via sponsorships of $750 - $5,000 per team. Space is limited, and the deadline to register is Friday, June 3, 2016. Please click here to register.