

Fall 2010

UTEP Magazine: The University of Texas at El Paso

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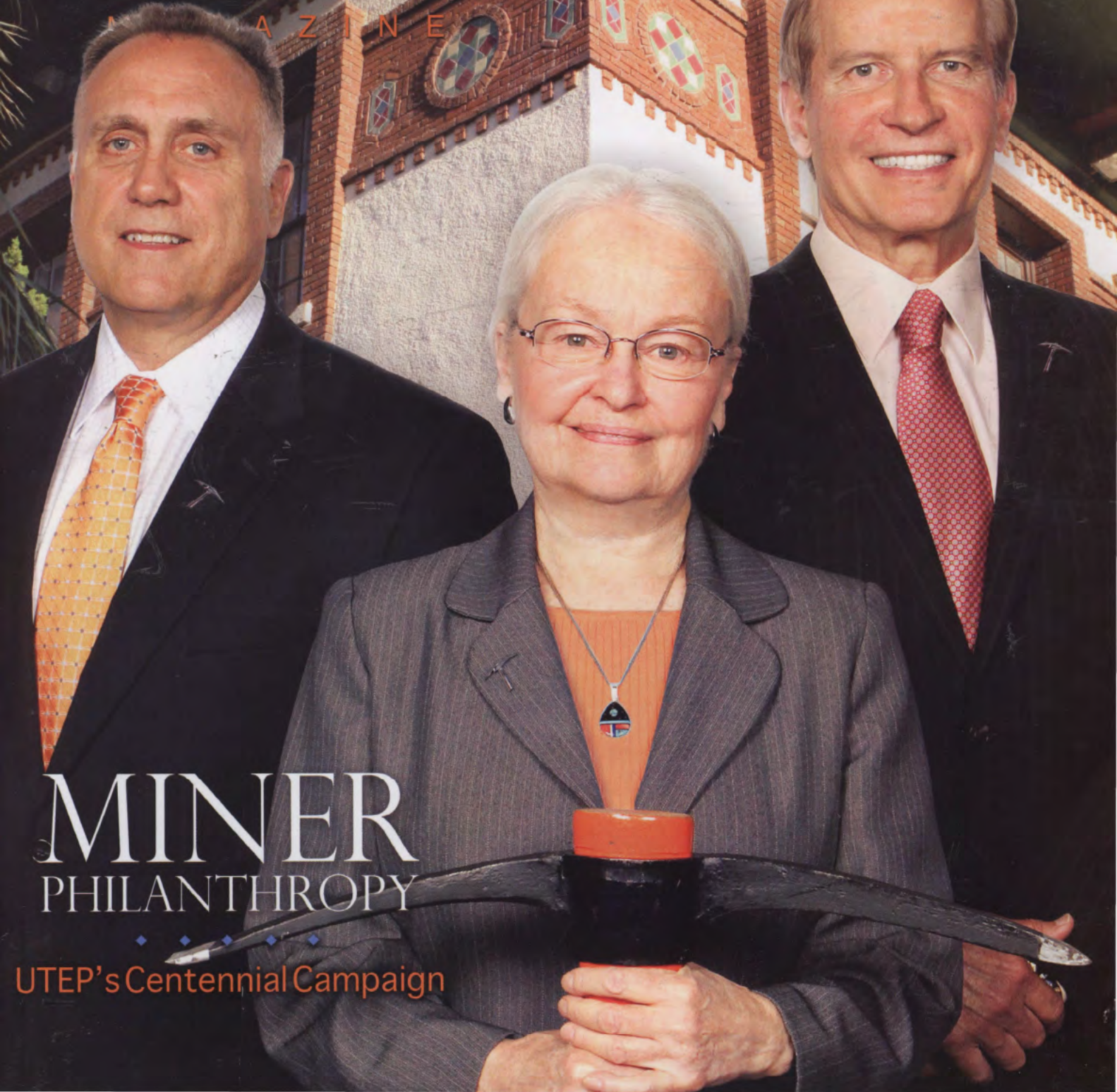
UTEP University Communications, "UTEP Magazine: The University of Texas at El Paso" (2010). *UTEP Magazine*. 10.
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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO • FALL 2010

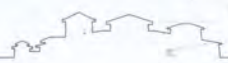
UTEP

M A G A Z I N E



MINER
PHILANTHROPY

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
UTEP's Centennial Campaign



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
PRESIDENT > DIANA NATALICIO

DEAR UTEP ALUMNI AND FRIENDS:

Homecoming 2010 was UTEP's best ever! Now, if you recall that I made this same claim last year, your recollection is probably correct. In fact, UTEP's Homecoming celebrations really have been getting better every year: more engagement, more enthusiasm, and more UTEP Miner pride! The parade this year was the most elaborate in my memory, and the colleges' activities honoring their Gold Nuggets, the Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner at the Don Haskins Center, and the UTEP Miners' solid football victory over Rice in the Sun Bowl all contributed to a very proud and happy Homecoming 2010.

With the Centennial of UTEP's founding in 1914 as the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy fast approaching, our annual Homecoming celebrations will serve as building blocks in preparing for the commemoration of that major milestone in 2014. Underlying each UTEP Homecoming is a cross-cutting and constant theme: UTEP's IMPACT! At each Homecoming we celebrate the many ways UTEP impacts students' lives while they're on campus and their impact on society as UTEP alumni. We also celebrate UTEP's impact on the El Paso community as we build the quality and reputation of our programs campuswide; build facilities to accommodate growth in enrollment and growing excellence in academic and athletic programs and research; and build partnerships with stakeholders to enhance our region's quality of life.

We also recognize that by successfully serving this Paso del Norte region, UTEP's national reputation has grown substantially, and we are now viewed as playing a leadership role in increasing the effectiveness of U.S. higher education in the 21st century. UTEP is clearly at the forefront of major changes in public higher education, and our Centennial celebration presents an exciting opportunity for us to gain even greater national visibility for our successful work. You'll be hearing more about these exciting developments as the UTEP 2014 Commission proceeds with its planning for our Centennial commemoration. And let me take this opportunity to thank again each and every one of the 2014 Commission's 100 members — alumni, friends and community stakeholders as well as UTEP staff and faculty — for agreeing to join us in preparing for a meaningful, memorable and enjoyable 100th anniversary celebration.

No university Centennial celebration would be complete without a major fundraising campaign, and UTEP certainly wouldn't want to be an exception to that proud tradition! We've announced a \$200 million goal for our campaign, *At the Forefront: The Centennial Campaign for UTEP*, and we're proud that since 2007 when we quietly began, we have already raised \$100 million toward it. These funds will have a major impact on our quest to become the first national research university with a 21st century student demographic, and thereby continue to lead U.S. higher education by example. UTEP's Centennial and the fundraising campaign associated with it couldn't have come at a better time!

We hope that each and every one of you will plan to join us for UTEP's Centennial commemoration activities in 2014. We also invite you to participate in our Centennial fundraising campaign now by making a donation and encouraging your fellow alumni and friends to do the same. You may target your gifts for specific programs, colleges or research centers; for scholarships or educational enrichment programs for undergraduate students; for graduate student fellowships; for faculty endowed professorships and chairs; for facilities upgrades; and for such special units as the UTEP Marching Band, Centennial Museum, Rio Bosque, Dinner Theatre, Indio Ranch, Athletics, and many, many more ... or you may simply decide to make an unrestricted gift for general financial support. With so many options, I trust that you'll be able to identify a satisfying way for you to support UTEP, and I assure you that all participation — from a modest gift designated for a specific purpose to a large general purpose endowment — will have an impact.

Best of all, your collective gifts will accelerate UTEP's progress toward becoming the first national research university with a 21st century student demographic ... and help us launch UTEP's highly successful next century of opportunity creation and excellence in service to this Paso del Norte region and our nation!

GO MINERS!



Diana Natalicio

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ALL PHOTOGRAPHS IN UTEP MAGAZINE TAKEN BY
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CONTENTS © 2010 BY
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
UTEP MAGAZINE (ISSN # 1041-6900)
IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.
UTEP UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS
500 W. UNIVERSITY AVE.
EL PASO, TX 79968-0522
915-747-5526 • univcomm@utep.edu
utepmagazine.utep.edu

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT EL PASO,
TEXAS AND ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES

POSTMASTER: SEND CHANGES OF ADDRESS TO
UTEP MAGAZINE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
KELLY HALL, 7TH FLOOR
500 W. UNIVERSITY AVE.
EL PASO, TX 79968-0524



UTEP MAGAZINE 2010 • VOLUME 2 ISSUE 4
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
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CONTENTS

FALL 2010



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ON THE COVER

30 MINER PHILANTHROPY: UTEP'S CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

UTEP has a strong foundation of giving. In September, the University launched its most ambitious fundraising campaign to date, with a goal of reaching \$200 million by 2014.

RESEARCH

20 TURNING RESEARCH INTO PROFIT

UTEP faculty and graduate students are patenting their cutting-edge research and developing companies to sell their products.

22 DUST STORMS DRIVE MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

Professors of geological sciences, sociology, mathematical sciences and pharmacy have combined their efforts to study the association between dust storms and respiratory problems.

23 COLLABORATIVE CURRICULUM

A UTEP-led research team is studying the benefit of adding a health literacy curriculum to English as a Second Language instruction.

FEATURES

24 CONVOCATION CELEBRATES CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

In a break from tradition, Fall Convocation 2010 resembled a carnival celebrating the launch of *At the Forefront: The Centennial Campaign for UTEP*.

27 PRESIDENTIAL HONOR

UTEP President Diana Natalicio presented El Paso businessman Woody Hunt with the inaugural President's Medal, the University's highest honor.

28 CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

It's not too early to start planning UTEP's 100th anniversary celebration for 2014. A new commission takes on the preparations.

ATHLETICS

48 MEN'S BASKETBALL

Miners Reload with New and Familiar Faces

49 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Senior Play

50 1941 BORDER CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM REMEMBERED

51 TRACK AND FIELD

New Leader, Same Winning Tradition

52 SOCCER

Young Soccer Team Carries the Tradition of Winning

DEPARTMENTS

2 CAMPUS NEWS

54 MINER NATION

58 THE MINER CHRONICLES

62 ALUMNOTES

64 IN MEMORIAM



11 MINING MINDS

There's more to UTEP's new roundabout sculpture, designed by artist Michael Clapper, pictured above, than meets the eye.

PHOTO BY LAURA TREJO

On the cover:

From left, Russ Vandenburg, chair of the Centennial Campaign Leadership Council; UTEP President Diana Natalicio; and member of the Leadership Council Woody Hunt

STAY CONNECTED WITH UTEP:



CoBA Named No. 1 Grad Program for Hispanics

The College of Business Administration at The University of Texas at El Paso reached a landmark goal in 2010. The September edition of *Hispanic Business* magazine named UTEP the nation's top graduate business school for Hispanics.

The University came in ahead of New York University, UT Austin, the University of Miami and the University of Texas at San Antonio.

"The College of Business Administration is a union of faculty, staff, alumni and corporate partners with one singular mission," said Robert Nachtmann, D.B.A., dean of the College of Business Administration. "That mission is to provide our students with access to building the education foundation to their future professional life. This national recognition of excellence in M.B.A. (Master of Business Administration) education is a testament to the systematic hard work of our college and campus community."

CoBA is the only business school in the region to be accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). Fewer than 5 percent of business schools worldwide have earned this designation from AACSB International.

"Over the last five years, the M.B.A. faculty and staff have initiated significant changes in the program curriculum, admission standards, corporate engagements and study abroad experiences," said Laura Uribarri, director of UTEP's M.B.A. programs. "These changes have attracted a talented and diverse student body that has enabled the M.B.A. program to accomplish record academic achievements and thereby receive this top national ranking."

"All of us at UTEP are very proud of this extraordinary accomplishment, which recognizes the hard work of the faculty, staff and students in the College of Business Administration and the fine leadership of Dean Robert Nachtmann," said University President Diana Natalicio. "It represents another giant step in the right direction as we continue to progress toward becoming the first national research university with a 21st century student demographic." ☒

This national recognition of excellence in M.B.A. education is a testament to the systematic hard work of our college and campus community.

Robert Nachtmann, D.B.A., dean of the College of Business Administration



College of Engineering Continues Success Streak

Continuing The University of Texas at El Paso's tradition for excellence, the College of Engineering once again was listed among the top five best graduate schools for Hispanics in the country, according to *Hispanic Business* magazine.

In the September 2010 edition, the college was ranked fifth in the nation, marking its sixth consecutive year in the top five.

"We are very happy to have been recognized for our graduate programs for the sixth year in a row," said Richard T. Schoephoerster, Ph.D., dean of the College of Engineering. "We have by far the highest percentage of Hispanic faculty in engineering of any university in the country, and our doctoral opportunities for Hispanic students continue to expand

as our research programs grow to over \$12 million in research expenditures per year."

The magazine's 2010 Diversity Report lists the top 10 graduate schools for Hispanics in business, engineering, law and medicine. The report determines a school's rank using several factors, including percentage of Hispanic students and faculty, recruiting programs, mentorship programs, Hispanic student organizations, and retention and graduation rates of Hispanic students.

The college offers 11 master's and six Ph.D. programs. It also features active research programs in areas such as advanced manufacturing and materials, infrastructure and sustainability, information and security, biomedical and health systems, and engineering education innovation. ☒



Disaster in the Gulf

UTEP Oil Expert Analyzes BP Spill

Images of dark volcanic plumes of oil and gas deep in the Gulf of Mexico and waves of water with a rusty sheen dominated international media for almost three months during the summer of 2010.

The U.S. government estimated that more than 200 million gallons of crude oil gushed into the gulf as a result of the April 20 explosion that sank British Petroleum's (BP) Deepwater Horizon offshore oil rig, killed 11 of its workers and started the largest oil spill in the country's history.

CNN, FOX News, MSNBC, CNBC and Bloomberg Television called on The University of Texas at El Paso's Russell Chianelli, Ph.D., professor of chemistry and environmental science and engineering, several times during the saga to analyze the situation.

Chianelli formerly worked at Exxon's Corporate Research Laboratory and was designated the lead scientist for the bioremediation project to clean the beaches of Alaska after the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill.

"Right from the beginning (after the BP spill), the thing that bothered me was that we had a lot of historical evidence about what happened before (during previous spills). (We) pretty much knew what was going to happen and that seemed to be totally ignored by the press," Chianelli said.

BP's continuous efforts to cap the leaking well, which it believes was done



Russell Chianelli, Ph.D., has been researching methods to upgrade crude oil since 1974. He was in charge of the beach cleanup efforts in Alaska during the Exxon Valdez spill in 1989.

July 15, initially failed and drew a lot of media attention.

"There's a difference between the accident and the response to the spill. What BP did in response to the spill was start pouring dispersants on it, and there were a lot of people trying to stop them from doing that, but that was the right thing to do," Chianelli said.

The UTEP professor said the dispersants break down the oil in the water, allowing for microbes found in the ocean to consume the oil and expedite the cleanup. Chianelli found no harm in using dispersants.

"They've been approved by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) for the past 35 years," he said.

The spill fueled debates and led to finger-pointing while the oil continued to gush

from the well. That didn't happen during the Exxon Valdez spill because President George H.W. Bush put the Coast Guard in charge immediately and made Exxon a partner with the EPA, Chianelli said.

"It was very organized from the beginning. Everyone knew what they were going to do. From what I've seen in this, there was just complete chaos," Chianelli said.

In early September, BP completed a relief well and by Sept. 18 the company was able to cap the leaking well. Meanwhile, the investigation into why the blowout preventer failed continues.

"Whether the accident should've happened is a different question. I don't think it should've happened," Chianelli said. "I think they (BP) made a mistake." ❏

IN THE THICK OF IT

Students often use their summer internships to gain real-world experience in their chosen

career field. For one UTEP intern, the summer went from helpful to memorable courtesy of one of the worst man-made disasters in generations.

Mark Sassenfeld, a graduate student in systems engineering at The University of Texas at El Paso, spent the better part of three months during the summer working at the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) in Washington, D.C. His job was to help in the recovery effort after the April 20 Deepwater Horizon oil rig explosion and subsequent oil spill.

Due to the classified nature of his work, Sassenfeld could not go into detail about his assignments, but he said that his weekly routine included helping to brief U.S. Coast Guard Admiral Thad Allen, the national incident commander.

"It was an experience I will never forget," the UTEP intern said. "There is no better feeling than knowing that the technical skills and knowledge that you have acquired are being used to help the country at a national level. I've had the opportunity to learn and be a part of things I never imagined."

He said his experiences at the University prepared him for the unexpected.

"You never know in your life when you are going to deal with a certain subject, so it is best to learn all that you can while you are in school," he said. "The best advice I can give for anyone in a technical internship is to keep up with the learning curve, ask a lot of questions, and be persistent." ❏

Engineering Professor Recognized for Impact on Students



Ann C. Quiroz Gates, Ph.D., associate vice president for research and professor of computer science

For UTEP Professor Ann C. Quiroz Gates, Ph.D., creating a social impact is an important part of her job.

Gates has been honored with the Anita Borg Social Impact Award, given yearly by the Anita Borg Institute for Women and Technology to honor an individual or team that has caused technology to have a positive impact on the lives of women and society, or has caused women to have a significant impact on the design and use of technology.

"There is a large group of individuals that need to be recognized alongside of me, people who have shared the vision of empowering others to excel," said Gates, associate vice president for research in the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects at The University of Texas at El Paso, and professor of computer science.

Gates is the founder of UTEP's Computing Alliance for Hispanic-Serving Institutions, a program that strives to increase the number of Latinos who pursue and complete baccalaureate and advanced degrees in computer science, as well as create a unified voice in an effort to consolidate the strengths, resources and concerns of other participating Hispanic-serving institutions.

"Ann Gates is an excellent role model for women interested in careers in the technology field," said Richard Schoephoerster, Ph.D., dean of the College of Engineering. "Her influence goes well beyond the walls of UTEP — she has impacted the lives of young women across the country. This is a well-deserved honor for her long-standing and dedicated efforts." ❏

Professor Honored As Distinguished Piper Professor



Lawrence E. Murr, Ph.D., chair of metallurgical and materials engineering

Many members of the faculty at The University of Texas at El Paso are known for their unique approach to education. Some use the Socratic Method, others lecture with PowerPoint notes. For Lawrence E. Murr, Ph.D., the best approach to staying "current and interesting" may involve jumping on top of his desk or lying down on a floor to demonstrate his point.

"I'm not what many would consider a

conventional instructor," said Murr, department chair and professor of metallurgical and materials engineering. "I have my own style — I do my own thing."

The Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation has selected Murr as a Distinguished Piper Professor of 2010. Awardees receive an honorarium of \$5,000.

"I was shocked, but honored at the same time," Murr said.

The Piper Professor Program honors 15 professors annually for superior teaching at the college level in the state of Texas. Recipients are well rounded, devoted to teaching and have had a special impact on their students and their communities.

"I will always be grateful for the opportunity to work with Dr. Murr and learning from his unique approach to research," said Stella Quiñones, Ph.D., a former student of Murr's who now is an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering at UTEP and a winner of the 2010 University of Texas System Board of Regents' Outstanding Teaching Awards. "Having influenced many students over the past 20 years, he is not only a professor at UTEP, he is UTEP, and we are lucky to have his continued drive to explore new and amazing connections to science and engineering."

Murr, who has taught at UTEP for the past 20 years, also received the Albert Easton White Distinguished Teacher Award and the Lee Hsun Research Award in 2009.

Since its inception in 1958, 12 UTEP professors have been selected for the Piper Professor Program. ❏



Diane Doser



Kristine Garza



Kristin Gosselink



Robin Grambling



Stella Quiñones



Reynaldo Reyes



Mourat Tchoshanov



Nancy Torres



Robert Webking

UTEP FACULTY EARN Outstanding Teaching Awards

FROM UT SYSTEM
BOARD OF REGENTS



The University of Texas System Board of Regents this summer presented nine faculty members from The University of Texas at El Paso with its Outstanding Teaching Awards in recognition of their performance, innovative techniques and commitment to teaching at the undergraduate level.

"The UTEP faculty honored by the Board of Regents represent the most creative of our colleagues who are also dedicated to helping students succeed," said Howard Daudistel, Ph.D., interim provost at the University. "UTEP has demonstrated that our advance to Tier One status has not come at the expense of our commitment to high quality classroom and laboratory instruction."

Seventy-two instructors from the nine UT System universities received the awards at a recognition dinner in August in Austin, Texas. The winners received a one-time monetary award of \$30,000 for tenured faculty, \$25,000 for tenure-track faculty and \$15,000 for contingent faculty.

"UTEP is unique compared to other UT schools in that we're really strong in science and research, but we're also really strong in teaching," said Kristine Garza, Ph.D., associate professor of biological sciences and one of the award recipients. "The fact that we're getting recognized for teaching and yet we're still doing everything else is quite amazing."

Garza received the tenure award along with Diane Doser, Ph.D., professor of geological sciences; Mourat Tchoshanov, Ph.D., professor of teacher education and mathematical sciences; and Robert Webking, Ph.D., professor of political science.

Winners of the tenure-track awards were Kristin Gosselink, Ph.D., assistant professor of biological sciences; Stella Quiñones, Ph.D., assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering; and Reynaldo Reyes, Ph.D., assistant professor of teacher education.

The two honorees for the contingent faculty awards were Robin Grambling, senior lecturer of marketing and management, and Nancy Torres, lecturer of kinesiology.

"I think [the award] pushes me to continue my education and to continue teaching," Torres said.

Candidates for the teaching awards were nominated at the campus level, then evaluated on several criteria, including student and peer evaluations, teaching portfolio and student learning outcomes.

"We have a clear duty to provide an exceptional education to our students," said Francisco Cigarroa, chancellor of the UT System. "These awards not only further that goal, they help advance a culture of excellence that translates to better pedagogy and research, and, ultimately, to a stronger and more vibrant economy for this great state." 📌

"We are very proud of these representatives of UTEP's many highly innovative and dedicated teachers ... Outstanding faculty members like these ensure the quality of UTEP's academic and research programs and the enhancement of our students' educational experiences."

- UTEP President Diana Natalicio

As cities on the border, El Paso and Ciudad Juárez face challenges that present new opportunities to help the sister cities grow through enhanced security, access to education and economic development. Those were the themes discussed at this year's Border Security Conference at The University of Texas at El Paso.

In its seventh year on campus, the annual conference brought in experts from UTEP, officials from U.S. and Mexican government agencies and other leaders in the business, health care and security sectors to discuss the changing dynamic of the border region.

"We are expanding the scope of the conference, but still keeping the main focus on bringing in subject-matter experts on issues dealing with border security, and the ability to incorporate technology and infrastructure changes so we can promote more improved trade, commerce and cooperation between the two countries," said U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes, D-Texas, chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

In collaboration with Reyes' office and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the conference featured eight panels on topics including innovation and entrepreneurship, health issues on the border, economic opportunity and effective security.

U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Carlos Pascual opened the conference by stressing the importance of collaboration between the two countries. He said that in the seven years since the first seminar, the Border Security Conference at UTEP had become a premier public forum for discussion between the public and private sectors at the national, state and community levels of both countries.

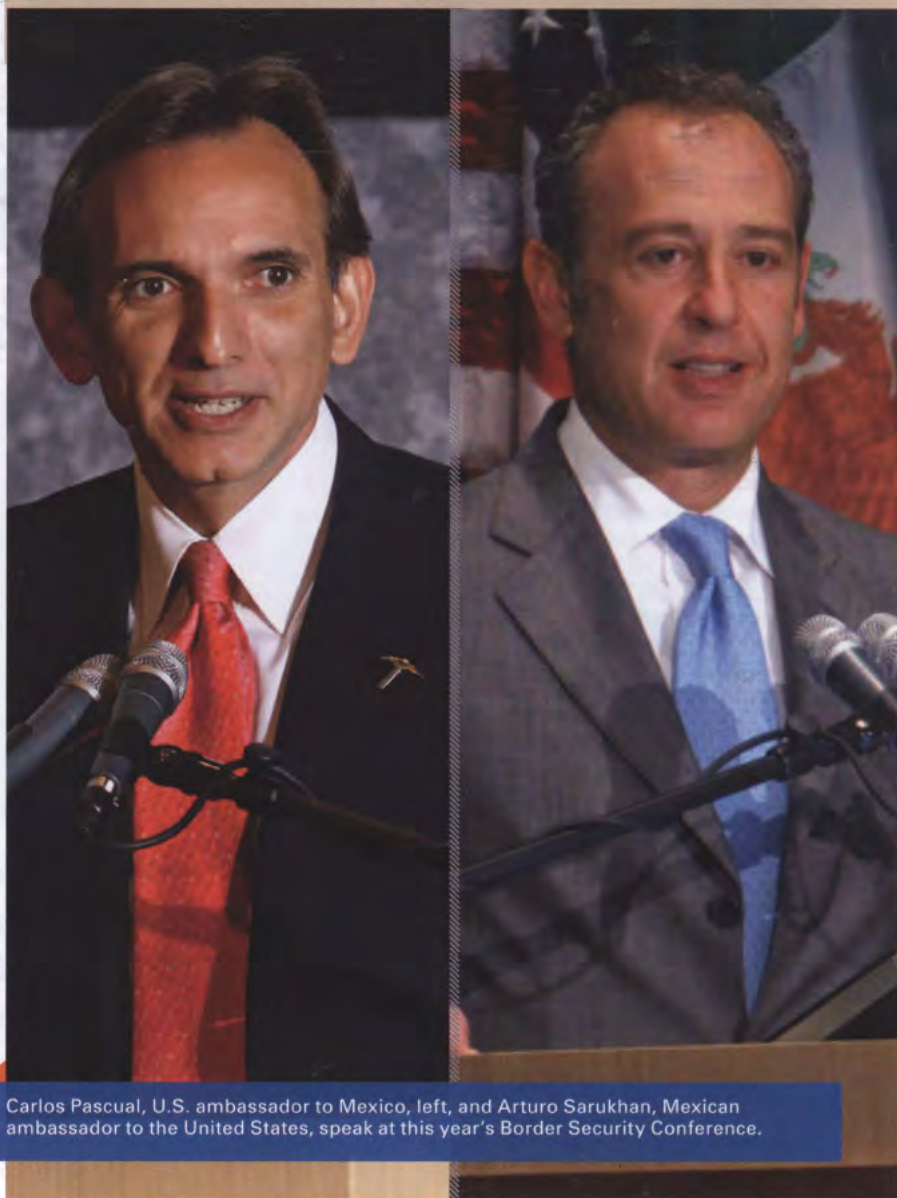
"The annual conference explores ways to safeguard common security while fostering the human interchange and cultural and economic growth between the United States and Mexico," Pascual said.

El Paso businessman Woody Hunt, whose foundation earlier this year gave \$5 million to open a new Hunt Institute for Global Competitiveness at the University, participated in one of the panels on human capital development, which focused on innovation and entrepreneurship as a means to facilitate economic growth. He

Securing Our Border, Securing Our Future

2010 BORDER SECURITY CONFERENCE

"With its border location, student demographics, academic programs, research infrastructure and ties to many Mexican institutions, UTEP offers a splendid setting for sharing perspectives and promoting cross-border conversations on border security issues." — Diana Natalicio, UTEP President



Carlos Pascual, U.S. ambassador to Mexico, left, and Arturo Sarukhan, Mexican ambassador to the United States, speak at this year's Border Security Conference.



Top left: Participants fill an auditorium at UTEP's Undergraduate Learning Center to hear panel discussions.

Top right: UTEP President Diana Natalicio is shown with, from left, José Reyes Ferriz, former mayor of Juárez; Arturo Sarukhan, Mexican ambassador to the United States; and Roberto Rodríguez Hernández, Mexican consul general in El Paso.

Bottom left: U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes, D-Texas, chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Bottom right: Alan Bersin, commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, gives the final remarks to close the conference.

explained the role of the private sector in improving security and commerce along the border.

"Part of the solution for a secure border is economic competitiveness, and that's why the business community needs to be engaged," Hunt said. "UTEP is our most important institution in the region, not only in the graduates it turns out, but increasingly in helping to create jobs in the community by working with business and government to identify those areas where we can have a comparative advantage."

The two-day conference drew more than 500 participants who came to listen to the panels and browse exhibits from security companies demonstrating new technologies being used along the border.

On the last day of the conference, Alan Bersin, commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, gave the keynote address. He said the relationship between the United States and Mexico is unprecedented and offered insight into how

events like the Border Security Conference and other programs at UTEP, which was designated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as a Center of Excellence in 2008, help set a tone for the way the border region is viewed.

"The conference has become an important event in terms of border life and understanding," Bersin said. "UTEP contributes to the understanding of cross-border relationships and ideas so we can be innovative and imaginative as we [develop] a 21st century border."

The theme of the 2010 Border Security Conference was "Re-envisioning the Border Community to Foster a U.S.-Mexico Partnership for Prosperity, Progress and Socioeconomic Development." That relationship between the neighboring countries was ever-present among the conference's discussions, expert opinions and public interactions, as well as in the backdrop of Juárez, which is visible from the UTEP campus. ☒

Faculty Spotlight: Josefina "Josie" V. Tinajero, Ed.D.

As part of the 2010 Border Security Conference, Tinajero, dean of the College of Education at UTEP, participated in one of the panels on the development of human capital as a means to promote innovation and entrepreneurship.

"Education is one of the most important components for border security," she said. "We want people to have the education to make the decisions that are going to provide for a more secure and prosperous border."

Tinajero has conducted research on the benefits of dual-language education in public schools.

Faculty Spotlight: Eunice Santos, Ph.D.

In 2008, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security designated UTEP as a Center of Excellence, which led to the creation of the National Center for Border Security and Immigration. Santos, chair of the Department of Computer Science, was named as its director the next year.

Santos recently was recognized by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) as the computer society's 2010 Technical Achievement Award winner for pioneering contributions to computational social network systems.

MILLENNIUM LECTURE SERIES

Lawmaker: Good Education Benefits Economy, Society

A Washington official hailed as a true believer in academics and an advocate to those who value learning stressed how the nation's future depends on accessible and affordable education during his Millennium Lecture this fall at The University of Texas at El Paso.

U.S. Rep. Ruben Hinojosa, D-Texas, kicked off the 2010-11 lecture series by touting the government's efforts to make a college education as affordable and as accessible as possible through different funds and programs. He also stressed how the mechanisms are in place to help those students, especially minorities, who want to continue their educations and earn graduate and doctoral degrees.

"It is vitally important that our nation's universities serve as beacons of academic excellence and human development for all students, regardless of their income," he said. "It is critical that they foster and promote intellectual

growth, critical thinking, provide exceptional teaching and learning, (and promote) groundbreaking research and scientific discovery."

He offered several employment and salary figures to the educators, administrators, elected officials and students who assembled in an Undergraduate Learning Center auditorium. The statistics demonstrated the relationship between a college degree and a job that can support a family and stimulate the regional and national economy.

"Today's workers must be able to decipher and analyze information. They must be able to be catalysts for change. They must think out of the box," he said. "They must not be satisfied with the status quo."

The theme of this year's Millennium Lecture Series is "Issues in U.S. Public Higher Education." ❏



U.S. Rep. Ruben Hinojosa, D-Texas, stressed that today's workers must not be satisfied with the status quo during his Millennium Lecture speech this fall at UTEP's Undergraduate Learning Center.

UTEP Creates President's Athletic Advisory Council



UTEP President Diana Natalicio welcomes the inaugural members of the President's Athletic Advisory Council in the Foster-Stevens Basketball Center.

A new advisory council has been established at The University of Texas at El Paso.

The President's Athletic Advisory Council first met in August and was charged with advising UTEP President Diana Natalicio, other University administrators and athletics leaders on program developments and long-range strategies and plans.

"A strong, successful and sustainable intercollegiate athletics program energizes students, faculty and staff members, alumni and residents of the Paso del Norte region, and serves as a building block in achieving UTEP's bold vision to become the first national research university with a 21st century student demographic," Natalicio said.

The new group consists of 25 business leaders, students and community members who will meet quarterly to discuss finances, academic support programs, marketing and promotion, women's sports, student-athlete recruitment and compliance issues.

"The president has selected a well-rounded group for this committee," said UTEP Athletics Director Bob Stull. "Her selections include a combination of interested constituents — season ticket holders, business leaders, fans and students. Our vision with this group is to be able to thoroughly discuss the business of intercollegiate athletics, identifying both our challenges and successes, and receive their valuable feedback." ❏

the picks

- Sandra Almanzan
- Cathryn Baker
- Carlos Barajas
- Richard A. Behrenhausen
- Jim O. Bowden
- Jim Cardwell
- Jesus Cuarón
- Larry Durham
- Diane Flanagan
- James R. Forbes
- Adam Frank
- Tamara Gladkowski
- Joshua W. Hunt
- David Mansfield
- Rafael Martinez
- Michael M. Miles
- Clarissa Navedo
- Wendy Rios
- Dede Rogers
- James E. Rogers
- Joseph R. Saucedo
- Danny R. Vaswani
- Russell Vandenburg
- Oscar Venegas
- Gary B. Weiser

El Paso Teachers Benefit From State Farm Support Program

Entry-level teachers such as University of Texas at El Paso graduate Erik Vasquez understand there is more to instructing a class than knowing your subject. That is why he and hundreds of other educators are so grateful for the State Farm Teacher Residency Induction Program.

Vasquez, a second-year teacher who earned a bachelor's in interdisciplinary studies from UTEP in 2008, is a 7th grade English teacher at Hillcrest Middle School in El Paso. He said the program's monthly Saturday Solution Seminars offered at UTEP were extremely beneficial.

The free discussion groups have tackled topics including student discipline and modifications for students with special needs. New educators often are concerned about keeping students engaged, managing a classroom and dealing with parents. Veteran instructors studying to be school administrators act as moderators.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm

Insurance has invested close to \$200,000 into the three-year-old support program. Primary and secondary teachers in the El Paso, Socorro and Ysleta school districts with less than three years in the classroom are encouraged to attend these professional development sessions.

"It was a lot like a therapy session for novice teachers," Vasquez said. "The more experienced teachers were there to give us some great advice. Those seminars were an enormous help."

The University, which produces the majority of new teachers in El Paso County, is grateful to State Farm for its support, said Michele Stafford Levy, a UTEP lecturer, seminar facilitator and former induction coordinator for Teachers for a New Era, a national initiative created to address the renewal of teacher preparation.

"Our new teachers don't know how things will be in the trenches until they roll up their sleeves and jump in," she said. ☒



Michele Stafford Levy, lecturer and former induction coordinator for Teachers for a New Era

Teacher Development Key to UTEP/Middle School Alliance



David Carrejo, Ph.D., assistant professor of mathematics education, left, documented how Alderete Middle School students responded to instructions given by teacher Ruby Ann Palacios, a UTEP alumna.

The partnership between The University of Texas at El Paso and nearby Jose J. Alderete Middle School was created in 2007 to assist the school's teachers to improve students' math and science scores.

So far, both sides agree the collaboration has created better educators, better students and hopes for a better future.

Those associated with the project are ecstatic with the rise in the students' Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) marks, especially in the math portion, where they jumped to 93 percent in 2009 compared with 65 percent in 2007. The students achieved a strong 89 percent in 2010.

David Carrejo, Ph.D., assistant professor of mathematics education; Judy Reinhartz, Ph.D., professor of science education; and Alderete's leaders agreed to focus on three goals: improve student performance in math and science; improve performance of English language learners and improve understanding of middle school students.

"The middle school years are the

critical ones," said Carrejo, who has a long understanding of border issues in education. "That's when they start to lose interest in math and science."

Carrejo and Reinhartz, who has since retired, credit the success of the collaboration to the comprehensive professional development training that the teachers received, and the strong leadership of then-principal Annette Brigham and her successor, Doris Fernandes.

The learning environment created by the development sessions benefited the campus, said Brigham, who opened the school in August 2006 and now serves as the executive director of the school resources division for Canutillo Independent School District.

Alderete has a large population of students whose native language is Spanish. It was agreed that UTEP would help create a professional development center at the school that would improve teacher performance.

The center also had on-site classes in math and science methods for UTEP undergraduate pre-service teachers. It included on-site lesson planning and implementation, curriculum-building and class observations.

The two professors "never wavered in their commitment to create a unique learning environment for our students by meeting the professional needs of our teachers," Brigham said.

Carrejo, who returned to Alderete last spring to study how teachers use information they are given and the student response, recently partnered with the school's math teachers on another project.

They submitted a grant to improve student learning outcomes on the geometry and measurement objectives of the TAKS test. Their goal is to create a geometry curriculum that integrates interactive technology and makes connections to algebra. If accepted, he said the research can start in January 2011. ☒

Former Apartment Owner Remembers UTEP



The school has always been a part of me. It's the reason I told myself that if anyone was going to have that land, it was going to go to the campus.

Jean Price, former owner of the Miner Heights property

Since her birth in 1920, lifelong El Pasoan Jean Price has felt a strong connection to The University of Texas at El Paso. She remembers her father being very involved with the University — so involved, that she has memories of him pacing up and down the sideline of Kidd Field during football games as though he was one of the coaches.

“My father loved UTEP,” Price said. “The school has always been a part of me. It’s the reason I told myself that if anyone was going to have that land, it was going to go to the campus.”

She was talking about the land east of the University at Schuster Avenue and Randolph Drive that for decades was known as the Regency and Williamsburg Apartments.

Price, the former owner of the two complexes, began land sale negotiations with UTEP in 2008. Today, after \$6.5 million in renovations, the property is the newest option for University students who want to live near campus. Miner Heights, an 80-unit housing area operated by UTEP’s Department of Residence Life, opened in July.

Price understands the importance of being involved on campus. She remembered jumping head first into student activities during her two years at the Texas College of Mines (now UTEP) as it transitioned to Texas Western College in the late 1940s. She was a member of the Tri Delta sorority and the yell team, now the cheerleading squad.

“The funniest thing about me being on the yell team was that they didn’t allow any freshman,” Price remembered with a laugh. The team’s leaders realized their mistake after she had been selected and tried to force her out. “I wouldn’t leave. I told them, ‘You already gave me the job, and I’m not going anywhere.’”

When the campus began expanding in the early 2000s, people interested in buying Price’s lot approached her on several occasions. She always knew, however, that she only would sell to UTEP.

“I knew that when I first bought those buildings, they were going to belong to the school one of these days,” Price said. “I thought to myself, (the school cannot build) any further south because of the freeway, and they can’t continue to go north because of the mountains. It was only a matter of time before the school became so big that I’d be ready to give back.” ☘

Swimming and Fitness Center Tops Out



An architect’s rendering shows what the Swimming and Fitness Center will look like when completed.

As The University of Texas at El Paso student enrollment continues to grow, UTEP leaders are keeping pace with a number of building projects to meet the demands of the University’s expanding population.

The latest addition to the buildings blooming across campus is the \$32 million Swimming and Fitness Center (SFC) expansion, slated for completion in May 2011.

The facility, located on Sun Bowl Drive, will include an additional 87,427 square feet with state-of-the-art equipment, additional courts for basketball and volleyball, an indoor walking and running track, and a 40-foot climbing wall.

“Right now, we have two major installations (the SFC and Memorial Gym) separated by half a mile,” said Hector Muñoz, director of recreational sports. “With the expansion of the SFC, students can now enjoy the same recreational activities they’ve been enjoying under one roof, and more.”

UTEP officials held the building’s “topping out” ceremony in August, a traditional celebration of reaching the highest point of construction. The University and VCC General Contractors marked the occasion by placing a Bhutanese sertog (or golden beam) atop the building’s roof.

“The University has been very busy lately,” said Greg McNicol, associate vice president for facilities services. “Not only is it addressing the need and demand for research and technology, but offering its student body, faculty and staff a chance to decompress in a state-of-the-art recreational and health facility.”

In addition to the SFC, other University construction projects include the College of Health Sciences/School of Nursing Building and the Chemistry and Computer Science Building. Both should open in summer 2011. ☘

The face
of UTEP
continues to
change.



Denver-based artist/sculptor Michael Clapper calls his *Mining Minds* pickaxe head in the University roundabout "a sleek, modernist sculpture."

University Picks Sculpture in Roundabout Way

BY DANIEL PEREZ

The iconic piece of public art in the center of the new traffic roundabout at University Avenue and Sun Bowl Drive makes the intersection the consummate combination of style and substance.

While the \$1.2 million roundabout, a one-way, slow speed, circular intersection, was created to improve traffic flow around the western entrance to campus, the artwork was commissioned as a signature sculpture that would speak to the past, present and future of The University of Texas at El Paso.

UTEP hired Denver-based artist Michael Clapper, who created *Mining Minds*, a 25-foot-tall steel head of a pickaxe with binary code perforations at its tips. The sculpture is embedded in the roundabout's island and surrounded by boulders mined from the campus and low-level native vegetation.

The interesting thing about the binary

code — a series of ones and zeroes — is that Clapper based it on a quote from the 2008 Convocation speech by University President Diana Natalicio, where she encouraged UTEP students to believe in themselves, their dreams and their University.

"I only decided to use the pickaxe icon after I took the handle out of the one in my studio. After removing the handle, I was left with what I considered a sleek, modernist sculpture," Clapper said.

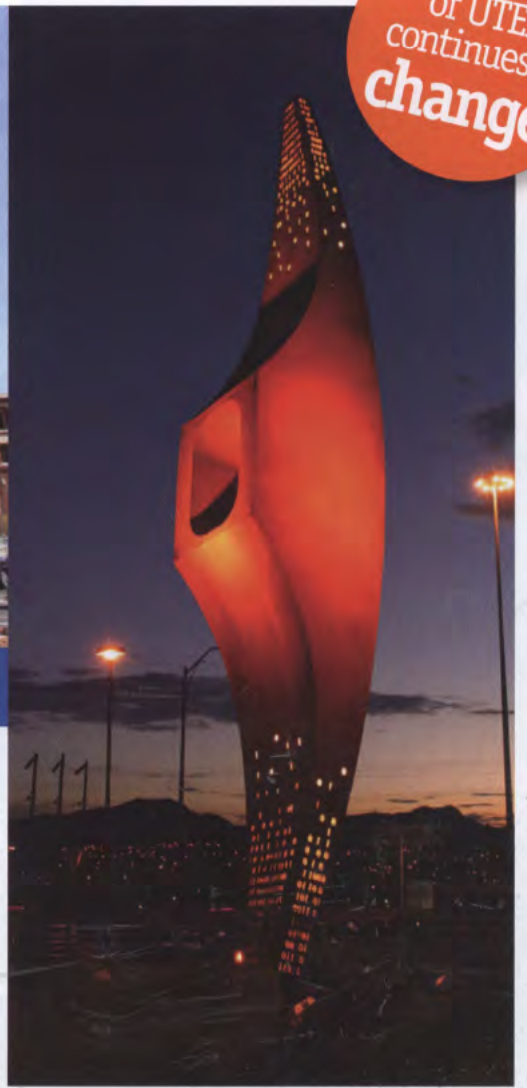
Campus leaders expect the monument to become an iconic landmark.

The art is expected to draw attention to the roundabout, which opened in August after five months of construction. University officials decided on this intersection design, which is popular in Europe and gaining acceptance in the United States, to relieve congestion that often pushed morning traffic back into

the westbound shoulder of Interstate 10 at Schuster Avenue.

University Police Chief Cliff Walsh said the roundabout was a positive change and added that the combination of the new intersection and an additional freeway off-ramp constructed by the Texas Department of Transportation would help smooth out traffic.

The department plans to break ground in December 2010 on a project that would add a westbound I-10 off-ramp option at Schuster. The \$9.3 million assignment includes building a two-lane bridge over Schuster between the S-3 parking lot and the freeway that would feed directly into a University Avenue extension west of the roundabout. It also includes an additional westbound on-ramp from University. It should be completed in winter 2011. ☑



UTEP, Fort Bliss Celebrate Military Friendly School Designation



Left: Army Col. Joseph A. Simonelli Jr., Fort Bliss garrison commander

Right: Simonelli and UTEP President Diana Natalicio, center, celebrate the University's selection as a 2011 Military Friendly School during a fall press conference at the post's headquarters building.



The selection of The University of Texas at El Paso as a 2011 Military Friendly School was celebrated during a press conference at Fort Bliss this fall.

UTEP President Diana Natalicio told the mostly military crowd that the University was justifiably proud of the designation from *G.I. Jobs* magazine, a publication for military personnel in transition. It stressed UTEP's access and outreach efforts to members of the military.

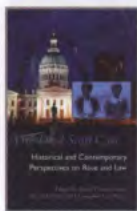
"There is nothing more important than education in today's economy and in today's society," Natalicio said. "We can make no better investment in people than in their education."

Dennis Soden, Ph.D., dean of University College, said the magazine's distinction was a result of a team effort between UTEP and the military. He thanked the many post leaders who helped shape the University's direction and promised to build on that relationship.

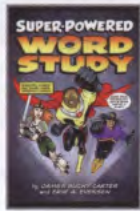
Col. Joseph A. Simonelli Jr., post garrison commander, emphasized the special relationship between the University and the Army post during his introductory remarks and recognized many of the soldiers and civilians present who were UTEP students and graduates. ☒

FACULTY MUST-READS

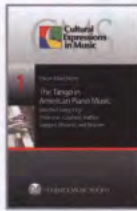
The Collections and Bibliographic Services department of the UTEP Library features numerous titles by faculty, including:



The Dred Scott Case: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on Race and Law, contributor Adam Arenson, Ph.D., assistant professor of history (2010)



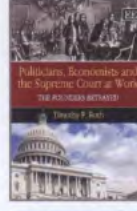
Super-Powered Word Study: Teaching Words and Word Parts Through Comics, by James Bucky Carter, Ph.D., assistant professor of English education, et al (2010)



The Tango in American Piano Music: Selected Tangos by Thomson, Copland, Barber, Jaggard, Biscardi and Bolcom, by Oscar Macchioni, D.M.A., associate professor of piano (2010)



Crossing Borders, Claiming a Nation: A History of Argentine Jewish Women, 1880-1955, by Sandra McGee Deutsch, Ph.D., professor of history (2010)



Politicians, Economists and the Supreme Court at Work: The Founders Betrayed, by Tim Roth, Ph.D., professor of economics and finance (2010)

Sharing the Campus Experience, by Craig Westman, Ph.D., associate provost for enrollment services, et al (2009)

Parallel Attribute Decisions in the Presence of Human Mistakes: Correcting the Placement of Attention via Holistic, Systemic Thinking, by Eric D. Smith, Ph.D., assistant professor of industrial engineering (2010)

Rock the Nation: Latino Identities and the Latin Rock Diaspora, by Roberto Avant-Mier, Ph.D., associate professor of communication (2010)

Maternal Child Nursing Care: Optimizing Outcomes for Mothers, Children & Families, by Susan Ward, Ph.D., instructor in clinical nursing, et al (2009)

Generaciones' Narratives: Traditional and Electronic Literacy Narratives on the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands, by John Scenters-Zapico, Ph.D., associate professor of English (2010)

Protecting Children from Exploitation and Trafficking: Using the Positive Deviance Approach in Uganda and Indonesia, by Arvind Singhal, Ph.D., professor of communication (with Lucia Dura) (2009)

¡Reconquista! Consejos a los empresarios Chihuahuenses para hacer negocios con latinos en Estados Unidos, by Moira Murphy, Ph.D., visiting professor in the Center for Inter-American and Border Studies, et al (2010)

Core Texts, Community, and Culture: Working Together in Liberal Education, edited by Ronald Weber, Ph.D., associate professor of history, et al (2010)

Interdisciplinary Humanities (journal of the Humanities Education and Research Association), edited by Ronald Weber, Ph.D., associate professor of history, and Lee Ann Westman, Ph.D., visiting professor for the Women's Studies Program, et al (2009/2010)

Cities and Citizenship at the U.S.-Mexico Border: The Paso del Norte Metropolitan Region, edited by Kathleen Staudt, Ph.D., professor of political science, et al; contributor Guillermina Gina Nuñez-Mchiri, Ph.D., assistant professor of sociology and anthropology (2010)



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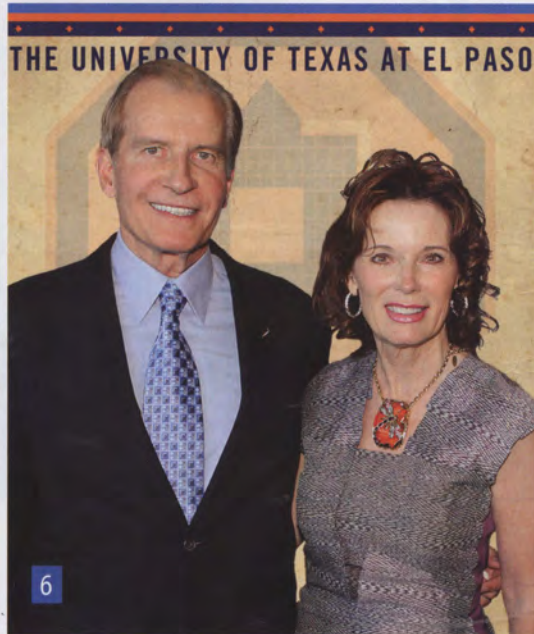
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AT THE FOREFRONT

THE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN FOR UTEP

UTEP HONORS HUNT FAMILY

The Hunt Family Foundation has committed \$5 million to The University of Texas at El Paso's Centennial Campaign to establish the Hunt Institute for Global Competitiveness and support graduate programs and research.

This gift brings the foundation's total contribution to the University in recent years to nearly \$7 million.

After a press conference announcing the gift, UTEP honored the Hunt family for its leadership and support of the University at a dinner Aug. 10 at the Larry K. Durham Center. ➤

1. Woody Hunt and UTEP President Diana Natalicio
2. Josh and Tita Hunt
3. James and Patty Huffines, Alejandra de la Vega Foster and Paul Foster
4. Tracy Yellen, UTEP Athletic Director Bob Stull and Kim Stull, Steve Yellen
5. Federico and Guadalupe de la Vega
6. Woody and Gayle Hunt
7. Ed Escudero and Bill Sanders
8. Jason and Taryn Hunt
9. UTEP Executive Vice President Richard Adauto, Assistant to the President Estrella Escobar and Robert Heasley
10. Russ Vandenburg, chair of UTEP's Leadership Council, LeeAnn and Gary Hedrick
11. Woody Hunt and Rick Francis
12. Doris Goodman and Gayle Hunt
13. Tripper Goodman, chair of UTEP's Development Board, James Stewart and Mike Hunt



13

Photo courtesy of KTEP



The station was started by Virgil Hicks, who has been called "the Father of Public Broadcasting in El Paso."

Longtime on-air personalities at KTEP-FM (88.5) include, from left, Dennis Woo, production and operations director; Norma Martinez, traffic director; and Louie Saenz, news director.

UTEP's Public Radio Station Still Blasting at 60

A radio station that got its start in 1950 as an innovative tool to educate El Paso children has evolved into KTEP-FM (88.5), an eclectic collection of programs that continue to educate as well as entertain.

KTEP, which was El Paso's first FM station, celebrated 60 years of broadcasting this fall. The programming has changed over time, but the mission is the same: to reflect the broad teaching, research and public service assignments of The University of Texas at El Paso.

The station's lineup today is anchored by popular National Public Radio (NPR) programs, but the rest of the schedule includes a collection of shows, some produced locally, about health, food, films, cars, science, finance and gardening, or a homegrown perspective on jazz, folk and gospel music.

"What we've tried to do over the years is to make a difference in El Paso," said Joe Torres, station development and public relations director.

Officials said that part of the station's success is due to its many long-running shows that have created a loyal audience. Among the venerable hosts and programs are Bettie Robinson of *The Best of Gospel*, and Dan Alloway and Greg Carthy of *Folk Fury*. Both shows have been on the air for almost 30 years.

Among the station's most notable alumni is retired ABC newsman and commentator Sam Donaldson, who graduated from Texas Western College, now UTEP, in 1955. He served as student station manager in 1954 for what was then called KVOF and had his own music show.

"KVOF was a great training aid," Donaldson said in a phone interview. He chuckled as he reminisced about cutting his teeth on a homemade control board where he learned to manipulate switches and mix sounds. "I learned a lot of the basics of broadcasting."

KVOF (The Voice of Freedom) — the original call letters — was licensed Sept. 14,

1950. It broadcast from studios in Kelly Hall using a 10-watt signal that barely covered the campus. El Paso elementary schools purchased special FM receivers so students could hear the station's educational programs.

The call letters changed to KTEP in 1967 to mirror the University's new name. Virgil Hicks, a longtime faculty member who directed UTEP's broadcast division, said he wanted the station to be the University's voice.

"We want to help people realize that (UTEP) is a very important and worthwhile part of this community," he said in a 1967 interview.

KTEP, which moved to Cotton Memorial in 1979, now blasts its programs on a 100,000-watt signal that can be heard within a 100-mile radius. 📻





Roberto Puga, custodial trustee for El Paso's ASARCO copper smelter

Enrollment Surpasses 22,000

For the 12th straight year, The University of Texas at El Paso had a record fall enrollment. The final tally of 22,106 students registered for fall classes is a 5.2 percent increase above the 21,011 who attended last fall. It is the second largest year-to-year increase in the last 30 years. The largest increase, 7.6 percent, occurred in 2003.

The Graduate School saw the most dramatic increase, with nearly 600 students enrolled. The number of new doctoral students jumped 34 percent to 126 from 94 in 2009.

"We are making student prospects aware of the 17 doctoral programs we have on campus, and we're getting excellent candidates," said Benjamin C. Flores, Ph.D., acting dean of the Graduate School.

"We need to continue growing this student population to ensure we meet our goal of graduating 200 doctoral students annually as we strive to become a national

research university."

UTEP also welcomed its largest freshman class since 2006 with 4,390 students, a 9.7 percent increase from fall 2009. Overall, the number of new first-time undergraduate students grew 8 percent to 2,610 from 2,416.

"Part of our strength as a University is our accessibility to area students, many of whom are first-generation college students," UTEP President Diana Natalicio said. "We are also pleased that enrollment of students who are in the top 10 percent of their high school class is steadily increasing as well."

Natalicio has focused on creating a 21st century educational model that balances access, affordability and excellence in an institution that offers 81 bachelor's, 81 master's and 17 doctoral degree programs — with more on the way. UTEP is an emerging national research university, one of seven in the state. ☒

The Graduate School saw the most dramatic increase, with nearly 600 students enrolled. The number of new doctoral students jumped 34 percent to 126 from 94 in 2009.

Fall Semester Enrollment

- 2010 - 22,106
- 2009 - 21,011
- 2008 - 20,458
- 2007 - 20,154
- 2006 - 19,842
- 2005 - 19,268
- 2004 - 18,918
- 2003 - 18,542
- 2002 - 17,232
- 2001 - 16,220

ASARCO Land Update

Roberto Puga, the custodial trustee for El Paso's American Smelting and Refining Co. (ASARCO) copper smelter, discussed the property's cleanup and remediation with members of the UTEP community at an administrative forum in August.

Puga, a geologist and specialist in landfill, oilfield and smelting site remediation, will oversee the cleanup and sale of the 600-acre ASARCO site that is across Interstate 10 from the University.

"Because of the proximity of the ASARCO site to UTEP and our long connections with that company, particularly as an employer of UTEP students for many years, we are very interested in the outcome of his efforts," UTEP President Diana Natalicio said.

The yearlong, \$52 million demolition project is scheduled to begin in November and will include the containment and removal of slag, the dark waste left from smelting metal. Other projects include leveling buildings and paving the land to prepare the property for redevelopment.

Puga also discussed the possibility of having the University Library archive the historical artifacts found at the site, which include linen-based drawings, engineering blueprints, 1920s metallurgy and smelting textbooks, and payroll records from the 1800s.

"I've been very sensitive to the fact that it is a historic site and very important to the development of El Paso," Puga said. "That kind of information may be very valuable to the archaeology and anthropology departments." ☒

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 
WWW.RECASTINGTHESMELTER.COM



minerpalooza

Thousands of fans gathered on campus Sept. 3 to celebrate the start of classes and the beginning of another football season at the 20th annual Minerpalooza, The University of Texas at El Paso's biggest pep rally of the year.





UTEP President Diana Natalicio and Gerald Cichon, chief executive officer of the Housing Authority of the City of El Paso, participated in a graduation ceremony during the 2010 HOT Conference.

HOT Times at UTEP

> Summer Program Offers Taste of University Life

While mentors and educators promote the value of a college education to children, families who live in public housing often see the prospect of paying for it as an impossible dream during this down economy.

That is why The University of Texas at El Paso teamed up with the Housing Authority of the City of El Paso (HACEP) to host the Higher Opportunities Thrive (HOT) Conference this summer to introduce almost 200 children living in public housing to University life.

"The HOT Conference is a great opportunity to bring kids to campus who normally would not be exposed to higher learning," said Beto Lopez, assistant vice president for institutional advancement at UTEP. "It's a good way to promote life sports such as swimming and emphasize that college is fun."

From June through August, 20 children ages 10-16 came to campus for a weeklong session where they engaged in activities that included interactions with UTEP students and professors. Along with classes in swimming safety and nutrition, the participants received a firsthand college experience as they learned about a variety of career and educational options.

"We're looking forward to having the program next year with HACEP," Lopez said. "They are great partners in giving these kids the exposure to higher education." ❏



Students in the HOT Program pose with El Paso Mayor John Cook and his wife, Tram, back right.

Graduate Students Work With Children Who Stutter

Sixteen students in The University of Texas at El Paso's speech-language pathology master's program had the opportunity this summer to work one-on-one with children who stutter. It was their first chance to put into practice what they have learned in the classroom about fluency disorders.

The UTEP graduate students spent a week working at the annual summer fluency camps in the Socorro and Ysleta independent school districts. The camps' elementary school-aged children took part in movie-themed activities designed to make them feel more comfortable speaking, and to show them that they are not alone in their speech difficulties.

"It's an opportunity for the students to interact with other children who have fluency disorders and continue to work on the skills they have learned during the school year on their regular campus in a little more natural setting," said Suzanne Crow, lecturer and off-campus coordinator for UTEP's Department of Rehabilitation Services.

Five percent of all children go through a period of stuttering that lasts six months or more, according to The Stuttering Foundation. Three-quarters of them recover by late childhood.

For many of the UTEP students, the camps were their first chance to work with clients with fluency disorders.

"It wasn't a therapy-based interaction, it was more of a social interaction," said Nadia Bordier, a UTEP speech-language pathology graduate student who said she plans to work with children with autism after completing her master's degree. "It was good for them to see that there are other kids who have fluency problems."

By the end of the camp, the students appeared more confident, said Gina Picardo, a Socorro ISD speech-language pathologist.

"They were talking to each other a lot more," she said. ❏



UTEP graduate students in speech language pathology Nadia Bordier, right, and Esnire Gomez serve as movie theater cashiers while Erika Alcantar, left, a speech language pathologist in the Socorro Independent School District, helps a student who stutters purchase "tickets" for a movie.

Success Stories: El Paso Entrepreneurs Share Their Experiences



Pictured clockwise from top left: Ruben Guerra, president and chief executive officer of Guerra Investment Advisors; Patty Holland Branch, chief executive officer of Facilities Connection; Raul Ramos, owner of Han-D-Pac; and Nan Napier, owner of Tres Mariposas.

The life of an entrepreneur can be richly rewarding, but it also often involves making difficult life and business decisions. While entrepreneurs try to build companies from the ground up, their optimism, knowledge and determination are often tested.

Members of The University of Texas at El Paso's Institute of Oral History have attempted to capture the unique stories of local entrepreneurs and how they became influential business figures in the El Paso community. Their work in 2010 makes up the second installment of the Paso del Norte Entrepreneurship Oral History Project.

"These stories represent the sheer will of entrepreneurs to be successful," said Kristine Navarro-McElhaney, director of the Institute of Oral History at UTEP. Navarro-McElhaney is working with Hispanic chambers of commerce around the country to broaden the project

beyond the border region.

In its second year, the Paso del Norte Entrepreneurship Oral History Project included the stories of 30 local business owners who have had an impact on the El Paso economy. Undergraduate and graduate students from UTEP conducted video interviews of the entrepreneurs.

Funded by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the ongoing project identifies prominent business owners who have overcome obstacles and expectations to become community leaders. Their stories are shared with the community to celebrate their contributions to the El Paso area as well as to promote the entrepreneurial spirit.

This year's participants, who are featured every Sunday in the *El Paso Times*, represent a wide variety of industries in El Paso, including construction, retail, advertising, finance and dining. ☒



Greek Giving

Motion pictures and television programs have perpetuated for decades the reputation of college fraternities and sororities as party-crazed, gossip-ridden social clubs. That's not the case at The University of Texas at El Paso.

Philanthropy and community service are key among the nearly 20 Greek organizations at UTEP.

"Community service is important because it not only proves that Greeks work toward a common goal, but it allows Greeks the opportunity to help the community in which we live," said Kim Lee Valadez, senior interdisciplinary studies major and president of Zeta Tau Alpha (ZTA) women's fraternity.

As part of the organization's national philanthropy, the ZTA contributed to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundation in support of breast cancer awareness. The sisterhood volunteered hours at this year's Race for the Cure marathon in February, and handed out pink ribbons and self-examination cards in October in

observance of breast cancer awareness month.

Other UTEP Greek organizations contribute service hours and donations to the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) — or Lou Gehrig's disease — Foundation (Phi Delta Theta fraternity), the North American Food Drive (Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity), These Hands Don't Hurt (Alpha Kappa Lambda fraternity), the Fisher House Foundation (Kappa Sigma fraternity), Autism Speaks (Alpha Xi Delta sorority) and the Special Olympics (Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority), as well as other local charities in the El Paso area.

Ryan Holmes, director of the Office of Student Life at UTEP, said he believes that community service is important especially for student leaders, many of whom are members of Greek organizations.

"It's one of the many ways that these student leaders can be contributing members of the community," he said. ☒

Top: A member of Zeta Tau Alpha, right, pins a pink ribbon, shown on bottom, on a classmate in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.



Lori Polette-Niewold, Ph.D., CEO of Mayan Pigments Inc., began the company after creating color pigments out of her doctoral research on the ancient Mayan culture. Now, her pigments are sold to make products such as stucco, paints, textiles and plastics, and each sale benefits UTEP.

PHOTO BY J.R. HERNANDEZ

Turning Research Into Profit

BY JENN CRAWFORD

CREIE's website at www.utep.edu/creie contains a list of technologies developed at UTEP that are patented and available to be licensed.

When Soheil Nazarian, Ph.D., professor of civil engineering at The University of Texas at El Paso, decided in the early 1990s to patent and try to market a technology he and two colleagues had invented, he didn't know the first thing about the process.

Nazarian; Mark Baker, a former UTEP adjunct faculty member in geology; and graduate student Kevin Crain had developed a device for testing pavements through a research project paid by the National Academy of Engineering. The device measures the properties of the surface layer of pavement to see why it failed, for quality control during construction or to evaluate the state of the pavement.

"We didn't know that we were coming up with something valuable, and we almost lost the intellectual property," Nazarian recalled more than 15 years later. "... We were publishing left and right, and every time you publish you basically declare the technology. You cannot patent something that is public domain."

They did patent the technology, and in 1995, Nazarian and his colleagues licensed the patent and started Geomedia Research and Development to sell their device.

Although Nazarian no longer is involved directly with the company, UTEP receives money each time Geomedia sells one of its devices, he said.

The company was among the first to be developed out of research conducted at UTEP, but certainly not the last. As the University pushes to become a national research, or Tier One, university, patenting technology developed from faculty and student research and marketing those products to develop start-up companies will become more common.

The Center for Research Entrepreneurship and Innovative Enterprises (CREIE), funded by the Kauffman Foundation Campus Initiative, is a new resource on campus for marketing and commercializing technologies developed at the University.

CREIE didn't exist when Lori Polette-Niewold, Ph.D., was starting Mayan Pigments Inc., a company developed out of her doctoral research at UTEP on pigments used by the Mayan people of Mexico and Central America 2,000 years ago.

Polette-Niewold developed a process for creating unique colors that had a better heat resistance and light fastness than most typical pigments and did not contain or

produce any harmful chemicals. As a doctoral student of UTEP Professor Russ Chianelli, Ph.D., she patented the process in UTEP's name and started Mayan Pigments in 2005. UTEP has an equity position in the company and earns royalties when its patented colors are sold.

Products that use Mayan Pigments' colors include stucco, paint, textiles and plastics. A company called Clementine sells nontoxic markers, crayons and paints made with the company's pigments. Polette-Niewold is in negotiations with other companies that carry products at well-known home improvement stores, she said.

Polette-Niewold said the process of starting the company would have been easier if CREIE's resources had been available to her at the time.

"It took me 10 times longer (than it would

"We didn't know that we were coming up with something valuable, and we almost lost the intellectual property."

Soheil Nazarian, Ph.D.
Professor of civil engineering at
The University of Texas at El Paso

have with CREIE's help)," she said. "We were confused. We had no clue what we were doing. How do I start a C Corp? How do I write a business plan?"

CREIE was formed in April 2009 to help faculty, staff, students and local entrepreneurs commercialize their technology, said CREIE Director Gary Williams, Ph.D. It also offers workshops for the public on the process of turning an invention into a commercial product. Since the center opened in 2009, Williams has assisted at least two dozen clients, he said.

"We help them with market research if they have an idea. My center helps the inventor or entrepreneur take a look at what the market potential might be for that new material, develop a marketing strategy, then put together a business plan to start up a business or expand a current business to make a brand new product," he said.

CREIE's website at www.utep.edu/creie contains a list of technologies developed at UTEP that are patented and available to be licensed. They range from water purification techniques to novel biomedical devices and renewable energy technologies.

"I think CREIE is going to do wonders, and they have done wonders, in helping people understand the process and what it takes to develop and to start up a company," Polette-Niewold said. "I was in the dark. I relied a lot on Google, and asking around at other companies."

The center is on the verge of helping several professors set up companies to commercialize technologies they developed. Ken Church, Ph.D., research professor of electrical and computer engineering, is one of those faculty members.

By the end of 2010, Church hopes to have launched 3D Monolithix, a company that will manufacture electronic structures such as sensors, small satellites and unmanned aerial vehicles using advanced 3-D printing technology developed at UTEP. He has been working with CREIE to develop a business plan and potential marketing models, he said.

"Technology is abundant," Church said. "Technology transitioning to a product is rare. A product making it to market is challenging; a technology making it to market ... pretty much never. Understand your technology must be transitioned to a working product that has impact. Once this is done, having access to good people who know business and marketing is a plus."

Nazarian advised faculty members and graduate students to contact the Office of Research and Sponsored Products (ORSP) as soon as they think they have created something new.

"Take advantage of ORSP and CREIE, because what we have right now is really a dream come true relative to what we had," he said.

Williams added that the success of the University in patenting new technologies and starting new companies would drive the economic development of the Paso del Norte region.

"If these things that we're inventing don't lead to new jobs and economic development, then something's not right," he said. "That's exactly where we're focused." 📍

BY DANIEL PEREZ

Dust Storms Drive Multidisciplinary Research Effort



Interdisciplinary researchers, from left, Joan Staniswalis, Ph.D.; Armista Salcido, Pharm.D.; Sara Grineski, Ph.D.; and Thomas Gill, Ph.D.; studied the relationship between El Paso dust storms and upper respiratory problems.

An anecdote shared at a 2006 geology conference got one UTEP professor to think about doing research into the association between dust storms and respiratory problems, but he knew he did not have all the expertise to carry it out on his own.

Thomas Gill, Ph.D., associate professor of geological sciences at The University of Texas at El Paso, began to brainstorm about what other skills and capabilities would be needed to study the issue.

He quickly found collaborators in Sara Grineski, Ph.D., assistant professor of sociology; Joan Staniswalis, Ph.D., professor of mathematical sciences; and Armista Salcido, Pharm.D., a former UTEP faculty member who now is pharmacy director at the El Paso State Supported Living Center. The trio already had conducted some individual studies related to air pollution and public health.

The foursome said they saw the project as an opportunity to do something good for the community and for themselves. The multidisciplinary research project would force each of them to stretch beyond their academic comfort zones.

"It pushed us in different directions," said Staniswalis, who joined the University in 1990 and served as director of UTEP's Statistical Consulting Laboratory from 1997 to 2003. "There was a lot of learning to do."

Gill, whose research specialties include environmental geology, called the project a new stream of research that investigates how

asthma or bronchitis hospitalizations and the prescribing of medicines to relieve asthma attacks are associated with dust storms and low-wind inversions, which are periods of stagnant air where pollutants get trapped over the city.

Local research, including some that involved Gill, showed that although some dust blows in El Paso on 42 percent of April days, significant dust events — big enough to reduce visibility across the city — happen on average about 15 days per year.

The concept that dust storms affected one's health "was a controversial and unproven topic," Gill said. "I thought El Paso would be a good place to scientifically test the hypothesis."

Grineski, the project's primary investigator, wrote the \$85,000 grant application. The Southwest Consortium for Environmental Research and Policy, an arm of the Environmental Protection Agency, approved it.

Research analysis began in spring 2007 and was completed during the summer of 2010. It covered how the reported 267 instances of dust storms and low-wind inversions impacted hospitalizations for respiratory conditions of three age groups from 2000 to 2003. Among the factors studied were the subject's sex and insurance status.

One of the keys to the study was using wind activity on an hourly basis, rather than a 24-hour average, in order to better

The concept that dust storms affected one's health "was a controversial and unproven topic."

Thomas Gill, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Geological Sciences

detect associations with health outcomes, Staniswalis said.

Preliminary results for El Paso County show that dust storms and low-wind events were stronger predictors of asthma hospitalizations than they were for acute bronchitis hospitalizations during the study period. Adults were more sensitive to dust storms while children were more susceptible to low-wind inversions. The researchers also found disparities in the risk of hospitalization depending on the type of health insurance.

They found that children who use "military insurance" were three times more likely to need hospitalization for acute bronchitis after dust events than were their peers with private insurance.

Salcido, the pharmacist, said the discrepancy could be the result of the military children not being acclimated to an El Paso spring. She was a clinical assistant professor at the UTEP/UT Austin Cooperative Pharmacy Program during the research phase.

In a related exploratory analysis using pharmaceutical data, the team said its limited patient numbers — around 1,500 from 2000-05 — were not geographically representative of the city. However, their study did show that people were 1.17 times more likely to purchase prescription medications for asthma three days after a dust event than on a clear day.

The study showed a health disparity based on socioeconomic status, with poor children being at higher risk of hospitalization, team members said. Their results paper is under peer review and they hope to have it published next year.

While the four are the face of the project, they are quick to thank others who helped them, including the National Weather Service, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Alameda Thrifty Pharmacy and UTEP's internationally recognized Statistical Consulting Lab.

They also stressed the involvement of four graduate students in pharmacy, bioinformatics and statistics, who were able to achieve their own academic and professional goals through the project.

"Projects of this wide a scope can't be done in a vacuum of one field. They need the synthesis of other perspectives," Gill said. "You need a synergy of different backgrounds." ☒

Collaborative Curriculum

Researchers Combine Health Literacy, ESL Course

BY DANIEL PEREZ



A multiuniversity research project will weave health literacy into traditional English as a Second Language courses. The team includes, from left, Brenda Fuentes, research associate/doctoral candidate; Josefina V. Tinajero, Ed.D.; Andrés Muro, EPCC community education program (CEP) manager; Francisco Soto Mas, Ph.D.; Barry Thacher, Ph.D., NMSU; and Patricia Arnal, EPCC CEP. Not shown: Erika Mein, Ph.D., UTEP; Hector Balcazar, Ph.D., UT School of Public Health; Ming Ji, Ph.D., San Diego State University School of Public Health; and Deborah Helitzer, Ph.D., University of New Mexico School of Medicine.

A University of Texas at El Paso-led research team backed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is conducting a two-year study into the benefit of adding a health literacy curriculum to conventional English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction.

Numerous reports have shown the association between literacy and good health. The researchers believe the adult ESL students will be more interested in learning relevant health information including nutrition, exercise and healthy lifestyle choices when it is woven into the popular beginner- to intermediate-level classes.

The team will document how the students respond to the curriculum based on their ability to read, comprehend and do basic calculations as they progress through the semester-long courses, said Francisco Soto Mas, Ph.D., associate professor of teacher education and the project's primary investigator.

"The question is, will people change their

health literacy skills and lifestyle as they improve their English proficiency?" Soto Mas said.

The project had been planned for about a year. The initial stage culminated with a two-week pilot program in the summer of 2010 that involved about 20 students. The initial results showed the students and teachers were receptive to the curriculum.

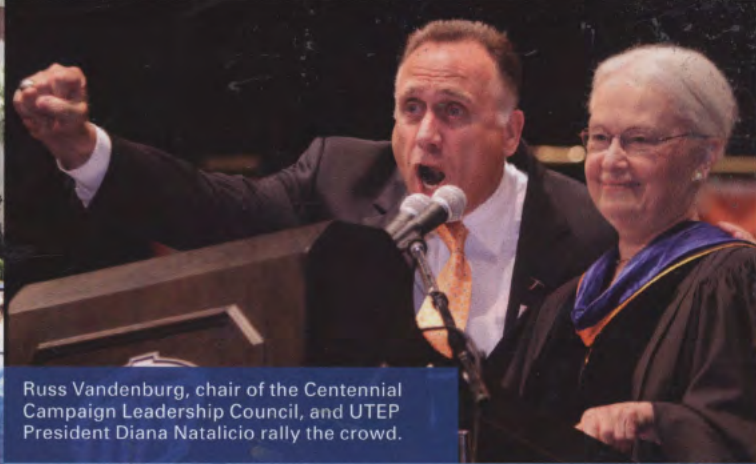
When reflecting on the value of the health information, the participants said they would be more confident self-advocates, according to Brenda Fuentes, a team research associate who is working on her Ph.D. in teaching, learning and culture at UTEP. She said the students reportedly were more comfortable talking with their doctors, filling out medical forms and looking up medical information online.

"The students told me that they learned more English in the two weeks with us than in the previous year," Fuentes said.

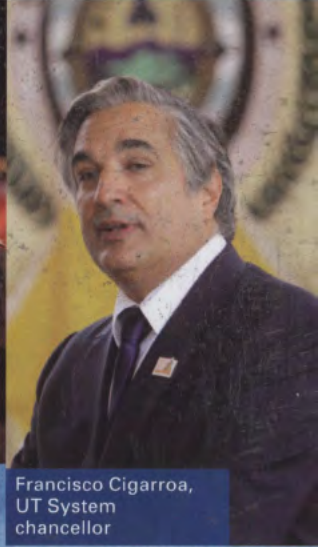
The \$420,000 grant is especially exciting for UTEP because it was the first time that an NIH research grant had been awarded to the College of Education. The study could lead to additional opportunities to go beyond the traditional health sciences research, said Josefina V. Tinajero, Ed.D., dean of the college.

"This shows a shift in the types of proposals the college will go after," said Tinajero, a bilingual education expert and research team member.

The 10-person group is made up of diverse personnel in the fields of education, public health and statistics from UTEP, the University of Texas School of Public Health, New Mexico State University, San Diego State University, the University of New Mexico School of Medicine and El Paso Community College. ☒



Russ Vandenburg, chair of the Centennial Campaign Leadership Council, and UTEP President Diana Natalicio rally the crowd.



Francisco Cigarroa, UT System chancellor



Natalicio and Colleen McHugh, UT System Board of Regents chair



Natalicio presents Woody Hunt with the inaugural President's Medal at the 2010 Convocation ceremony at Magoffin Auditorium.



Stage party at Magoffin Auditorium



Paul Foster, vice chair, UT System Board of Regents



Natalicio announces the Centennial Campaign at a press conference in the Undergraduate Learning Center.

CONVOCATION CELEBRATES CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

AT THE FOREFRONT
THE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN FOR UTEP

BY JENN CRAWFORD

“Nearly 100 years ago, in 1914, a community of 49,000 El Pasoans who — despite a World War in Europe and a revolution next door in Mexico — were determined to create a bright future for their hometown...”



The celebration that capped the 2010 Fall Convocation on Tuesday, Sept. 14, at The University of Texas at El Paso was just a taste of what is to come in four years when the University celebrates its 100th birthday.

Confetti, balloons, rousing music by the UTEP band, cheerleaders, people on stilts and a general atmosphere of merriment filled Magoffin Auditorium and spilled outside as University President Diana Natalicio concluded the annual event and the launch of UTEP’s most ambitious fundraising campaign to date.

At the Forefront: The Centennial Campaign for UTEP is the University’s effort to raise \$200 million by UTEP’s 100th anniversary in 2014. Already, the University is more than halfway to its goal.

“Nearly 100 years ago, in 1914, a community of 49,000 El Pasoans who — despite a World War in Europe and a revolution next door in Mexico — were determined to create a bright future for their hometown,” Natalicio said in her Convocation address. “So, they asked The University of Texas System Board of Regents to establish a mining school here in El Paso. The Regents responded by challenging them to raise \$50,000 — a very large sum at that time—to purchase or construct a building to house the school. Undaunted, 27 determined El Pasoans raised \$50,000 within a few months, and on April 28, 1914, the Regents established the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy, now The University of Texas at El Paso.

“Today, nearly 100 years later and in the midst

of a global economic downturn, this same and now much larger community, together with UTEP alumni and friends across the world, and students, faculty and staff on the campus, has during the past three years of quiet comprehensive fundraising, already successfully raised a total of \$100 million to build academic, research and student support endowments, to expand campus infrastructure, and to enhance academic and athletic program excellence across the campus. Today, given our fundraising progress to date and our momentum toward becoming the first national research university with a 21st century student demographic, we confidently and proudly announce that by the end of UTEP’s 100th anniversary celebration in 2014, we will reach a Centennial Campaign goal of \$200 million.”

Russ Vandenburg, chair of the UTEP Centennial Campaign Leadership Council, talked about the importance of the campaign.

“Investments in all three of these areas — endowment, programs and facilities — can be leveraged to achieve excellence across the campus: to secure external research funding, to recruit outstanding faculty and graduate students, to attract El Paso’s most talented high school graduates, to innovate and commercialize work done in our research laboratories, and to contribute to the region’s economic development,” Vandenburg said.

The Convocation ceremony also was the first time the University presented a new award, the President’s Medal, which is the highest honor that can be bestowed on UTEP friends and supporters who have



Colleen McHugh,
UT System Board of
Regents chair, and
UTEP President
Diana Natalicio

“By taking calculated risks and daring to be different, and successfully challenging the traditional assumption that there must be a trade-off between access and excellence in higher education, UTEP is now serving as a model for many other universities in the U.S. and across the globe.”

- Diana Natalicio,
UTEP President



had a positive impact on the University and its mission. El Paso businessman Woody Hunt was the inaugural recipient of the medal.

“Woody Hunt is ... a true thought leader who works hard to understand the challenges and opportunities of this Paso del Norte region and the global context in which we will have to compete in the 21st century, and he translates that understanding into an action agenda in which large numbers of us across the community are pleased to participate,” Natalicio said. “Understanding the importance of sound public policy, he generously contributes his time, talent and financial resources to help strengthen and shape public policy locally, statewide and nationally.”

Natalicio also recognized the nine UTEP faculty members who were honored in August

with the University of Texas System Board of Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Awards and celebrated employee milestones with faculty and staff service awards.

Francisco Cigarroa, chancellor of the UT System, offered his congratulations on UTEP’s Centennial Campaign launch and the progress made at the University in its first century.

“I congratulate all of you on this campus for the leadership that you are providing at this unique and challenging moment in our history to chart a new course for Texas and U.S. higher education,” Cigarroa said. “UTEP and El Paso are clearly ‘At the Forefront!’ With the active participation and philanthropic generosity of its alumni and friends in the El Paso community and beyond, UTEP has positioned itself extremely well to serve as a model 21st century research university.”

PRESIDENTIAL HONOR:

HUNT PRESENTED WITH FIRST UTEP PRESIDENT'S MEDAL

BY CHRIS LECHUGA



UTEP President Diana Natalicio awards the first President's Medal to El Paso businessman Woody Hunt.

The U.S. President awards the National Medal of Science and the National Medal of the Arts. Scientists and scholars across the globe are honored with the Nobel Prize. Now, The University of Texas at El Paso has an award of its own to honor those very special individuals who exhibit exemplary professional accomplishment and leadership and an extraordinary commitment to UTEP, its mission and its institutional values. President Diana Natalicio introduced this new UTEP President's Medal during the Fall Convocation in September.

The medal itself is made of argenti-um silver with gold electroplating accents and white inlay. It features a Bhutanese building representing UTEP's unique campus architecture together with a mandala — like those that appear on UTEP's buildings — with blue and orange stones on its face. The name of the recipient and the University seal are engraved on the back of the medal.

El Paso business and community leader Woody Hunt was honored as the first recipient of the new UTEP President's Medal for his commitment and extensive

contributions to UTEP, the Paso del Norte region, and to Texas higher education and economic competitiveness. At UTEP, Hunt has been a member of both the Development Board and the Centennial Campaign Leadership Council. He has served the State of Texas in many capacities, including as member and vice chair of The University of Texas System Board of Regents, chair of the Governor's Business Council, member of the Texas Select Commission on Higher Education and Global Competitiveness, and chair of the Board of Directors of the University of Texas Investment Management Company (UTIMCO). At the federal level, he serves on the board of the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE).

The Hunt Family Foundation has made a \$5 million commitment to UTEP's Centennial Campaign, including a \$1 million gift to the College of Business Administration and University College to establish the Marcus Jonathan Hunt Chair in International Business and support the Institute for Policy and Economic Development. The gift generated a State of Texas Research

Incentive Program (TRIP) match of \$750,000 and enabled the establishment of the Marcus Jonathan Hunt Graduate Fellows Program in Business. In addition, the foundation has pledged \$4 million toward the establishment of the Hunt Institute for Global Competitiveness, a campuswide multidisciplinary center dedicated to research and analysis at the intersection of education and economic development, whose goal will be to foster regional synergies and promote a commitment to a regional standard for global competitiveness.

"In addition to the Hunt Family Foundation's generous financial support of UTEP, Woody Hunt has been an invaluable adviser to me and resource to UTEP because of the breadth and depth of his perspectives — extending from this Paso del Norte region across the globe — and drawn from his broad range of interests, insatiable thirst for knowledge, remarkable memory and extraordinary capacity to integrate information," Natalicio said. "We are very pleased and proud to honor him with this, the first UTEP President's Medal." ❏



1914
2014



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

celebrating
100
years

Founded in 1914 as the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy, The University of Texas at El Paso has succeeded in preparing students for leadership roles that have had a profound social, economic and cultural impact on the Paso del Norte region. Through academic excellence, innovative programs and leading-edge research opportunities, UTEP stands poised to become the first national research university with a 21st century student demographic.

As UTEP approaches its 100th birthday, the University has established the UTEP 2014 Commission, a group of community and campus leaders charged with planning the commemoration and celebration of this milestone in the University's distinguished history.

Honorary Chair Paul L. Foster and Co-Chairs Edward Escudero and Laura Tate Goldman lead the commission of proud UTEP alumni and community leaders who serve in various capacities to organize a joyous celebration that will honor the University's achievements during the past 100 years.

UTEP 2014 COMMISSION MEMBERS



CO-CHAIR
EDWARD ESCUDERO



HONORARY CHAIR
PAUL L. FOSTER

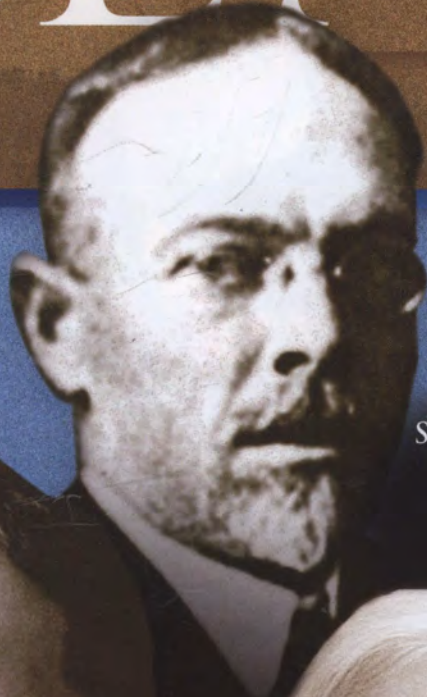


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THE UNIVERSITY OF

the CENTER



STEPHEN HOWARD WORRELL
FIRST DEAN
TEXAS STATE SCHOOL OF
MINES AND METALLURGY
1914-23



JOHN GERALD BARRY
FIRST PRESIDENT
COLLEGE OF MINES
AND METALLURGY
1931-34



DIANA NATALICIO
PRESIDENT
THE UNIVERSITY OF
TEXAS AT EL PASO
1988-PRESENT

CENTENNIAL

At the Forefront Campaign

AT THE FOREFRONT
THE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN FOR UTEP

EVERY GREAT CHALLENGE PROMISES AN EQUALLY GREAT REWARD.

When UTEP President Diana Natalicio asked me to head the Leadership Council for *At the Forefront: The Centennial Campaign for UTEP*, I accepted without hesitation. I did it for two reasons: one, I am a proud UTEP alumnus and, two, I love my community.

I was raised in Cicero, Ill., but El Paso is my home. I arrived in El Paso as a young man in 1966, bringing to the UTEP campus — which was then called Texas Western College — great aspirations for personal and professional success. My professors were tough and demanding, and they provided me with a solid foundation for what I would encounter out there, beyond the classrooms and laboratories. They helped that young man fulfill his dreams. I owe them a debt I can never repay.

As a member of the El Paso community, I feel the responsibility to help other young people achieve their dreams. That, again, is why I gladly agreed to chair the Leadership Council, a group of civic and community leaders spearheading the most ambitious fundraising effort in the University's history.

At the Forefront: The Centennial Campaign for UTEP will build the University's endowment, provide financial support for graduate and undergraduate students, and promote the recruitment and retention of highly competitive research

faculty, which in turn will enhance excellence in academic and research programs campuswide. The campaign also will accelerate UTEP's progress toward national research (Tier One) university status, taking the Paso del Norte region and, by extension, the state of Texas, to greater levels of economic success.

This is an exciting time for UTEP and for our community. The opportunities never have been more plentiful. In the past two decades, UTEP has welcomed astounding growth in facilities, student population, degree programs and research capacity, and we are leveraging that success to achieve even greater ambitions.

As a businessman, I understand the connection between education and professional success. Whatever benefits a university benefits the communities it serves. This is true of every institution of higher learning, but it is especially true of UTEP, where most students are the first in their families to attend college.

I believe so strongly in UTEP that I have supported the campaign through gifts to the College of Business Administration and for secondary teacher preparation, along with donations to intercollegiate athletics. Now, I am asking you to contribute as much as you can.

The campaign will culminate in 2014, UTEP's 100th anniversary. Every member of the UTEP family — every graduate, investor, employee and friend — will have reason to celebrate, and you will be an important part of that celebration. I ask you to join us by targeting your support in whatever way is significant to you — be it scholarships, research, or faculty or programmatic support; academics, athletics, the arts or outreach. Your gift is vital to our quest of becoming a national research university.

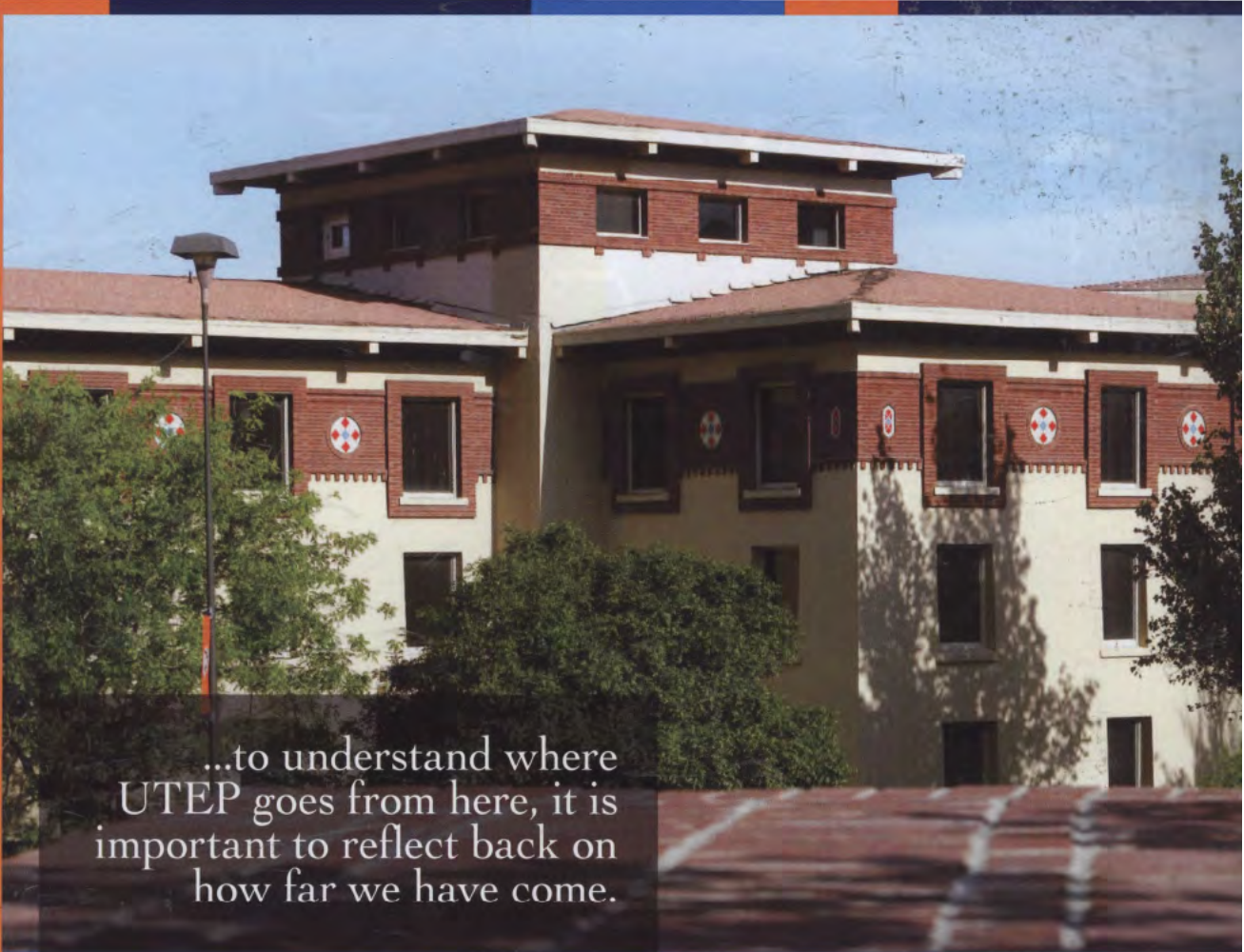
Invest in UTEP. Invest in your community. We are all stakeholders in our future.

— RUSSELL VANDENBURG '70
President and CEO, TVO North America



EARLY DONORS STARTED PROGRESS

STORIES BY JENN CRAWFORD, CHRIS LECHUGA, DANIEL PEREZ AND JOE VELARDE



...to understand where UTEP goes from here, it is important to reflect back on how far we have come.

The tradition of giving at The University of Texas at El Paso is as old as the University itself. It was the hard work and generous contributions of 27 El Paso community members who raised \$50,000 to allow the school to open as the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy in 1914.

Since that founding moment, thousands of supporters have ensured that the University has continued to serve the students of the Paso del Norte region by providing a quality education while remaining accessible to all talented students who seek a college degree.

Nearly 100 years later, UTEP still is committed to providing access and excellence for the students of this community. By enhancing research labs and academic facilities, attracting top faculty researchers, providing additional undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships, and creating

new programs and academic centers to address important topics from a global perspective and develop the next generation of leaders, the University is well on its way to becoming the first national research university with a 21st century student demographic.

At the Forefront: The Centennial Campaign for UTEP is a \$200 million fundraising drive to accelerate the progress that already has been made at the University toward that goal. But to understand where UTEP goes from here, it is important to reflect back on how far we have come.

When UTEP President Diana Natalicio took over the University's top position in 1988, UTEP had a student enrollment of less than 15,000, an annual budget of \$65 million, one doctoral program and \$6 million in externally funded research expenditures per year. In the last 22 years, the University has grown to more than 22,000 students, an annual budget of more than

\$383 million, 17 doctoral programs and nearly \$60 million per year in research expenditures.

That exceptional progress is due in part to investments from individuals and organizations in the community that understand that supporting higher education in El Paso means supporting the economic development of the region as a whole and bettering the lives of its citizens.

Larry K. Durham, Stanlee and Gerald Rubin, and Les and Harriet Dodson are a few of the early leaders whose contributions have had a major impact on UTEP's advancement toward national research university status.

Durham played football at Texas Western College (now UTEP) from 1961-64 and made UTEP history when he scored the first touchdown in the Sun Bowl Stadium. He later built the Austin-based student transportation bus company, Durham Transportation, into a multimillion-dollar enterprise.



THE WOLSLAGER FOUNDATION

"It is in all of our best interests that UTEP continues to thrive since it is a major contributor to our region's economy and overall quality of life. A successful Centennial Campaign will provide UTEP with the resources to continue serving our community in providing opportunities for those wanting to make a better life for themselves and society as a whole."

—**Stephen J. Wolslager**
Vice President
The Wolslager Foundation

- Since 2001, the San Angelo, Texas-based foundation, whose mission is to enhance the quality of life in West Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, has made a substantial contribution to help El Paso Community College transfer students to complete their bachelor's degrees at UTEP, along with funding other initiatives.

Durham never forgot his alma mater and the many important life lessons he learned on the gridiron and in the classroom. Determined to show his gratitude to his University, Durham returned to UTEP with an exciting new game plan — he wanted to donate \$3 million in start-up funds for a top-notch athletic training facility. He promised to match, dollar-for-dollar, all other donations to this facility up to \$2 million, for a total personal commitment of \$5 million. Energized by this bold initiative, UTEP supporters enthusiastically responded, bringing private contributions to \$7 million to construct the Larry K. Durham Sports Center, a top-of-the-line athletics facility at the north end of the stadium.

University alumni Gerald and Stanlee Rubin have supported UTEP philanthropically for more than 40 years. In 2003, they decided to match foundation funds to help create the Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts.

Through their company, personal care products designer and distributor Helen of Troy, they provided the funding to construct UTEP's Helen of Troy Softball Complex, which opened in November 2003.

For many years, Les and Harriet Dodson's quiet compassion touched the lives of countless people in the El Paso area. Their faith in a better tomorrow found its full expression in Harriet Dodson's decision to will their entire estate to UTEP. Valued at \$7 million, this generous contribution in 2001 constituted the largest single donation in UTEP's history. It also marked a tremendous vote of confidence in the University's institutional mission because there were no restrictions placed on the use of the proceeds, other than that they be used at the discretion of UTEP's president to benefit students.

The Dodsons' extraordinary investment in UTEP is paying dividends for key University programs, academic departments and students. Distributions from the Les and Harriet Dodson Endowed Excellence Fund provide much-needed scholarship support for the region's best and brightest students. The Dodsons' generosity has enabled deserving students the opportunity

to pursue academic success and realize their professional dreams and aspirations. Funding from the Dodson endowment also supported the creation of the UTEP Challenge Course (also known as a ropes course), which has become a prized asset and tool for student development and team building. Additionally, the Dodsons' gift allows the arts to thrive at UTEP by providing matching funds for annual scholarships to students enrolled in the music theatre program, as well as to music and nonmusic majors who perform with UTEP ensembles.

The Dodson endowment also plays a vital role in sustaining the University Library's reputation as the region's premier research facility. With Dodson funds, the library's reference department has acquired two major research publications, the *Loeb Classical Library* and *The International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences*. Similarly, contributions from the Dodson fund are helping to respond effectively to the region's pressing need for qualified health care practitioners and affordable health care services. Distributions from the endowment have provided the University's Medical Professions Institute (MPI) with critical infrastructure, scholarship and program support. Under the umbrella of the MPI, disadvantaged students from the El Paso community are provided with a wide range of services and programs, from preparation for the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) to participation in the Joint Admission Medical Program, which allows students to apply to a Texas medical school in their freshman year.

These early gifts, given before the University's Centennial Campaign, are examples of the support and commitment that have made UTEP what it is today. To help sustain the momentum created by these generous donors and reach the University's goal of \$200 million by the end of 2014, we invite you to learn more about the needs of the University and how a gift would impact today's students — tomorrow's leaders — and the future of the Paso del Norte region.

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

BUILDING TO THE TOP

For any university to conduct first-class research in many fields of study, adequate physical space and high-tech equipment are vital. The investment is huge, but the rewards of having state-of-the-art facilities that advance laboratory, classroom and research capabilities for students and faculty are priceless.

To maximize that investment, friends and alumni of The University of Texas at El Paso have made capital donations that advance UTEP's goal of achieving excellence in education and research while providing access for thousands of students to higher education.

In 2008, UTEP began construction of the \$60 million College of Health Sciences/School of Nursing Building. This will bring two important academic entities onto campus from their current location in downtown El Paso. The 130,000-square-foot facility will contain simulation labs, classrooms and research space where students will train for careers in health care and academia using cutting-edge equipment.

The project, funded mainly by bond proceeds authorized by The University of Texas System Board of Regents, got off the ground thanks to generous donors who helped UTEP raise the money needed to start construction. The Robert E. and Evelyn McKee Foundation was among the organizations that invested in the project, donating a gift to support the building costs, and an additional gift for scholarships for health sciences and nursing students.

"We've been donating to UTEP for many years and for different projects," said Louis B. McKee Sr., McKee Foundation president.

The College of Health Sciences/School of Nursing Building is set to open its doors in spring 2011 and will include the state-of-the-art UTEP Simulation Center. The 16,000-square-foot facility will feature 10 simulation laboratories that will provide training in various areas, including clinical

fundamentals, critical care, maternal and childhood health care, medical surgical care, apartment/home care and health assessment.

To create real-world hospital and clinical environments, the center will use the latest technology, thanks to a lead gift provided by the Paso del Norte Health Foundation. Its investment toward furnishing the UTEP Simulation Center will help ensure that students acquire the practical and critical thinking skills necessary to deliver competent care when they move on to actual health care settings.

"We have a tremendous need for registered nurses and allied health professionals in this community," said Enrique Mata, senior program officer with the Paso del Norte Health Foundation. "We hope that having the simulation lab available will increase the opportunity for students to gain clinical experience that will get them out into the field quicker."

In addition to excellent research facilities that help academic programs, investments in athletic facilities have contributed to UTEP's success in sports.

In order to create real-world hospital and clinical environments, the UTEP Simulation Center will use the latest technology, thanks to funding provided by the Paso del Norte Health Foundation.





THE ROBERT E. AND EVELYN MCKEE FOUNDATION

"We (The Robert E. and Evelyn McKee Foundation) believe in education. It's really the backbone of our society in the United States. We've been a supporter of UTEP going back many, many years. And of course, my dad constructed a lot of the buildings on the campus, back when it was the College of Mines. I have a special bond with UTEP"

**— Louis B. McKee Sr.
President
The Robert E. and
Evelyn McKee Foundation**

- The foundation was founded by the late Gladys Evelyn McKee and Robert E. "Eugene" McKee, who owned El Paso-based R.E. McKee General Contractors, once the world's largest private construction company. A decades-long partner with UTEP, the foundation made a major commitment in 2009 to support construction of the University's new College of Health Sciences/ School of Nursing Building.



W FACILITY

The \$60 million College of Health Sciences/ School of Nursing Building is scheduled for completion in spring 2011.



The new center has made a tremendous impact on the two basketball programs, which celebrated the men's team's 2010 Conference USA regular season championship and NCAA Tournament berth.

"With the opening of the Foster • Stevens Basketball Center, our coaches have been able to attract some of the best athletes to campus, and the facility has allowed us to accommodate our student-athletes' schedules," said Brian Wickstrom, senior associate athletic director at UTEP. "The facility has turned into a one-stop shop for

the men's and women's teams and it was also a key component in (El Paso) being awarded the 2011 Conference USA Basketball Tournament."

As UTEP continues its record growth in enrollment, the University's infrastructure is expanding not only to accommodate the rising number of students, but also to foster groundbreaking research, education and training opportunities. With the help of generous donors, the new buildings, laboratories and high-tech equipment have helped establish UTEP as the model for the future of higher education in the United States.

FACULTY ENDOWMENTS

ATTRACTING TOP PROFESSORS

In addition to using donor funds to create and enhance scholarship and fellowship endowments that provide top students the opportunity and incentive to attend The University of Texas at El Paso, it is essential for UTEP to create more endowed faculty positions to help secure outstanding professors who will push the University toward national research university status.

At the Forefront: The Centennial Campaign for UTEP will provide the resources to recruit additional faculty members who love to teach and possess a superb portfolio of research experience that supports UTEP's mission and advances its academic standing.

"In order to continue on the path to becoming a national research university that serves a 21st century student demographic, we must compete with many other excellent colleges and universities to recruit the best faculty available to teach our students and advance our research program," said Interim Provost Howard Daudistel, Ph.D. "Endowments established by our friends and supporters will generate funds in perpetuity that will enhance our ability to attract the best faculty and support advances in teaching, cutting-edge research and creative activity that is vital to our quest for Tier One status."

Because of the generosity of UTEP's many friends and supporters, 35 faculty members have appointments to endowed chairs and professorships.

Betty Moor MacGuire and her late husband, John, understood the importance of attracting top faculty members to UTEP and began supporting the University philanthropically in the 1960s. Among their gifts, they established two endowed professorships in 1985, the Betty M. MacGuire Professorship in Business Administration and the John T. MacGuire Professorship in Mechanical and Industrial Engineering.

In 2009, Betty Moor MacGuire, '48, increased the value of the professorships.

"I heard about the Centennial Campaign

and thought this was a good time to do that," she said. "... John always said we should help the people who helped us, and we think we got a great education."

El Paso Electric Co. is another regular UTEP supporter. Its first gift was recorded in 1970.

In 2002, the company established the El Paso Electric Company Professorship in Education Research to provide an interdisciplinary endowed faculty position for education research and graduate studies, which has assisted the University in responding to critical areas of need in K-16 education at the local, state, national and international levels. Arturo Pacheco, Ph.D., has held the professorship since it was established.

Capitalizing on the state legislature's Texas Research Incentive Program (TRIP), which matches private donations given for research, El Paso Electric made a gift in 2009 to establish the George W. Edwards Jr./El Paso Electric Distinguished Professorship in Engineering. Matching funds provided through the TRIP will establish the El Paso Electric Graduate Fellows Program in the College of Business Administration.

The George W. Edwards, Jr./El Paso Electric Distinguished Professorship in Engineering will enable UTEP to attract and retain outstanding faculty in the area of renewable energy to further research and graduate student development in the College of Engineering.

"The Centennial Campaign creates a wonderful opportunity for UTEP to increase the number of endowed faculty chairs and professorships," said University of Texas System Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa. "Such endowments will enable UTEP to recruit and retain the most highly qualified faculty members, who will not only conduct competitive and externally funded research but will teach and mentor ... students and engage them in the innovative learning opportunities provided by their leading-edge research."

In August 2010, UTEP hired an internationally recognized researcher and scholar thanks to an endowment established at the University.

Luis Echegoyen, Ph.D., former director of the chemistry division at the National Science Foundation, is now UTEP's Robert



A. Welch Chair in Chemistry.

Echegoyen is highly regarded around the world for his work on supramolecular and materials chemistry. His current research focuses on carbon materials and their potential application in solar energy conversion. He is one of two candidates for president-elect of the American Chemical Society, the world's largest professional organization with more than 160,000 members. The election is scheduled for November 2010.

"We believe that [Echegoyen] will have a significant impact on our quest for national recognition as the first U.S. research university with a 21st century student demographic through his intellectual contributions in all scientific arenas and with his strong academic leadership skills," said Anny Morrobel-Sosa, Ph.D., dean of UTEP's College of Science.

The Robert A. Welch Chair is an endowed position established by the Welch Foundation, a Houston-based organization that funds chemistry research, along with matching funds from generous donors.

"[UTEP President] Diana Natalicio has a very clear and very compelling vision for where she wants to take UTEP, and that was particularly attractive to me," Echegoyen said. "Everyone seems to be behind her and very excited. Her vision to make a 21st century demographic institution into a top research university by providing both access and excellence is a tall order, and it's not going to be easy, but I think it can be accomplished. It will certainly be exciting and challenging at the same time."



At the Forefront: The Centennial Campaign for UTEP will provide the resources to recruit additional faculty members who love to teach and possess a superb portfolio of research experience that supports UTEP's mission and advances its academic standing.

LUIS ECHEGOYEN, PH.D.

Robert A. Welch Chair in Chemistry

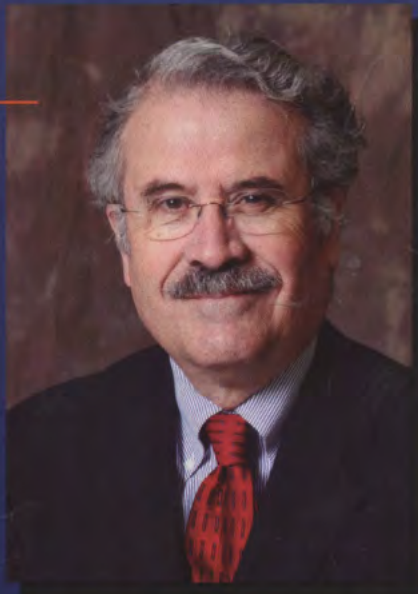
Echegoyen is highly regarded around the world for his work on supramolecular and materials chemistry. His current research focuses on carbon materials and their potential application in solar energy conversion.



ARTURO PACHECO, PH.D.

El Paso Electric Company Endowed Professor in Education Research

Pacheco assists the University in responding to critical areas of need in K-16 education at the local, state, national and international levels.



ENDOWED ACADEMIC POSITIONS



BETTY MOOR
MACGUIRE

"I got my degree at UTEP, and it has been a great influence on my life. I am an El Pasoan, and I love to support things that make El Paso better. The research and innovation at UTEP, in colleges such as engineering and business, make a big difference not only for the school but for the community. It is an institution I really admire, and that is why I want to help."

**—Betty Moor MacGuire (B.B.A. '48)
Owner and Operator
MacGuire Ranches in Marfa, Texas;
Chair, El Paso's Lee and Beulah Moor
Children's Home; President, War Eagles
Air Museum in Santa Teresa, N.M.**

- MacGuire, a 2008 College of Business Administration Gold Nugget Award recipient, and her late husband, John, established professorships in engineering and business administration at UTEP in 1985. She always intended to augment the endowments through her will, but upon learning about UTEP's Centennial Campaign, decided to make an immediate gift to increase the professorships' value. The endowments enable UTEP to recruit and retain world-class academicians and research faculty.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS BENEFIT UTEP, ITS STUDENTS

More than 10 percent of the students at The University of Texas at El Paso split the more than \$8.4 million in scholarship funds provided by the University's generous donors — and 100 percent of those students are grateful.

The money from UTEP's donors, who range from caring individuals to regional businesses and national foundations, provides financial and motivational support to the more than 2,200 students who benefit from the largesse of the likes of the Wolslager Foundation, the Shiloff Family Foundation, Del Sol Medical Center, Evonne and James A. "Jack" Cardwell Sr., Paul Foster and Alejandra de la Vega Foster.

The financial assistance enables students to concentrate on their studies without seeking outside employment. The result often is a more focused and successful student who will accomplish his or her academic goals sooner.

One example is Ashley Lomeli, a junior pre-nursing student who transferred to UTEP from El Paso Community College. Her scholarship is supported by the Wolslager Foundation, which was established by the Wolslager family to improve the quality of life in areas where the family owned and operated Coca-Cola bottling companies.

Lomeli, a first-generation college student who has a 4.0 grade point average, said she would have needed to find a job without the scholarship and her grades would have suffered.

"I cried when I got the scholarship because it touched my heart," she said. "(The selection committee members) didn't know me, but they put their hope in me ... and helped me believe in myself. My hard work to that point had paid off."

Lomeli, who has several family members dealing with medical conditions, plans

to enter medical school after earning her nursing degree.

Jenny Nelson, who expects to earn her doctorate in pharmacy in May and plans to practice in El Paso, said her scholarship from the Shiloff Family Foundation lifted the financial pressure of a university education off her shoulders.

Nelson is part of UTEP's Cooperative Pharmacy Program, a six-year curriculum that includes two years of study at UT Austin. On top of the Shiloff scholarship,

she received financial aid and family loans to complete her education.

She said she has met members of the Shiloff family and they are grateful for her decision to stay in El Paso after graduation.

"They believe in the importance of giving back to your community," she said.

Elizabeth S. Justice, director of UTEP's Office of Scholarships, said the students see their scholarships as a testament to what they have accomplished and an investment in their future and that of the community.



JENNY NELSON

Her scholarship from the Shiloff Family Foundation lifted the financial pressure of a university education off her shoulders.

“Scholarships are huge motivators for students. They know someone in the community is supporting them and that makes them strive even harder.”

ELIZABETH S. JUSTICE, DIRECTOR OF UTEP'S OFFICE OF SCHOLARSHIPS

They want their donors to know they made the right choice.

“Scholarships are huge motivators for students. They know someone in the community is supporting them and that makes them strive even harder,” Justice said.

Some groups or individuals such as Del Sol Medical Center, the Cardwells and the Fosters have provided funds for scholarship endowments and graduate fellowships.

The hospital established the Del Sol Medical Center Faculty Stipend Award in 2007. It provides financial help for up to four registered nurses who are faculty members at UTEP's School of Nursing and enrolled in a doctoral program with a concentration in nursing or a related health field.

This investment was made in response to the nationwide shortage of nursing faculty. It is Del Sol's hope that the scholarship recipients, upon graduation, will pursue careers in teaching and research as assistant professors or higher in the Paso del Norte region.

Cardwell, vice president of C&R Distributing Inc., has made a commitment

to establish the Petro Stopping Centers Endowment to support entrepreneurial programs at UTEP, including the Franchise Center and its activities, at the discretion of the director of the UTEP Center for Entrepreneurial Development, Advancement Research and Support.

He also committed to start the Cardwell Family Endowment for Math and Science Education and the Cardwell Family Graduate Fellows Program in Business. The first will benefit UTEP's Math and Science Teachers (MaST) Academy and the second will help graduate students in the College of Business Administration.

The Fosters — Paul, executive chairman of Western Refining, and Alejandra de la Vega Foster, a businesswoman and community leader — provided a leadership gift to create the Paul L. Foster and Alejandra de la Vega Foster Distinguished Chair in International Business. The donation, matched through the state's Texas Research Incentive Program, established the Paul L. Foster and Alejandra de la Vega Foster Graduate Fellows Program in International Business.



THE SHILOFF FAMILY FOUNDATION

“I think the future of El Paso rests with the future of UTEP. They go hand in hand. The most important thing we can do is make sure our young people get a quality higher education. Supporting UTEP has been one of our primary objectives for several years.”

—Robert M. Shiloff

President

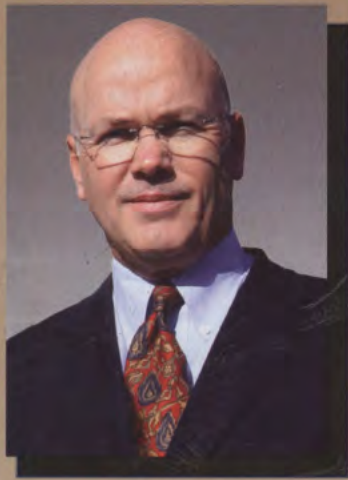
The Shiloff Family Foundation

- The El Paso foundation led by Robert M. Shiloff has demonstrated its strong commitment to UTEP since 1995, contributing to scholarships while also providing tremendous support for the College of Science, the School of Nursing, the Department of Chemistry, the UTEP Dinner Theatre and KTEP public radio.

ASHLEY LOMELI

“I cried when I got the scholarship because it touched my heart. (The selection committee members) didn't know me, but they put their hope in me.”





AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING (ADP) INC.

"We value higher education both in our business and in the broader community. It's a value that has to be perpetuated. By supporting math and science students who go on to become educators, we know that the participants will one day be teaching the children of our associates."

-Terry McGreehan
Vice President and General Manager
ADP's El Paso Solution Center

- The Roseland, N.J.-based company, one of the world's largest payroll and comprehensive human resources outsourcing service providers, supports the UTEP Math and Science Teachers (MaST) Academy, which strives to increase the number and the quality of math and science teachers in El Paso's high schools.



PROGRAM SUPPORT

DONORS SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND RESEARCH CENTERS

Civic-minded companies whose concerns go beyond their bottom line have become valued partners with The University of Texas at El Paso in its effort to improve teacher training and border research.

Among the businesses that have joined forces with UTEP through the years is Fortune 500 company Automatic Data Processing Inc. (ADP), which helped establish the Math and Science Teachers (MaST) Academy in 2007.

The academy helps provide teaching experience for University undergraduates who plan to be secondary mathematics and science teachers in the El Paso region. Another goal is to spark an interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) among area high school students.

"Because of ADP's commitment to the

UTEP and El Paso communities, every year, 2,500 El Paso-area high school students have expert math and science teachers who are prepared to cultivate the sort of enthusiasm that can make a measurable difference in student achievement," said Laura Serpa, director of UTEP's Center for Mathematics, Science and Technology Education and Research, which oversees the academy.

This past summer, 11 University math and science majors received invaluable practice in teaching as they participated in the "Accelerate to 2014" summer outreach program at Canutillo High School. The intensive program, which is part of MaST, gives the scholars the kind of classroom experience they often cannot get as undergraduates, said Ellen Esposito, UTEP assistant director of geological sciences.

"We were so pleased with the results from our initial investment that we have extended our commitment for an additional three years," said Steve Penrose, former senior vice president at ADP. At \$200,000 a year, ADP's



Math and Science Teachers (MaST) Academy

The academy helps provide teaching experience for University undergraduates who plan to be secondary mathematics and science teachers in the El Paso region.

gift will total \$1.2 million and ensure ADP Scholars and ADP Mentor Teachers are funded through 2012.

Terry McGreehan, vice president and general manager of ADP's El Paso Solution Center, reinforced the company's position that an investment in higher education makes good business sense.

"We picked El Paso for several reasons, one of which was the prominence of UTEP in the community and its dedication to higher education," McGreehan said.

Another long-time and respected partner in education and community development is the El Paso Electric Co., which recently made a donation to the Border Region Modeling Project (BRMP) in the College of Business Administration. The contribution was made to take advantage of the state legislature's Texas Research Incentive Program (TRIP) that matched funds donated for research purposes.

Tom Fullerton, Ph.D, professor of economics, heads the BRMP, an independent research unit within UTEP's Department of Economics and Finance. It applies the 215-equation Borderplex Econometric Forecasting Model, providing short-term economic forecasts for the public and private sectors to promote economic development along the entire U.S.-Mexico border.

"Without support of certain philanthropic entities, we wouldn't exist," Fullerton said. "Donors such as El Paso Electric play a critical role in the development of the project," which publishes a technical report research series that investigates borderplex policy and development issues.

Businesses such as ADP and El Paso Electric understand how these investments assist the University's faculty and students, but also how the eventual beneficiaries are the communities where we all live. ☒



JAMES A. "JACK" SR. AND EVONNE CARDWELL

"UTEP is helping people get an education that they might not otherwise be able to get. By helping UTEP, you're helping the community. UTEP has become a major foundation of support for the whole region."

—James A. "Jack" Cardwell Sr.

Vice President

C&R Distributing Inc. in El Paso

- In 2010, Cardwell and his wife, Evonne, established a fellows program to support the research initiatives of outstanding graduate students in UTEP's College of Business Administration. They also created the Cardwell Family Endowment for Math and Science Education to bolster the activities of UTEP's Math and Science Teachers (MaST) Academy. In 2007, the Cardwells emphasized their tremendous support of UTEP athletics with a major contribution to the construction of the Foster • Stevens Basketball Center. The center's Cardwell Family Gymnasium is named in their honor.

IF ONE WORD COULD CAPTURE THE ESSENCE OF WOODY HUNT, IT IS THE WORD UTEP PRESIDENT DIANA NATALICIO RECENTLY SUMMONED TO DESCRIBE THE MAN WHO RUNS HUNT COMPANIES INC. AND ITS MANY AFFILIATES:

Thoughtful.

BY TIMI HAGGERTY-MUÑOZ



Gayle and Woody Hunt

HUNT FAMILY GIFT LINKS UTEP SUCCESS WITH COMMUNITY PROSPERITY

The word ‘thoughtful’ describes the man and his vision, for when Woody Hunt looks at the Paso del Norte region, he sees the area as it could be — a prosperous community where dreams are wedded to opportunities.

What makes Hunt special, however, is that he is acting boldly and aggressively to make sure his vision comes true.

In an effort to turn the concept into reality, Hunt and his family earlier this year pledged

\$5 million to the University as part of *At the Forefront: The Centennial Campaign for UTEP*.

The Centennial Campaign is the most ambitious fund-raising effort in UTEP history, and the gift, donated through the Hunt Family Foundation, targets two beneficiaries — the University and the community it serves.

“Woody Hunt is an extraordinarily thoughtful philanthropist,” Natalicio said during a press conference in August to

during a press conference in August to announce the gift.

The Hunt Family Foundation — established in 1987 by Hunt and his wife, Gayle — is as bold and visionary as the family that operates it. And with Hunt as its guiding force, it takes a comprehensive and creative approach to addressing specific region needs.

While the \$5 million benefits UTEP, its ultimate beneficiary is the Paso del Norte region, because the gift is intended to create a robust economic climate in which all individuals, including UTEP students and graduates, will grow and prosper.

The gift will help the University establish the Hunt Institute for Global Competitiveness as well as two significant endowments, the Marcus Jonathan Hunt Chair in International Business and the Marcus Jonathan Hunt Graduate Fellows Program in Business. The endowments are named in memory of Woody and Gayle's son, who passed away in 2008.

The new institute will be a multidisciplinary center dedicated to research and analysis at the intersection of education and economic issues, with a focus on fostering dialogue to produce public policy that will drive educational reform and economic development in an increasingly competitive global market.

The endowed chair and fellowship program will contribute to the Hunt Institute for Global Competitiveness, an entity that illustrates the big-picture approach embraced by Hunt and his family.

"Our challenge has been — as our education has gotten better and better at turning out high-quality graduates — our businesses, the demand side, have not risen to the occasion and created the jobs," Woody Hunt said during the press conference.

Hunt knows that UTEP and its surrounding communities enjoy a symbiotic relationship — when UTEP advances, the region it serves advances as well.

While Hunt recognizes the connection between education and economic prosperity, however, he also realizes that the border region is a historically poor area that operates under different dynamics than the rest of the country.

The challenge is to create an environment where educational success leads to professional success in the Paso del Norte region.

It is an ambitious goal, but Hunt knows that every noble mission is worth the difficult journey it takes to get there.

"My view is that UTEP is the most important institution in our region," Hunt said.

Yet UTEP graduates cannot prosper, he added, unless the region itself prospers.

"The big benefit of what UTEP has done for the community doesn't really transfer into an economic benefit unless we can come up with high-paying jobs that require those kinds of talents and we can keep [graduates] here," he said.

That concept, as Natalicio so eloquently noted, illustrates the thoughtfulness of the man and his mission.

As chairman and chief executive officer of Hunt Companies Inc., a diversified investment, real estate development, construction management and property management firm, Hunt has developed an acute understanding of the need to produce a highly educated workforce to meet the needs of a global market in the 21st century.

The firm, operated by the Hunt family for four generations, is one of the most successful businesses in El Paso, with real estate assets in excess of \$5 billion.

With the \$5 million pledge, the family has now contributed nearly \$7 million to UTEP in recent years — a total that will help the University accelerate its progress toward Tier One, or national research university, status.

The gift represents a caring and giving attitude, for Hunt and his family embody the notion that success is empty unless you create opportunities for others to achieve similar success.

"I want to thank ... the Hunt Family Foundation for this tremendous confidence in UTEP and what we have to contribute to this region's future," Natalicio said. "The energizing effect of this gift will be felt not only by our students and faculty but by the entire extended Paso del Norte region." ❏



DEL SOL MEDICAL CENTER

"At Del Sol Medical Center, we are very proud of our relationship with The University of Texas at El Paso. As a native El Pasoan and graduate of UTEP, I am strongly committed to the University's success and continued growth. UTEP represents the future of our great city, and by supporting the Centennial Campaign, we are most definitely investing in a very worthwhile cause."

—R. Jacob Cintron
(B.S.I.E. '83; M.B.A. '96; M.Acc. '02)
Chief Executive Officer
Del Sol Medical Center

- El Paso's Del Sol Medical Center, a longtime investor in UTEP's nursing and health sciences programs, established the Del Sol Medical Center Faculty Stipend Award in 2007 to help address a national shortage of doctorally trained nursing faculty. The stipend supports faculty in the School of Nursing who are registered nurses enrolled in a doctoral program with a concentration in nursing or a related health field. Award recipients are encouraged, upon graduation, to accept teaching and research positions at UTEP or similar institutions within the Paso del Norte region.

THE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN IS THE MOST AMBITIOUS FUNDRAISING EFFORT IN UTEP HISTORY. AND THE GIFT, DONATED THROUGH THE HUNT FAMILY FOUNDATION, TARGETS TWO BENEFICIARIES — THE UNIVERSITY AND THE COMMUNITY IT SERVES.



PAUL FOSTER AND ALEJANDRA DE LA VEGA FOSTER, AND JEFF AND SHARON STEVENS



"As the University inaugurates its Centennial Campaign, all of us have an opportunity to help ensure that UTEP is well positioned to serve as a catalyst for this region's

future human and economic development by continuing to create opportunities for talented young people, and by achieving its goal of becoming a national research university. We all know that UTEP has a major role to play in El Paso's future, and we know that we can all help UTEP successfully play that role."

—Paul Foster

**Executive Chairman, Western Refining;
Vice Chair, The University of Texas System
Board of Regents; Chair, The University
of Texas Investment Management Co.**

- Paul Foster; Jeff Stevens, president and CEO of El Paso's Western Refining; and Jeff's wife, Sharon, provided the lead gift toward the creation of UTEP's Foster • Stevens Basketball Center, which opened in 2009 and is among the finest athletic facilities in the country. Also in 2009, Foster and his wife, Alejandra de la Vega Foster, president of a convenience store chain in Mexico, established a distinguished chair in international business at UTEP. Through the legislature's Texas Research Incentive Program, the Fosters' gift will be matched to create a graduate fellows program in international business.

FACULTY, STAFF ESTABLISH FUNDS TO BENEFIT UNIVERSITY

One of the greatest testimonials of a university's excellence is to receive financial gifts from faculty and staff to strengthen the campus and its student body. The University of Texas at El Paso has numerous examples of that kind of recognition.

Many of these donors, who are in some cases former students, see their contributions as a way to thank the University for the positive impact it has had on the donor's life and the community.

Gary Edens, Ed.D., dean of students and associate vice president for student affairs, has made a planned gift to support the development of student leadership programming and the growth of campus activities and student life at the University.

Edens, who earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from UTEP, said his decision was based on the University's role as the single most important factor in his personal and professional life.

"I believe strongly in the mission of UTEP and the too-often untapped potential of the El Paso community," he said. "The city and University have provided me great joy over the years and my contribution was the best way for me to say thanks."

Mimi R. Gladstein, Ph.D., professor of English, is another graduate with strong feelings about the University. She earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Texas Western College, now UTEP, and has taught at the University since 1968.

Gladstein made a donation earlier this

year to the University for the Mimi Reisel Gladstein Professorship in English. Its goal is to support research and graduate study in American Literature.

She already has connections to two endowed UTEP scholarships. Gladstein established one in 1999 for students pursuing an English degree. The theater arts department set up another in her name six years later to benefit first-year students.

"Over the years, I have been pleased to meet the worthwhile students who have been named to the Gladstein scholarship," she said. "It makes me so happy to have been able to contribute to their study."

Z. Anthony Kruszewski, Ph.D., professor of political science, also is a UTEP benefactor. Since 1992, he and his wife, June, have funded two endowed professorships and three scholarships to help students and faculty in political science and theatre arts.

He said the couple always has been committed to UTEP's goals of access and excellence, and he hoped his family's gifts would promote these ideals.

Earlier this year, he established a student programs fund that will pay for seminars, guest speakers and students' participation in conferences to develop more fully their academic, professional and personal skills.

Last year, he established the June Sadowski Kruszewski Professorship in Theatre Arts to honor his wife of more than 50 years, who earned bachelor's and master's degrees at UTEP. ☑

From left, Mimi R. Gladstein, Ph.D., professor of English, Gary Edens, Ed.D., dean of students and associate vice president for student affairs and Z. Anthony Kruszewski, Ph.D., professor of political science.



DEDICATED DONORS MAKE HUGE IMPACT

Throughout its nearly 100 years of existence, The University of Texas at El Paso has been partially sustained by donations from public and private entities interested in advancing higher education in the El Paso region.

While some donations come with a lot of zeros at the end, most are more modest contributions made over a period of time that have a significant and lasting impact. For example, UTEP alumna Ada Long has made 89 annual contributions to the University since 1967.

Campus officials stress that every dollar contributes to the success and growth of the University – its colleges, centers, laboratories and resources.

Regular donations are as valued because they ensure that UTEP can respond immediately to unanticipated student, faculty and campuswide needs, said Audrey Price, assistant vice president for University Development.

“If 100,000 alumni and friends of the University gave \$100 each, it would translate to \$10 million,” she said. “The aggregate value of our donors’ gifts – every gift of every size – is significant not just for its monetary worth but also for the confidence in UTEP and its students that each contribution conveys.”

The development office can offer case after case of similar stories. Among them are those belonging to the Heasley, Maxon,

Koch and Jones families.

- Robert C. “Bob” Heasley received his bachelor’s degree in business from UTEP in 1953 and is a Lincoln Financial Advisors representative. He and his wife, Mary Lou, have been giving to UTEP for a period of 43 years; 32 of those years have been consecutive.

- Carroll and Jack Maxon, former owners of the Jaxon’s Restaurants and Brewing Co., have given to the University annually since 1986, including a major gift to the Shelton Family Scholarship from CSJ Investments in 2005.

- Debbie Koch, ’87 and ’02, and her husband, Matt, have given to the University for 22 years. Their first gift went to the athletics department. The alumna is human resources and security manager at the Boeing Co. in El Paso.

- Steele Jones III, a lifelong El Pasoan who owns Jones and Company accounting firm, started making his contributions as a student in 1967. He and his wife, Leslie, a UTEP graduate who earned her bachelor’s in 1976 and her master’s six years later, have been consistent donors since 1984.

“I remember we had a choice to be refunded our school deposit, or donate it to the school. It was only 10, maybe 15 bucks,” Jones III said. “I went ahead and put it all back into a school deposit. It all just started from there.”



PASO DEL NORTE HEALTH FOUNDATION

“Achievements to improve health and quality of life come through the establishment of partnerships among visionaries who work to effectively plan and implement programs that address disease prevention and health education. ... UTEP has taken the lead not only to educate our students on the importance of health in the region, but also to become a top research facility and provide quality programs to individuals in the community that need it the most.”

– Myrna J. Deckert
President and CEO
Paso del Norte Health Foundation

- The foundation, one of UTEP’s most valued partners in investing in the future of the region’s health care, made a generous contribution for the Simulation Center in the University’s new College of Health Sciences/ School of Nursing Building, now under construction. The grant will be matched through the Texas Research Incentive Program to create a graduate fellows program for students pursuing degrees in the health sciences or nursing.



CARROLL MAXON

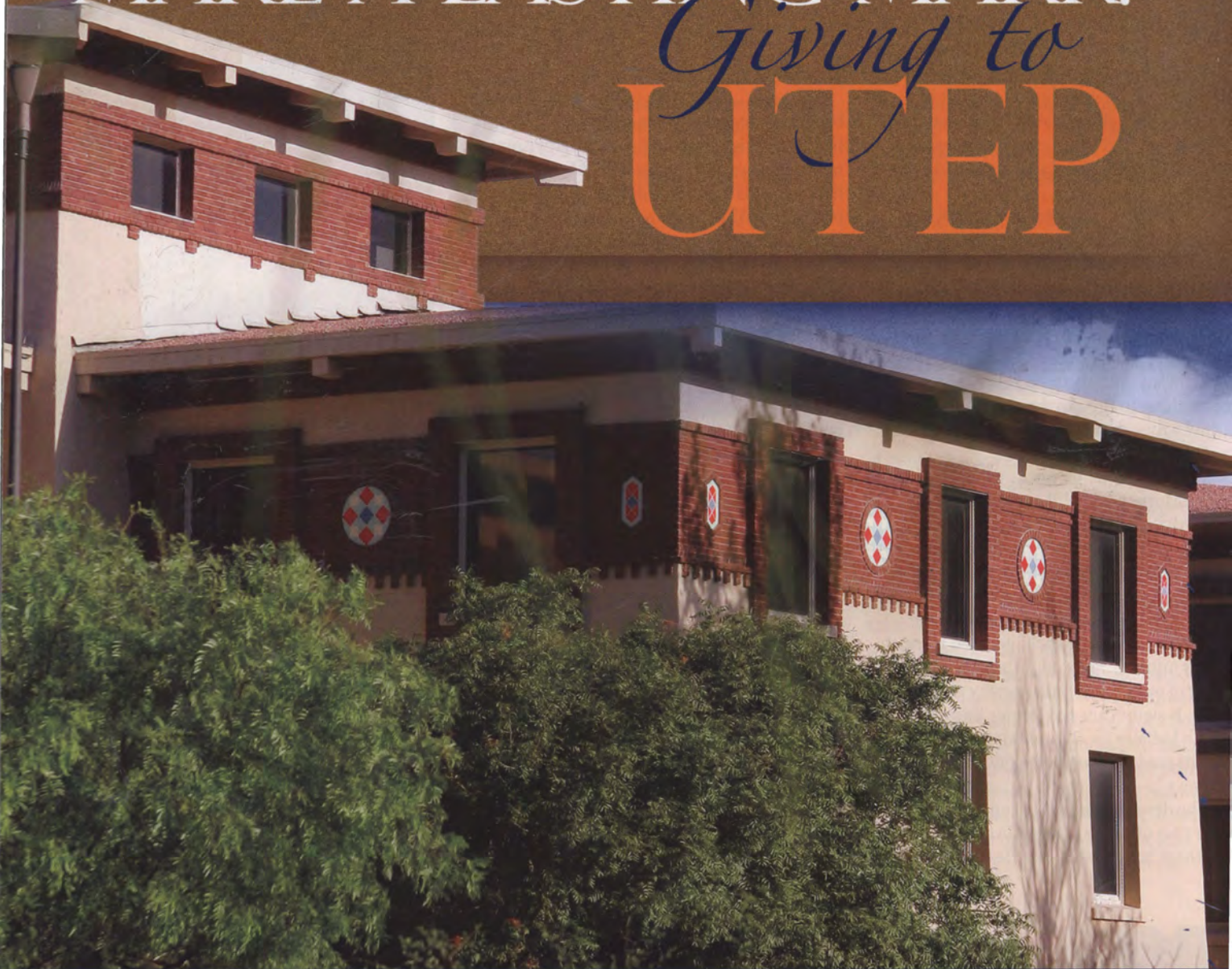


STEELE JONES III



BOB HEASLEY

MAKE A LASTING MARK: *Giving to* UTEP



In 1914, the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy was established in part by the generous donations of 27 community members who raised \$50,000 to help open the doors to higher education in El Paso. Today, as The University of Texas at El Paso works to become a national research university, the community is encouraged to join in the quest to further advance research and educational and economic opportunities in the Paso del Norte region.

During Fall Convocation in September, UTEP President Diana Natalicio announced the beginning of the public phase of *At the*

Forefront: The Centennial Campaign for UTEP with the goal to raise \$200 million by 2014. With donations from many El Paso community and business leaders and UTEP alumni, half of that goal already has been met. Now, the University invites the public to make its mark on the future of higher education.

“Planned gifts provide a lasting tribute and supply critical resources to support UTEP’s mission: providing access and excellence in higher education for students of all ages, income levels and academic histories,” said Lucy Garcia, director of gift planning at UTEP’s University Development Office.

GIFTS FOR TODAY

There is no better time than the present to give a gift to UTEP. The most common and direct method for most donors is a simple check or credit card contribution, which can be made online, by mail or by phone. This form of giving is of immediate benefit to the University. Gifts may be designated for a particular college, department or other area of the University specified by the donor, or allocated for the University's greatest needs.

Gifts of securities also make an immediate impact on UTEP and offer donors an array of benefits. Giving appreciated stocks and mutual funds as charitable gifts may offer the additional benefits of reduced or eliminated capital gains taxes as well as income tax deductions.

Charles Leavell, an El Paso businessman and a friend to UTEP for nearly four decades before his death in 2000, chose to contribute security assets to the University. Thanks to his gift of stock, the Charles H. and Shirley T. Leavell Endowed Chair in Nursing and Health Sciences was founded in 1995 to provide a faculty position for a top-level educator and researcher who can make a lasting impact on UTEP's College of Health Sciences and School of Nursing.

Donors also may elect to give real estate or property. Personal property, such as art pieces, historical documents and other collections, can help enhance University departments in their lectures, exhibits and research. In addition, much like security donations, giving homes, farmland, commercial property or other types of real estate can result in tax benefits, as the proceeds from the sale of the property goes to help fund campus programs, faculty and scholarships.

UTEP alumnus Paul Yetter, who is a member of the Centennial Campaign

Leadership Council, and his wife, Patti — also a UTEP graduate — recently donated their former home in Houston to their alma mater. The funds from the sale of the property will be used to establish the Patricia and R. Paul Yetter Endowment at the University.

GIFTS THAT KEEP GIVING

Other options for giving to UTEP enable potential donors to establish contracts with the University as part of an annuity or a deferred gift. Donors can receive their retirement annuities immediately or defer them until a set time in the future while their gift goes to help UTEP reach its goals.

"A gift annuity is an excellent way to support UTEP while receiving tax-advantaged income for the rest of your life," Garcia said. "The tax advantages include the up-front charitable contribution deduction, which may reduce your income taxes, and quarterly income payments, which are partly tax-free."

Charles F. "Paco" Jordan, founder and chairman of C.F. Jordan Construction, has been involved with UTEP by serving on the Development Board. In their continuous support as friends to the University, Jordan and his wife, Linda, have established deferred gifts to UTEP to further advance higher education in the region.

In the years leading up to UTEP's 100th anniversary celebration, the Centennial Campaign seeks to continue spreading Miner spirit in the community. Through generous donations of all types, friends and alumni in the El Paso area and around the world can help UTEP reach its goal of \$200 million and give the University the support to become the first national research university with a 21st century student demographic. ☞



Fay Wagstaff presents her piggy bank to UTEP College of Business Administration Dean Robert Nachtmann, D.B.A.

Fay Wagstaff was listening to her mother talk about The University of Texas at El Paso's Centennial Campaign one night at dinner when she got up, left the room and returned with her piggy bank.

The 7-year-old declared that she wanted to give the bank's contents to the Centennial Campaign.

"I just really wanted to donate," Wagstaff said. "I'm going to be a student here, and then I'm going to teach."

Wagstaff is the daughter of Fernanda Garcia, an associate professor of management in the College of Business Administration. Because Wagstaff is an only child, she doesn't have the opportunity to practice sharing and giving with siblings.

"It's very difficult for me to teach her the importance of giving, and I think that this was just the perfect opportunity," Garcia said. "I didn't even think about Fay donating the pig."

Wagstaff's contribution was \$13.76, which she said she earned over several months by doing chores. Instead of spending it on a Nintendo video game, as she might have normally, she brought the piggy bank to the UTEP campus one afternoon in October and handed it to Robert Nachtmann, D.B.A. dean of the College of Business Administration.

"You're setting an example for everybody in El Paso because everybody can give a little, which will help," Development Director Janet Reck told Wagstaff. "Sometimes people think that if they don't have a lot of money, their amount of money doesn't matter. But even when you just have a little and you give it, it makes an impact."

For information on gift planning or to make a donation today, contact University Development and begin making your mark at UTEP.

BY MAIL:

UTEP
University Development
Kelly Hall, 7th Floor
500 W. University Ave.
El Paso, TX 79968-0524

BY PHONE:

915-747-8533
Toll free at
1-888-229-8837

ONLINE:

givingto.utep.edu



Team Goals

"I relish the opportunity to keep the tradition of victory alive here at UTEP."

Tim Floyd
UTEP Men's Basketball
Head Coach

Miners Reload

with New and Familiar Faces BY JOE VELARDE

After winning 26 games, earning the Conference USA regular season title and making its 17th visit to the NCAA Tournament, The University of Texas at El Paso men's basketball team ended the 2009-10 season happy, but far from content. The team's new leader, head coach Tim Floyd, knows what it takes to win. This year's players are energized to build on last year's momentum and together, they are ready for another successful season.

"I expect us to compete at the highest level of the NCAA," said Floyd, a former UTEP assistant head coach from 1977 to 1986 under Hall of Fame Coach Don "The Bear" Haskins.

Floyd, whose career spans 26 years, offers a style of basketball that has been successful at programs around the country. In the 2009-10 season, Floyd's University of Southern California Trojans clinched the Pac-10 conference championship and earned a trip to the NCAA Tournament.

When Floyd thinks about the upcoming season, he is realistic and optimistic. Some key players from last year's club are gone, but the team still has the talented nucleus of senior guards Randy Culpepper and Julian Stone.

Culpepper, a electronic media major, is ranked fourth in UTEP history with 1,664 points. The 6-foot shooter is 15th on the all-time Conference USA scoring list and is UTEP's all-time leader for three-point field goals with 252 and three-point attempts at

719. He averaged 2.8 boards per game while shooting 47.2 percent from the field last season.

Stone, an organizational communications major, put up 530 assists in his three years with the Miners. The 6-foot-6-inch point guard is just 33 shy of the record held by UTEP great and former NBA all-star Tim Hardaway.

Stone said the key to success is to be team-oriented.

"I have goals, and I plan on (reaching) them this season, but it's not about my goals," Stone said. "It's about the goals of the team, whether we can score points, play as a team and win games."

Floyd also has a few talented freshmen joining the team who were recruited by former head coach Tony Barbee and his staff. One is Mike Perez, a 6-foot-3-inch guard out of Tucson, Ariz.'s Pueblo High School. He scored 29 points per game in his senior year. Another is 6-foot-6-inch power forward Mike Haynes from Chicago's Heat Academy.

"We feel as though they can all play the game," Floyd said.

Gone from the program are forwards Derrick Character and Arnett Moultrie, two of the significant contributors to the team that won 28 games and earned a bid to the NCAA tournament. The squad lost to eventual tournament runner-up Butler University in the first round.

A replacement for Character is hard to come by, Floyd said. Character was picked by the

world champion Los Angeles Lakers in the second round of the 2010 NBA draft after only one year with the Miners.

UTEP also has parted ways with 6-foot-11-inch forward Moultrie, who racked up 522 career boards and 62 career blocks in his two seasons with UTEP, the 12th best in school history.

"We probably haven't replaced those guys yet, in terms of their abilities," Floyd said. "We were limited in options as far as recruiting goes. I think we still have a good recruiting class, and we can expect more out of our team once we are given more options down the road."

As the program's fifth head coach in the past 10 years, Floyd is eager to build on UTEP's winning tradition. His team will play 21 games at the Don Haskins Center this season including two exhibitions, and non-conference contests against New Mexico State, Texas Tech and Air Force.

"The Haskins arena is notoriously hard to play in. The facilities at UTEP are among the best in the nation," Floyd said. "The fan base in El Paso is also very sophisticated. I relish the opportunity to keep the tradition of victory alive here at UTEP."

The team also will play former Western Athletic Conference rival Brigham Young University as well as Georgia Tech and either Michigan or Syracuse in the Legends Classic Tournament in Atlantic City. 🏀



Senior Play

Teamwork Key to Successful Women's Season

BY JOE VELARDE • PHOTOS BY NIKI RHYNES

The play of three returning seniors, team chemistry and fan support are the keys to success for the Miners 2010-11 women's basketball season, according to Keitha Adams, the team's head coach.

Adams, the winningest coach in the program's history (139-129 in nine seasons), said she hoped that an early home-heavy schedule will help her team gel before conference play begins Jan. 6.

"The key to winning this season will be the way we mold together as one unit," Adams said. "Teamwork is everything. We're taking everything one day at a time, one game at a time, and one practice at a time, to ensure that we are developing our chemistry the way we should."

She will be leaning on seniors Tracy Wittlebolle, Ashley Milian and Sviatlana Trukshania, as well as juniors Dietra Caldwell (2009 C-USA Freshman of the Year) and two-year starter Briana Green, and sophomore Anete Steinberga (2010 All-C-USA freshman team).

Wittlebolle, a communications major, has bounced back from last year's season-ending injuries. So far in practice, the Belgian native, who averaged four blocks and seven steals in 16 games, has established herself again as one of the team's top shooters.

"She has a clear understanding of the game,

which is very positive for us, as she'll be returning for her final year," Adams said.

Also returning from injury is Milian, a general studies major. She averaged 7.8 points during the first 16 games last season. In spite of her injuries, Milian appeared in 29 games and averaged 14.8 minutes per game. Adams called her a solid standout.

Trukshania, a general business major, is known for her long-range shooting. Last year she rained bombs past the three-point line and sank 41.4 percent of her attempts. That finish ranked first for the team and third overall in Conference USA.

"(Sviatlana) loves to shoot the ball from the outside, and she'll continue to do so for us this season," Adams said.

The coach also is looking forward to the Conference USA Tournament at the Don Haskins Center March 9-12. The Miners have proven to be a force at home during the past four seasons. The team's 55-10 record those years includes a 14-0 stretch two years ago.

The tournament had been played in other C-USA venues in past years, so the decision to move it to El Paso could benefit the home team and the thousands of screaming Miner Maniacs.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for us here in the city," Adams said. "Where our fans routinely traveled the thousand miles to



Keitha Adams
UTEP Women's Basketball Head Coach

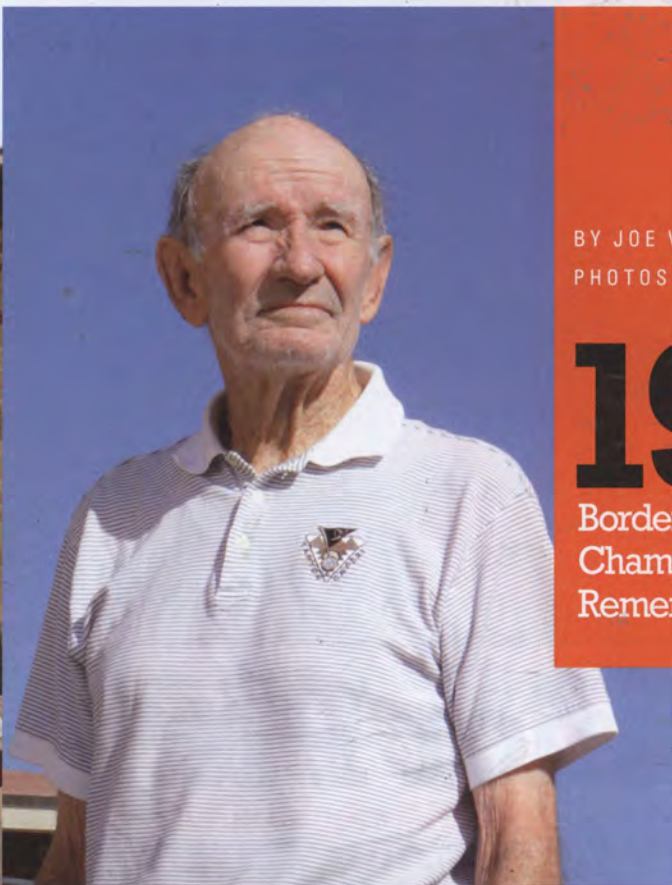
watch the Miners in action, they can now come and support us during the tournament right here in our house. The Haskins Center is one of the finest basketball facilities in the NCAA. This is something the city and the University can benefit from."

The team hopes to play well enough to repeat its success during the 2007-08 season, when it compiled a 28-4 record — including 16-0 in league play — and earned the Conference USA championship. The squad was ranked in the Top 25 and made it to the second round of the NCAA tournament before losing to No. 4 Stanford. Last year's team finished with a 16-16 record. 🏀

Key to Winning

"Teamwork is everything. We're taking everything one day at a time, one game at a time, and one practice at a time, to ensure that we are developing our chemistry the way we should."

Keitha Adams
UTEP Women's Basketball
Head Coach



BY JOE VELARDE

PHOTOS BY J.R. HERNANDEZ

1941

Border Conference Championship Team Remembered

Bud Lassiter, left, and Greg Ramsey remember taking a test and later signing up for military service in Holliday Hall, pictured, the same hall where they won the 1941 Border Conference Championship with the Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy men's basketball team. A year later, the teammates had dedicated themselves to their country in World War II.

The storied tale of Coach Don Haskins and the 1966 Texas Western College championship basketball team is well known among college basketball fans. The team that was the first in history to start five African-American players in an NCAA Championship game still is the only Texas collegiate team to win the Division I Men's National Basketball Championship.

Less well known is that the winning tradition in UTEP basketball goes back even further to the Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy (TCM). So far back, in fact, that all five starters of the 1941 Border Conference Championship team came from El Paso, knew each other since they were children and were recruited out of the YMCA.

Bud Lassiter, a member of that winning team, remembered Dossie Wiggins, former president of TCM, playing handball at the Y. There, he would get the scoop on the latest players to recruit. The college's athletic budget at the time was nearly nonexistent.

"He came up to all of us one day and asked us, 'You want to play basketball in college?'" Lassiter recalled. "He told us all we needed to talk to Marshall Pennington, the head coach then, who would later set us up, suit us out and get us playing."

The University, then known as the College of Mines and Metallurgy, won the Border Conference Championship in 1941, the first year Lassiter and his friends joined the team, by beating Arizona State 63-46.

Greg Ramsey also remembers the year he and his childhood friends became champions, though he wouldn't share all of his memories.

"There are plenty of great memories, but I'm not going to tell you," Ramsey said with a laugh. "I can tell you that we had some really great games (in Holliday Hall). The place didn't seat many people. We'd sell out every game, sometimes finding the students up on the windowsills some 15 feet off the ground. None of us ever knew how they got up there."

Another member of the team was Lee Floyd,

father of UTEP men's basketball head coach Tim Floyd.

"My father always had stories to tell me growing up as a child," Tim Floyd said. "There was a passion in his heart, a love for the game. It was the same love that he instilled in me at a very young age. Before he passed away, he left a very profound impact on my life."

Lassiter also can recall many powerful memories—from the year they took home the conference title, to the day Coach Pennington brought the team in from practice just after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

"Most of us left school to go join the service," Lassiter said. "Many years later, we kept in touch as brothers. There were just so many things happening at the same time, but we really became men after that year. I look at the team now and remember my friends on the court." ❏




PHOTO BY J. R. HERNANDEZ

High Expectations

"The direction of the team has already been set. The transition was easy. We've been going down the same road for years now, so we're ready to keep winning."

Mika Laaksonen
UTEP Track and Field
Head Coach

New Leader, Same Winning Tradition

BY JOE VELARDE

Filling the shoes of the winningest coach in UTEP Athletics history isn't an easy task. But selecting a new coach who already is deeply familiar with UTEP's program was a natural choice.

Mika Laaksonen, former UTEP student athlete and assistant to head coach Bob Kitchens, officially took over the University's storied track and field program in April when Kitchens retired after 22 years with the Miners.

"The direction of the team already has been set," Laaksonen said. "The transition was easy. We've been going down the same road for years now, so we're ready to keep winning. Our expectations for these young athletes are still high."

Standing at over 6 feet tall, Laaksonen is a presence among his staff and athletes in

Holliday Hall and on Kidd Field. The coach, who graduated in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in finance, earned an NCAA Championship in the hammer throw in 1992 and was a two-time All American. He went on to earn a master's degree in economics from UTEP in 1998.

Under the tutelage of Kitchens, both as an athlete and an assistant, Coach Mika — as he is known among his players and staff — understands the philosophy behind Kitchens' strict discipline toward practice and academics.

"I wouldn't say we have the same philosophy, but Coach Kitchens gave me the tools to be a success. It's what he expected out of all of his players," Laaksonen said.

In 2006, Laaksonen coached five Conference USA champions and one NCAA All-American. His expectations for this year's team are

realistic and confident. While the squad will miss last year's Conference USA Female Athlete of the Year and Olympic medalist Blessing Okagbare, Laaksonen still is sure that the winning tradition at UTEP will remain intact.

He pointed to two sprinters for whom he has high expectations.

The first is sophomore nursing major Risper Kimaiyo of Kenya, who was selected as the Conference USA Female Cross Country Athlete of the Year last year, becoming the first freshman in league history to win the award.

Second is junior nursing major Anderson Mutege, also from Kenya. Last year, he was a Conference USA champion in the 200 meter dash, 400 meter dash and 4x400 meter relay.

"We may be lacking in some depth, but not in talent," Laaksonen said. ☑



The Players

"The group is still young, but we have high expectations for all of them ... We may be a different team, but we're still competitive."

Kevin Cross
UTEP Soccer Head Coach



BY JOE VELARDE

PHOTOS BY NIKI RHYNES

Young Soccer Team

Carries the Tradition of Winning

The University of Texas at El Paso's freshman-heavy soccer squad got off to a fast start this season, and part of the success was due to team chemistry and high expectations, said head coach Kevin Cross.

By the middle of October, the Miners had won all but two of their home games (8-2) and had a 10-7 overall record.

Cross, who has led the program for 10 successful years, said the highly touted recruits have blended well with team leaders such as senior midfielder Anoop Josan and sophomore forward Skye Shultz.

The team, which raced out to a 7-2 pre-conference record, employs a high-powered offense and a stingy defense led by senior defender Melissa Desilets.

"I think the team has come together really well," Cross said. "The group is still young, but we have high expectations for all of them."

The squad has garnered national attention during the Cross era for its ability to score and win. From 2002 until the start of the 2010 season, the Miners had scored 428 goals and won 114 times, which placed them tied for 13th in the nation for victories. The University has had the winningest program in Conference USA since it joined the 12-team league in 2005. That same year, the Miners experienced their greatest success in soccer, winning 20 games and reaching the second round of the NCAA tournament. Last year was the team's eighth straight winning season (13-6-1).

"(Our young players) will have a great chance to prove themselves as they compete at the next level," Cross said. "We may be a different team, but we are still competitive."

He referred to the departure of last season's senior standouts Tameka Sumter and Chelsea Winbush.

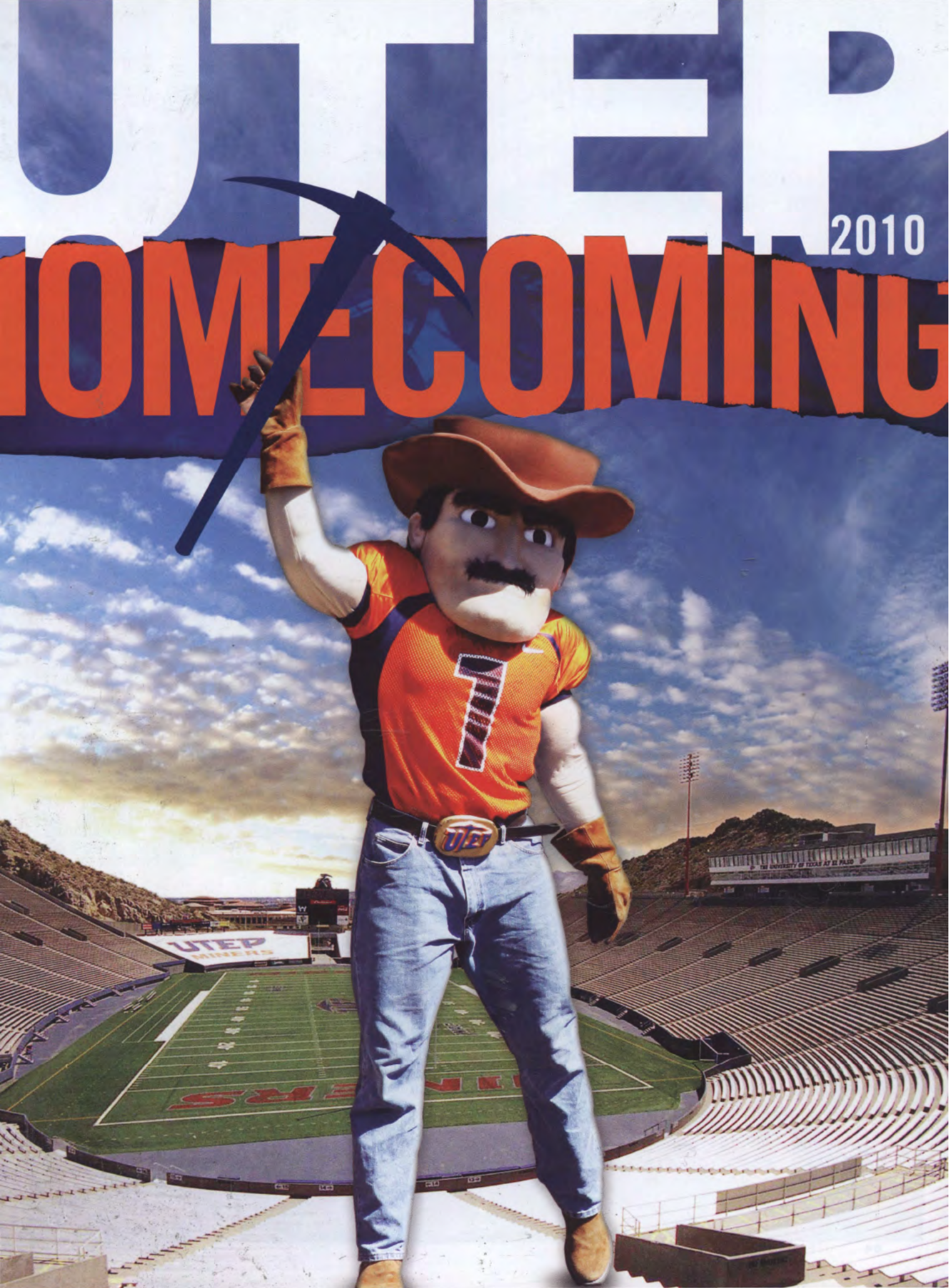
"The new faces are good for the team," said Josan, a nursing major and one of five Canadians on the squad. She redshirted in 2008 to play for Canada in the 2008 FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup.

"They're going to put it all out there like we did when we were freshman," she said. "At the same time, it's going to motivate us to play at our fullest potential." 📌

UTEP

HOME COMING

2010





Homecoming 2010 brought generations of Miners back to campus to celebrate festivities including the annual parade, pep rally and football game. From honored exes to golden grads to today's students and future Miners, the crowds enjoyed the

activities and the big 44-24 win Oct. 9 against Rice University. This year's Homecoming theme was "Around the World," and with UTEP alumni working for companies around the globe, it is easy to imagine that the sun never sets on UTEP. ☑





Former UTEP President Haskell M. Monroe, Ph.D., pictured with his wife Jo, founded the Heritage Commission in 1980.

PHOTO BY LAURA TREJO



UTEP Heritage Commission

PHOTO BY J.R. HERNANDEZ

Thirty Years of Miner Tradition

BY ARLEENE BARRIOS

The evening was filled with stories and memorabilia of The University of Texas at El Paso's past. Each table, clothed in navy blue and orange linen, contained a unique centerpiece that reflected the past 30 years of UTEP. Pages from old black-and-white yearbooks coned each vase of orange and blue flowers.

It was a night to celebrate three decades of work by UTEP's Heritage Commission, a group of 25 retired University staff, faculty and alumni who collect and preserve items that are part of the University's history.

The commission — established Oct. 8, 1980 — celebrated 30 years as "Keepers of Tradition" at a special dinner during this year's Homecoming festivities.

More than 50 current and former members gathered at the Hoover House for the event, which featured former UTEP President Haskell M. Monroe, Ph.D., who founded the Heritage Commission, as the keynote speaker.

Monroe, who lives in College Station, Texas, in 40 minutes summed up his experiences as UTEP's president from 1980-87. He joked and shared his most memorable moments of getting approval for the \$17.3 million library construction and the establishment of the Heritage Commission.

"I'm proud to have been presented with the idea to approve the creation of the Heritage Commission. Please, please keep this going," he told the crowd. "Please, please don't let yourself run out of energy. Please be aware of how grateful (others are) and how useful all of that treasure in that house is."

Jim Peak, a founding Heritage Commission member, said he enjoyed the event.

"It was great to reminisce and to hear the different things that had happened in [Monroe's] life when he was here at the University and all the different accomplishments," Peak said.

Jean Miculka, the longest active member, has been part of the commission since 1987. She said she stays involved because it gives

her a reason "to be on the campus, know what's going on out there and feel a part of it still."

Miculka, former UTEP speech and drama faculty member (1961-85), recalled how the group initially was housed in the Administration Building's basement.

"It was a good room with shelves all the way down the sides. We could put everything we owned down there and show it off," said Miculka, who continues to organize displays at the Heritage House.

But the collection grew and the commission needed more room to display and store its treasures. UTEP President Diana Natalicio saw value in the group's work and decided in 1994 to let them use the Heritage House.

The house, built in 1921, had been home to the first dean of the School of Mines, Stephen H. Worrell, and his wife, Kathleen, who is credited with suggesting the use of Bhutanese architecture on campus. The home continued to be used as the residence of administrators until 1960. It housed various programs until the commission took it over.

The Heritage House is open from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesdays through Fridays or by appointment.

Visitors may be assisted by longtime volunteer and 1954 Texas Western College (now UTEP) graduate Willie Quinn, an unofficial UTEP historian. Quinn, a retired civil engineer, often can be found digging through old yearbooks, student newspapers and documents that reveal additional insights about the University's historic past.

"I probably spend 80 hours a week at home doing research (on UTEP traditions)," Quinn said chuckling.

The tours allow visitors access to old videos and several permanent displays of historic memorabilia, such as old cheerleading and football uniforms. Each item gives guests a unique perspective into a different time, but the displays are created by a group of volunteers whose love for the University never goes out of style. 📸

LEARN MORE

Historical questions about the University and calls to donate University memorabilia can be directed to the commission at heritage@utep.edu or 915-747-5700.



UTEP engineering alumni, from left, Alma Arroyo '02, Troy Guerra '06, Isaac Rodriguez '02, and Juan Cuevas '02, test military vehicles such as the Abrams M1A1 tank and the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles.

Much of the heavy road equipment used in combat by U.S. military personnel around the world is tested for everything from durability to comfort under the harshest conditions possible by a quartet of graduates from The University of Texas at El Paso.

The three mechanical engineers — 2002 graduates Alma Arroyo, Juan Cuevas and Isaac Rodriguez — and electrical engineer Troy Guerra, a 2006 alum, are test officers for the U.S. Army's Test and Evaluation Command stationed at Yuma Proving Ground (YPG), a major 1,300-square-mile range used to assess new products.

Their goal is to ensure that the military receives the systems it ordered, or find ways to improve them. Some of the quartet's recent tests have involved the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles and the mammoth 70-ton Abrams M1A1 tanks. While they occasionally get to maneuver the armored juggernauts, most of their time is spent directing others to put the tanks and vehicles through their paces.

"We try to identify issues that could help the designers improve these vehicles, most of which are bound for (combat zones)," said Rodriguez, who, along with the others, is part of the Combat and Automotive Systems Division.

A good percentage of their time is spent on the more than 200 miles of test courses

throughout the range in the Sonoran Desert, where dust storms are common and temperatures can reach 120 degrees. Grime and sweat are old friends.

The foursome, who have worked at YPG from four to seven years, agreed that the education they received at the University prepared them to think and behave as engineers as they test light, medium and heavy combat and tactical vehicles.

"UTEP helped us mature as professionals," Rodriguez said. "We learned how to work efficiently, how to handle multiple projects at the same time, and how to maintain the accuracy of test data."

Cuevas said the main things he learned at the University that continue to serve him today are the hands-on approach to addressing situations and the importance of developing a team environment where everyone's contribution is encouraged and expected.

That training builds the kind of fluid character needed to succeed in an industry where technological breakthroughs are an everyday occurrence, he said.

"UTEP provided a level of discipline in dealing with problems and developing alternative solutions," he said. "As a team leader for the division, the experience that UTEP provided was essential." ❏

Miner Grads Test Military Vehicles

BY DANIEL PEREZ

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

BY ARLEENE BARRIOS

UTEP graduate Sandra Hatfield Clubb, '87, '89, and her husband, Jeff, began preparing at 3 a.m. for President Barack Obama's 9 a.m.

visit on Sept. 29. National media descended on their lawn shortly thereafter and suited Secret Service personnel arrived before the sun came up.

The President came for a backyard discussion on the challenges faced by the middle class. It was part of Obama's effort to touch base with regular people around the country. About 80 of Hatfield Clubb's neighbors, friends and several elected officials were invited to participate in the event at her Des Moines, Iowa, home.

"It's once in a lifetime that the White House calls you and asks if it's OK that the President comes over," Hatfield Clubb said with excitement.

A week before the President's brief visit, a state representative called her saying the Clubb family's name had been offered up by some of their friends because they met "certain criteria." Their home was among 20 considered by the White House.

The former Miner, who was recognized as the 2009 Gold Nugget from UTEP's College of Health Sciences, is the director of athletics at Drake University in Des Moines. Her husband is a middle school social studies teacher and the couple has two children, Skyelar, 9, and Tristan, 11.

Hatfield Clubb said preparations for Obama's

visit began 45 minutes after she was told they had been selected as the "host family." White House staff members came over to survey the property, take measurements and draw diagrams.

"Our lives went into a whirlwind. They spent about an hour and a half briefing us on what would happen," Hatfield Clubb said. "We tried not to look like we were incredibly shocked."

Organizers gave her 24 hours to compile an invitation list with names, dates of birth and Social Security numbers. It's the same protocol the media follows when coming in close contact with the commander in chief.

That day, White House staff transformed the Clubb family kitchen into a "command center" with laptops and audio boards.

Upon the President's prompt arrival, the Clubbs met privately with him in their living room and talked about being parents, how the Obamas were adjusting to the White House and about sports before he addressed the group.

"The best part of it for me was to have no media filter at all and to hear him talk about his plan for the economy, his plan for health care and his expectations on how those plans will affect positive change," Hatfield Clubb said. "I left the meeting feeling very confident that our country is in good hands and we're headed in the right direction."

Obama fielded questions from the audience after his unscripted speech, and then made his way around the yard to personally greet everyone.

"The most impressive thing for me was how

PHOTO COURTESY OF SANDRA HATFIELD CLUBB



President Barack Obama speaks to about 80 people at the home of Sandra Hatfield Clubb '87, front row left.

genuine he came off. He has a very strong talent to make you feel like you're literally the only person in the room when he talks to you," Hatfield Clubb said.

Less than an hour and a half later, the President was on his way out. The Clubb family took photos with him, which Hatfield Clubb plans to use as this year's holiday greeting card.

Skyelar Clubb gave the President pencil toppers and silly bands for each of his two daughters, and then asked, "How many Secret Service people does it take to get the President to come to our house?"

The Clubb family learned it can be anywhere from 50 to 250 at any given time. On this day, the guests could rest assured they were in the safest place in America. ☑

UTEPALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

Movin' Miners Travel the World

The UTEP Alumni Association offers a number of benefits for alumni and friends who are members, including discounts to the University Bookstore, UTEP Dinner Theatre and athletics games and meets.

Membership also provides opportunities for discounted travel through the Movin' Miners Travel program, such as the luxury "Around the World by Private Jet" trips that include stops in nine countries on four continents, scheduled for January (sold out)

and October 2011 (seats are still available).

In May 2011, the Movin' Miners have arranged a trip to Bhutan that incorporates several monasteries, including the Angkor Wat Temples in Cambodia, and an alumni visit to the Royal Bhutanese University.

The Alumni Association also offers domestic travel packages that accommodate a variety of budgets.

A seven-day Alaskan cruise in July 2011 departs from Seattle, curves through the

Puget Sound and continues on to Glacier Bay and British Columbia. "A New York City Holiday" in November 2011 provides a chance to explore the Big Apple, including the Statue of Liberty, museums and Broadway shows.

Wine country tours and tastings, as well as weekend trips to Las Vegas also are available at discounted prices for Alumni Association members. ☑





Wheel to Succeed:

Roller Derby Empowers UTEP Women

BY DANIEL PEREZ PHOTOS BY NIKI RHYNES

More than a dozen students from The University of Texas at El Paso traded in their textbooks and laptops several times a week for a pair of skates and a deliciously demented persona to be part of roller derby in El Paso.

Those students were among the 80 women — many of them mothers with full-time jobs as lawyers, accountants and nurses — who have renewed interest in this fast, hard-hitting sport whose roots date back to the 1940s.

An article in the June 24, 2008, *USA Today* reported that roller derby “is absolutely, statistically, the fastest-growing sport in the United States.” It stated that there were more than 200 leagues in 2008, compared to a maximum of 60 three years earlier. Such leagues in El Paso are about two years old. Their bouts draw around 2,000 fans.

The UTEP students, whose majors include speech-language pathology, criminal justice, education, chemistry and biological sciences, said they participate to exercise, relieve stress and better focus on academics.

“I fell in love with the sport,” said Gloria Perez, a first-year skater known as Youth Inasia with the Sexecutioners team. She is a junior psychology major with a sociology minor. Her goal is to become a clinical therapist.

The full-time student/part-time waitress said her derby participation was her reward for maintaining a “B” average at school.

Patricia Maese, who is Dr. Oblivion on Las Pistoleras, is a senior biological sciences major. She said her derby participation forced her to become more organized to maintain her 3.5 GPA. To add to the “doctor” persona, her jersey number is 500 mg.

The woman, whose goal is to become a family practice physician, often plays the role of the jammer, where her job is to scoot around the track and earn points by passing her opponents as often as she can during a “jam” that could last up to two minutes.

During a summer bout at the El Paso County Coliseum, the Sexecutioners and Las Pistoleras bumped and battled each other on a flat, oval concrete track about 90 feet long. Victory was based on a skater’s speed, skill, strength, agility and moxie.

In the stands, raucous fans screamed and held up posters of their favorite skaters; whose ages ranged from 21 to 48, as rock music blared from the speakers. The aroma of nacho cheese oozed from the nearby concession stands.

Virginia Montes, a 2009 UTEP psychology graduate, said skating was empowering and motivated her to earn a second bachelor’s in criminal justice. She wants to become a forensic profiler for the FBI.

Montes, who said some of her teammates help her with homework, stressed that roller derby is not about tattoos and fights.

“It’s not a spectacle,” she said. “It’s a real sport.”

In the Stands ...

... Raucous fans screamed and held up posters of their favorite skaters, whose ages ranged from 21 to 48, as rock music blared from the speakers.

Sun City Roller Girls and the El Paso Roller Derby continue to accept participants and volunteers for their 2011 seasons that begin in January and February, respectively. Learn about the league’s matches and activities at www.suncityrollergirls.com and www.elpasollerderby.com.

Cancer Patient Turned Oncologic Administrator

BY DANIEL PÉREZ

Ladawna Adams Leeth has had a successful 23-year career as a nurse and medical administrator, and she credits her time at The University of Texas at El Paso for her understanding of the compassion and diversity of nursing.

The native of Fresno, Calif., who earned her bachelor's in nursing in 1987 from UTEP, was appointed earlier this year as the director of the Cancer Institute of New Jersey Hamilton.

She earned her master's in nursing in 1992 from the University of Pennsylvania and has worked continuously at hospitals in Indiana, Pennsylvania and New Jersey; much of that time has been in oncologic care.

Part of the reason she cares so much for her patients is because she was diagnosed with cancer about 22 years ago. Leeth had thyroid cancer surgery soon after she

graduated from UTEP and said the experience made her a better listener.

"I'm a people person," she said during a phone interview from her office in Hamilton, N.J. "I wanted a career where you touch people's lives."

Among those not surprised by her success is Linda Lawson, chief nursing officer at Sierra Medical Center in El Paso. Lawson, a 1987 UTEP nursing graduate, recalled Leeth as a smart, funny and friendly classmate.

"It always was fun to have her in a group project. She had great insights," Lawson said.

Leeth said she missed the diversity of UTEP and El Paso.

"You had different experiences because of the multiculturalism," she said. "I really miss the Mexican food. I got spoiled when I lived there." 📧

Photo courtesy of the Cancer Institute of New Jersey Hamilton

"I wanted a career where you touch people's lives."

Ladawna Adams Leeth '87

Alum Serves Higher Education in Austin

BY JENN CRAWFORD

Just four years out of college, Dustin Meador already has played a role in supporting his alma mater.

Meador, who graduated from The University of Texas at El Paso in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in political science, worked as an assistant clerk for the Texas House Committee on Higher Education in Austin during the 2009 legislative session. It was during that time that the committee considered, and the governor signed into law, HB51. The bill established methods by which the state's seven emerging national research (Tier One) universities, including UTEP, could qualify for additional funding to help them reach that prestigious status.

"When I interviewed in 2009 for the assistant clerk job, the chairman asked me what I hoped to get out of working for higher education, and I said I wanted to make UTEP a Tier One university," Meador recalled.

In February 2010, Meador was promoted to

chief clerk under the supervision of committee Chairman Dan Branch, R-Dallas. In his new role, Meador prepares for the committee hearings, makes sure they run smoothly and writes committee reports for the Speaker of the House. He also coordinates visits by government officials to schools around the state.

Meador said UTEP's political science department helped prepare him for the creative thinking needed in politics.

"[My UTEP education] made me a well-rounded liberal arts student," he said.

After graduation, Meador worked on a political campaign for a county commissioner election in El Paso. In spring 2007, he started his first job at the capitol as an assistant clerk for the elections committee.

He said he hoped to continue working at the capitol and serving the state in some capacity. 📧



Dustin Meador '06

Photo courtesy of Dustin Meador



PHOTO BY LAURA TREJO

All seven of the Norman children, pictured above, graduated from UTEP. An eighth sibling, Rene Norman, attended the University but died in 2000 before completing his degree. The Normans are, from left: Julio Norman '73, '01; Ignacio Norman '70; Daniel Norman '77; Victor Norman '82; Patricia Norman Brunson '85; Cecilia Norman '86 and David Norman '91.

Family Ties

BY JENN CRAWFORD

Patricia "Patsy" Norman was the Texas State Champion in cross-country and track throughout her years at El Paso High School. By the time she was ready to choose a college, she had been recruited by Stanford, Vanderbilt, Cornell and most universities west of the Pecos River, she said.

But for the El Paso native, the best choice was The University of Texas at El Paso.

"My brothers had gone to UTEP and they were doing well — they had good jobs with good companies, including NASA," said Patricia Brunson, as she is now known.

Brunson, who graduated from UTEP in 1985 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in accounting, is one of seven Norman children to graduate from the University. An eighth child, Rene Norman, also attended UTEP but died in 2000 of an illness before he completed his degree.

Growing up, the family was very close, literally and figuratively, said Brunson's brother Daniel Norman, who owns an insurance business in McAllen, Texas.

"We lived in a three-bedroom house with eight kids, and our parents had their own bedroom," Norman said. As most of the siblings grew up and moved out of El Paso, they

remained close.

Like her siblings, Brunson's College of Business Administration colleagues have settled around the country. Brunson, who now lives in New York, hopes to help develop a network of Miners in Manhattan. It would be one of CoBA's first city-specific alumni chapter councils.

"[Brunson's] energy, enthusiasm, life story, love of UTEP and the CoBA ... were my first impressions," said College of Business Administration Dean Robert Nachtmann, D.B.A. "She was to me the representative CoBA graduate."

Brunson envisions that the New York alumni council of UTEP's CoBA chapter will get together for social and networking events and serve as a support system for students and recent alums who come to the city.

"As UTEP people, we share a common beginning, and that's super important to me," she said. "UTEP gives you every tool that the best universities elsewhere also give you, and it's up to you to continue to master your skills so that you can achieve your greatest career expectations. It doesn't matter where you come from, but what you come with, and who you touch along the way." ❏



Patrick Perez '06

UTEP Alumnus Uses Break Dancing to Inspire Teens

BY CHRIS LECHUGA

While twisting and turning his body to dance and hip-hop music, Patrick Perez seems like a typical street dancer. What is different about Perez, a 2006 graduate from The University of Texas at El Paso, is that his stage is usually a school gymnasium or auditorium and his message is used to motivate youth.

"Reaching out to teenagers is a passion of mine, but in all it's just fun," Perez said. "I want those kids to know [that] you don't have to be the smartest or the strongest, you just need to be who you were created to be and make choices that will help you get to where you want to be in life."

While a UTEP student, Perez teamed up with other dancers on campus and created Lead Encourage And Dance (LEAD), an organization that used break dancing to encourage other students and youth to make smart choices.

"LEAD was a group of us who didn't just want to break dance, but wanted to use the break dancing to reach out to teenagers," Perez said.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in communication studies, Perez was reluctant to give up dancing in order to work in a 9-to-5 job. He turned down two job offers and decided to turn his passion into a business.

Perez has performed in 27 states, has a continuing video series on YouTube and is set to release a book titled *Mad Skills for Student Success*. ❏

'30s

Mona H. Loper (*) was posthumously inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame in April. Loper, a retired UTEP assistant professor who passed away in 2006, was president of the El Paso Women's Bowling Association for 37 years and a delegate to the Women's International Bowling Congress Committee for 36 years.

'50s

Dr. Laurence N. Nickey (B.S. '51) of El Paso received the League of United Latin American Citizens Project Amistad's Lucy G. Acosta Humanitarian in April for his influence on health care in the border region. Nickey, a retired executive director of the former City-County Health and Environmental District, is a trustee of the Texas Medical Association Foundation and a 2010 College of Science Gold Nugget Award recipient.

Donald S. "Don" Henderson (B.B.A. '56) was presented the UTEP Intercollegiate Athletics' Silver Anniversary Miner Award at the Dinner with the Miners banquet in April. The award recognizes an individual who had a distinguished college athletic career and has continued to contribute to UTEP and the El Paso community. Henderson, a resident and former mayor of El Paso, was honored as UTEP's Distinguished Alumnus in 1980.

'60s

Maria G. "Guadalupe" Arizpe de la Vega (*) of El Paso received the Lucy G. Acosta Humanitarian Award from LULAC Project Amistad in April for her contributions to improving the health and welfare of Juárez residents. De la Vega is the founder, former president and current vice president of the Mexican Federation of Private Health and Community Development, a nonprofit foundation dedicated to helping raise the quality of life among people living in poverty.

Henry T. Ingle (B.A. '65), a retired UTEP faculty member and resident of San Diego, received the Distance Learning in Higher Education Award from the American

Association of Hispanics in Higher Education in March. Ingle, vice chancellor of instructional service and technology for the San Diego Community College District, was recognized for his work in the field of distance learning that impacts Latino students in higher education.

David H. Lindau (B.A. '61), president of Lauterbach Financial Advisors in El Paso, was recognized in March by the National Financial Planning Association for his 25 years of service as a certified financial planner.

M. Susana Navarro (B.A. '68), executive director of the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence, was elected vice chair of the Paso del Norte Health Foundation in May.

Jose L. Rodarte (B.S.C.E. '65), vice president at the engineering firm of Huitt-Zollars in El Paso, was awarded the Engineer of the Year award in March by the Texas Society of Professional Engineers.

Charles R. "Charlie"

West (B.B.A. '68) was inducted into the UTEP Athletic Hall of Fame in November. West, who played football at UTEP, played 11 seasons in the NFL and in Super Bowl IV with the Minnesota Vikings. He resides in Minneapolis.

Frances H. McNabb

Wever (B.S.Ed. '64), retired president of the El Paso Federation of Teachers and Support Personnel, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the El Paso Central Labor Union in September 2009.

'70s

Benjamin F. "Benny" Brooks Jr. (B.A. '71), a long-time high school track coach in El Paso, was elected into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame in April. Brooks coached two state cross country championship teams, one All-American girls team, two state bronze medal teams, a state semifinalist team and seven regional and 12 district championships teams.

Irene Chavez (B.A. '79) was inducted into the El Paso Commission for Women's Hall

of Fame in April. Chavez is chief executive officer of El Paso Specialty Hospital.

John F. Cook (B.B.A. '77), mayor of El Paso, and his wife, Tram, have established the Feeding the Nation's Homeless Foundation to help feed the hungry locally and nationally. Proceeds from the sale of Cook's new Señor John's barbeque sauces will benefit the foundation.

Fermin Dorado (B.S.C.E. '70; M.S. '78), founder of Dorado Engineering Inc., was elected in May to the El Paso Employees Federal Credit Union board of directors.

Eduardo A. Gamboa (B.S. '72; M.Ed. '76), the judge for El Paso County's Statutory Probate Court No. 2, was named Public Officer of the Year in April by the El Paso branch of the National Association of Social Workers.

Leonard A. "Tripper"

Goodman III (*), president and chief executive officer of Goodman Financial Group, was elected in April to serve as vice chairman of the United Way of El Paso County's board of directors.

Gary R. Hedrick (B.B.A. '77; M.B.A. '82), an adjunct professor of corporate enterprise at UTEP, was elected chair-elect of the United Way of El Paso County board of directors in April. Hedrick received UTEP's College of Business Administration Gold Nugget Award in 2004.

Robert A. "Bob" Malone (B.S.Met.E. '74) was re-elected in May to the board of directors for Peabody Energy, the world's largest private-sector coal company. Malone, a resident of Sonora, Texas, received UTEP's College of Engineering Gold Nugget Award in 2002 and Distinguished Alumni Award in 2003.

Antonio Martinez Jr. (B.S. '78), a partner at the El Paso law firm of Firth, Johnson, Martinez, was appointed to the ReadyOne Industries board of directors in April. ReadyOne provides employment opportunities, mentoring and vocational training to individuals with severe disabilities.

Leon C. Metz (*), an El Paso author and historian, was awarded the Ruth Lester Lifetime Achievement Award by the Texas Historical Commission for his long-time commitment to historic preservation.

Robert M. Muñoz (B.S. '77), vice president for Continuing Education Services at the Trinity River Campus of Tarrant County College in Fort Worth, Texas, was elected in May to serve a two-year term as the chair of the Central Area Council of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce.

Adam Nieto Jr. (B.A. '71), owner of Native Contractors Inc., received the SBA 8(a) Business Development Program Graduate of the Year Award from the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in November 2009.

Felipe D. Peralta (B.S.Ed. '71), of El Paso, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the El Paso branch of the National Association of Social Workers in April for his contributions as a social worker and social work educator in the Paso del Norte region. Peralta is an associate professor of social work at New Mexico State University and a visiting associate professor with the Department of Social Work in UTEP's College of Health Sciences.

Ernest B. "Barnard" Polk (B.S. '77) was inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame in April. Polk has been a member of the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame board for 22 years, serving as president, vice president, secretary, historian and parliamentarian.

Cynthia J. "Cindy" Ramos-Davidson (*), president and chief executive officer of the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, was recognized in September 2009, for the second consecutive year, as National Chief Executive of the Year by the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. She was re-elected in February as chairman pro tem of the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, El Paso Branch.

Cynthia D. Rivera (B.S. '76) in January was presented the Visiting Nurse Association of El Paso's 2009 General James H. Polk Award for Community Service. Rivera, who is chief of staff for the El Paso Veterans Affairs Health Care System, was recognized for exemplifying a spirit and vision of service to others.

Lt. Col. Craig L. Schneider (B.A. '79) was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve effective August 2009. A member of the Texas National Guard, Schneider is serving a tour of duty in Iraq on the staff of the 36th Sustainment Brigade.

Jacquelyn "Jacque"

Spier (B.A. '75; M.A. '79), an El Paso poet, and two other El Paso women have created a book of poems and paintings called *Yes, We Are Still Dancing*.

Linda P. Thurston (M.A. '75) is assistant dean of Kansas State University's College of Education and director of the Office of Educational Innovation and Evaluation. In September, Thurston was appointed program director for the National Science Foundation's Research in Disabilities Education Program, Division of Human Resources Development, Directorate for Education and Human Resources in Washington, D.C.

Ignacio Urrabazo Jr. (B.B.A. '70), president and chief executive officer of Commerce Bank of Laredo, Texas, was appointed to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. Advisory Committee on Community Banking in September 2009.

Juan M. Villalobos (B.S.C.E. '75) and his wife, Patricia "Pat" Villalobos (*), are vice president and president, respectively, of Barnhart-Taylor Inc. Their company, which manufactures air handling products and sheet metal works, was recognized by the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in November 2009 as Minority Supplier of the Year. In October 2009, Pat Villalobos was appointed chairwoman of the Workforce Solutions Upper Rio Grande board of directors and in March was elected to

the National Association of Workforce Boards.

John R. Wedel (M.Ed. '75), a former UTEP track athlete, was inducted into the UTEP Athletic Hall of Fame in November 2009. Wedel, a financial planner at Lincoln Financial Advisors in El Paso, is a former track coach for UTEP, where he led several national championship teams and coached dozens of All-Americans, nine individual national champions and 11 Olympians.

Roxanne Weisendanger (B.S.N. '78; M.B.A. '05) in February was named assistant chief nursing officer at Del Sol Medical Center in El Paso.

Richard S. Westbrook (B.S. '70), an orthopedic surgeon at El Paso Specialty Hospital, was recognized by Texas Monthly as a 2009 Super Doctor in February.

'80s

Renato J. Aguilera (B.S. '81; M.S. '82), professor and director of the biological sciences graduate program at UTEP, was awarded the William A. Hinton Research Training Award by the American Society for Microbiology in May for his contributions to the research training of underrepresented minorities in the field of microbiology.

Janice D. Alvidrez (B.B.A. '81) was named vice president of loan review at Bank of the West in El Paso in April.

Victor Ayala Jr. (B.A. '84) was promoted in April to director of employee relations and human resources for American Express in New York City. In that position, Ayala will support the northeast region of the United States for the company.

David G. Bradford (B.B.A. '81), who is retired from the Defense Commissary Agency of the Department of Defense, manages a small farm operation in Dinwiddie, Va.

Sergio E. Carrasco (B.S. '85) was named executive director for the Rio Grande Valley United Blood Services in El Paso in April.

George Espinosa (B.S. '83) in April was hired as safety and loss control manager at JDW Insurance Co. in El Paso.

Jodi L. Gillett (*) was hired as community relations representative in the admissions department for Hospice of El Paso in April.

Cynthia F. "Cindy"

Lyons (B.B.A. '80), a public accountant and shareholder of Lauterbach, Borschow and Co. in El Paso, was reappointed to the Finance Commission of Texas by Gov. Rick Perry in April. In May, Lyons was named board chair for the Paso del Norte Health Foundation.

Julian Martinez (B.S.E.E. '89) in March accepted the position of academic programs director for the Level Playing Field Institute in San Francisco. LPFI is a nonprofit organization that provides resources to help students gain fairness in higher education and workplaces despite racial, cultural and socioeconomic differences.

Carolyn L. Mora (B.B.A. '84), owner of Carolyn L. Mora, CPA, PC, in El Paso, was elected in May to the Paso del Norte Health Foundation's board of directors.

Eva M. Moya (B.S.W. '81), of El Paso, was appointed in March by Texas Gov. Rick Perry to the state's Health Disparities Task Force. The task force develops recommendations to eliminate health and health access disparities among multicultural, disadvantaged and regional populations in Texas.

Rene Ordoñez (B.A. '84), of El Paso, was elected president of the El Paso Probate Bar Association in May. Ordoñez is a partner at the law firm of Blanco, Ordoñez & Wallace P.C.

Charles E. "Charlie" Palafox (*), a cameraman for Lightstorm Entertainment in Santa Monica, Calif., was the behind-the-scenes cameraman for *Avatar*. The film was nominated for nine Oscars, including Best Picture, and won the awards for Best Cinematography, Visual Effects and Art Director.

Pamela M. Perez (B.A. '84; M.S. '85), program director for El Paso Mental Health Mental Retardation's Elinor Zind Early Childhood Intervention program, was elected chair of the Texas Early Childhood Intervention Advisory Committee in February.

Arthur J. Pyron (M.S. '80) in March was named to the advisory board of Dallas-based Mesa Energy Holdings Inc., an oil and gas exploration and production company. Pyron is a petroleum geologist and owner of Pyron Consulting in Pottstown, Pa.

Thomas R. "Tom" Work (M.Ed. '85) was inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame in April. Work's career as a high school football coach spanned 30 years with the Ysleta Independent School District. During his 15 years as Riverside High School's head coach, his teams won nine district championships, 10 bi-district championships and two consecutive area championships. Also under his leadership, the Riverside Rangers recorded four undefeated regular seasons.

'90s

Yolanda G. "Yolie" Diaz (B.B.A. '92), president and owner of Mirador Enterprises, a landscaping and ground services company, was recognized in May as the El Paso District Office of the Small Business Administration's regional Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year for 2010.

Ruben Estrada (B.S.M.E. '95), a facilities category global supply management manager for auto parts maker Delphi Automotive in El Paso, was appointed to the board of directors for the Southwest Minority Supplier Development Council in May.

Alonso X. Garcia (B.B.A. '96) and his wife, Patricia, in November 2009 opened the first Yogen Früz store in El Paso. Yogen Früz is an international chain of frozen yogurt and smoothie stores.

Enrique García (B.B.A. '95; M.B.A. '01), an immigration and personal injury attorney, is a partner at Garcia & Rebe Law Firm PLLC in El Paso.

Norma Aviña García (B.B.A. '95) is a language specialist for the United States Department of Justice, Immigration Court, in El Paso.

Oscar F. Ibañez Hernández (M.S.C.E. '91) is the chief advisor to the general director of the Comisión Nacional del Agua (National Water Commission) in Mexico City, Mexico.

Renard U. Johnson (B.B.A. '95), president and chief executive officer of Management and Engineering Technologies International Inc., also known as METI, was elected to the United Way of El Paso County Board of Directors in April.

Keri L. Moe (B.A. '99; M.A. '03), an assistant professor of communication at El Paso Community College, received the New Member Achievement Award from the Texas Public Relations Association in March. Moe is the immediate past president and founding member of the Public Relations Association of the Southwest.

Daniel Ordoñez (B.A. '96) joined the El Paso law firm Blanco Ordoñez & Wallace P.C. as of counsel in November 2009.

Rita Placencia (B.S.W. '95), of El Paso, is a special education teacher at Sunland Park Elementary School in Sunland Park, N.M.

Michael Ramirez (B.S.C.E. '99), of El Paso, in September 2009 was promoted to corporate associate at the engineering and architectural firm Parkhill, Smith & Cooper Inc.

Ginger J. Piñeda Raya (B.A. '99; M.P.A. '03), a clinical administrator at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Paul L. Foster School of Medicine in El Paso, was appointed to the board of directors for *Latinitas Magazine*. *Latinitas* is a nonprofit bilingual webzine focused on empowering Latina youth with the confidence and knowledge to become successful adults.

Maricela Rodriguez (B.S.N. '94), a registered nurse, was recognized in May by the Ysleta Independent

School District for her volunteer work in the district's high schools, where she teaches prenatal classes.

Stephanie A. Schulte (B.S.N. '99; M.S.N. '07) received the DAISY Foundation's DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses in February. DAISY Award recipients are selected by nurse administrators, peers, physicians, patients and families. In March, Schulte was appointed by Texas Gov. Rick Perry to serve on the Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Council, which advises the institute on the impact of crime on victims, relatives, guardians and society. Schulte is a charge nurse for the intensive care unit at Sierra Medical Center in El Paso.

Andrew E. Sobioch (B.S.E.E. '92) was hired in May as a level II engineer for El Paso's Huntleigh Technology Group, an information and telecommunications technology company.

David L. Telas (B.I.S. '95) was named the head football coach for Horizon High School in Horizon City, Texas, in April.

David A. Veloz (B.B.A. '95), of El Paso, was named executive director of United Blood Services National Customer Contact Center in April. He will oversee El Paso and Tempe, Ariz., operations.

Sean C. White (B.A. '99) was named a partner at Kemp Smith law firm in March. White practices in the litigation department at the El Paso firm.

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Salvador Borrego Jr. (B.S.C.E. '08) was promoted in May to project specialist at Professional Service Industries Inc. in El Paso. PSI is an engineering, scientific, technical and management solutions firm.

Natalia Medina Coggins (B.A. '00), a resident of Albuquerque, N.M., is the lead author of a book titled *I'm Not on a Diet: Culture, Health and Healing*. Coggins' husband, Kip, is the co-author.

Bernardo M. "Bernie" del Hierro (B.A. '02),

director of communication at the real estate investment company TVO North America in El Paso, earned his property management financial proficiency certificate in May.

Rita Gomez (B.I.S. '00; M.Ed. '05), a Canutillo [Texas] Middle School teacher, in April was named Outstanding English as a Second Language Teacher of the Year by Bilingual Educators Emphasizing and Mastering Standards.

Christopher C. Hartfield (B.B.A. '09) was hired in April by El Paso's Licon Engineering Co. Inc. as a marketing and business development manager.

Miguel Angel Hidalgo (a.k.a. M. Argelio Hidalgo) (*), an El Paso couture fashion designer, unveiled his new clothing line, Arcielago, at a local fashion show in May.

Elizabeth Hill (B.S.E.E. '06), of El Paso, was named in March to the advisory board for El Paso credit union GECU. Hill is a test officer for the White Sands Missile Range Material Test Directorate and is in charge of the Joint Air-to-Ground Missile program.

Natasha Lacy (B.M.S. '07), of Fort Worth, Texas, was invited in April to attend a training camp with the Tulsa Shock of the Women's National Basketball Association.

Andrew J. Leal (B.A. '03) contributed to the book *Kermit Culture: Critical Perspectives on Jim Henson's Muppets*, published in May 2009.

Jennifer L. Love (B.S. '07) graduated in May with a Master of Arts degree in Intercultural Ministries from the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary in Springfield, Mo.

Janet P. Lynch (M.M. '03), of El Paso, is Montwood Middle School's band director.

Jessica K. Margherio-Alvarez (B.B.A. '02) was promoted in April to vice president for commercial lending at United Bank of El Paso del Norte.

Rosemarie C. Montez (B.A. '09) in March joined Varay Systems, an information technology solutions company in El Paso, as a client services assistant.

Steffen P. Poessiger (B.A. '01) was promoted in April to vice president, director of client services, at Mithoff Burton Partners in El Paso. He also serves as chair of the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce Marketing Committee.

Lina Sena (B.B.A. '01), an accountant with the El Paso accounting firm of Brock Veytia & Co., was elected secretary of the El Paso Probate Bar Association in May.

Stacie K. Townsend (B.B.A. '09), a Miner softball team athlete and a graduate student pursuing an M.B.A. at UTEP, received the UTEP Intercollegiate Athletics Department's Golden Miner Award in April as UTEP's career leader in several batting and pitching categories. Townsend was honored as the National Fastpitch Coaches Association/Louisville Slugger Division I National Player of the Week in February. In May, Townsend was named to the 2010 *ESPN The Magazine's* Academic All-America Softball first team.

Gloria S. "Stephanie" Townsend-Allala (B.A. '00), a partner at the El Paso law firm of Hammond Townsend Allala PLLC, was elected in May to serve as a director for the El Paso Probate Bar Association.

Eric J. Weaver (B.M. '01), a golf coach and choir teacher at Address High School in El Paso, was one of the finalists of the Golf Digest U.S. Open Challenge selected for a chance to play golf at Pebble Beach Golf Links in Pebble Beach, Calif., a week before the U.S. Open Championship in June.

(* denotes attendance at UTEP)

IN MEMORIAM

Phyllis Farquhar Seabrook (B.A. '45) Charlestown, S.C.; Jan. 28, 2009.

Joseph Kenneth DeMore (M.Ed. '84) El Paso; Feb. 18, 2009.

Anthony Edmund Tejeda (*) El Paso; Feb. 26, 2009.

Muwaffaq A. "Mafak" Sarafa (B.S. '57) Burke, Va.; May 2, 2009.

Olga Y. "Yadira" Pendergrass (*) El Paso; Aug. 26, 2009.

Alice Spencer Hardin (B.A. '53) Redwood City, Calif.; Nov. 6, 2009.

George J. Solorzano (B.S.E.E. '71; M.S.E.E. '76) Overland Park, Kan.; Jan. 28, 2010.

Gladys J. "Joy" Moore Vishny (B.S.Ed. '63) Gilbert, Ariz.; Feb. 7, 2010.

Jocelyn Jean Bowden (B.A. '48; M.A. '52) Bronte, Texas; Feb. 18, 2010.

Norma J. Hinojos (B.I.S. '00) Fort Hancock, Texas; March 1, 2010.

Rogelio Carrillo (*) El Paso; March 2, 2010.

Barbara Luettich Collins (B.A. '51) El Paso; March 4, 2010.

Mary Katherine Britton (B.S.Ed. '68) Clint, Texas; March 6, 2010.

Gary Edward Barnes (*) El Paso; March 8, 2010.

Betty Ann Frank Grounds (*) El Paso; March 9, 2010.

Ross W. Snyder (B.S.Ed. '63; M.Ed. '72) Pecos, N.M.; March 12, 2010.

Warrant Officer Michaels John Harris (B.B.A. '78) El Paso; March 14, 2010.

Dorothy Ruth "Dot" "Brandy" Johnstone (M.Ed. '67) La Luz, N.M.; March 14, 2010.

Patricia "Pat" McCallick (B.A. '61) Ventura, Calif.; March 14, 2010.

Marta V. House (B.A. '51) El Paso; March 16, 2010.

Paul Gilbert "Gil" Desha (B.A. '54) Mansfield, Texas; March 19, 2010.

Gwendolyn H. Lawrence (B.S.Ed. '62; M.Ed. '67) Granbury, Texas; March 20, 2010.

Fabiola Rubio (B.B.A. '79) El Paso; March 20, 2010.

Irving Lee Snider (B.S. '47) Houston; March 21, 2010.

George Lewis Grounds (B.A. '50; M.A. '51) Abilene, Texas; March 22, 2010.

Travis Gaylon Gover (B.S. '50) Whitehouse, Texas; March 24, 2010.

Lucius A. Casillas (B.A. '53) El Paso; March 29, 2010.

Donald M. Van Doren Sr. (B.S.Mi. '43) Alamogordo, N.M.; April 1, 2010.

Ruben Alberto Ruiz (B.S.Ed. '80) El Paso; April 2, 2010.

Larry S. Boaz (B.B.A. '73) El Paso; April 5, 2010.

Blanche Abraham Wagner (M.Ed. '71) Mesa, Ariz.; April 5, 2010.

Stephen Harlan Scott (M.S.C.E. '70) Albuquerque, N.M.; April 6, 2010.

Robert Lynn Reid (B.A. '46) Waco, Texas; April 8, 2010.

Nepomuceno "Napoleon" Monarez (B.M.S. '07) El Paso; April 9, 2010.

Daniel Joseph Carroll (*) El Paso; April 10, 2010.

Thomas M. De La Cruz (B.A. '84; M.Ed. '97) El Paso; April 10, 2010.

Susan Rose Spence (B.A. '71; M.Ed. '94) El Paso; April 11, 2010.

Kenneth Charles Reyes (B.S. '75; B.S.E.E. '83) Dallas, Texas; April 13, 2010.

Sgt. 1st Class Carl Edmund Payne Jr. (B.S.C.E. '70; M.S.C.E. '72) El Paso; April 14, 2010.

Nancy Walker Schaffer (B.B.A. '86) El Paso; April 15, 2010.

Mary Florence Matthews Shaw (B.S.Ed. '71) El Paso; April 15, 2010.

Thomas P. Webb (B.S. '48) Amarillo, Texas; April 16, 2010.

Marjorie Sibley Horne (*) Charlottesville, Va.; April 17, 2010.

Shirley Jo Lewis Feedback (B.A. '63) Harrisonville, Mo. April 18, 2010.

Stephen Leigh Howell (B.A. '73) Santa Fe, N.M.; April 18, 2010.

Louise N. Parks (B.A. '55) El Paso; April 18, 2010.

Jerome T. "Jerry" Hanners (B.S.Mi. '52) Lovington, N.M.; April 22, 2010.

Col. Robert John Michela (M.S. '72) Potomac Falls, Va.; April 22, 2010.

Victor Robert Arditti (B.A. '58) El Paso; April 23, 2010.

John T. "Terry" Griffing (*) Rocky Ford, Colo.; April 23, 2010.

Bobby L. "Bob" Harper (*) El Paso; April 25, 2010.

David Cale Johnson (*) New York City; April 25, 2010.

Lt. Col. Vincent W. Metz (B.A. '77) El Paso; April 26, 2010.

Ralph Stephen Lowe (B.S. '68) El Paso; May 1, 2010.

Jose Reyes Silva (B.A. '43) Pleasant Hill, Calif.; May 3, 2010.

Richard Emil Santelli (M.Ed. '69) El Paso; May 4, 2010.

Lt. Col. William L. "Dub" Ponder Jr. (B.B.A. '79) El Paso; May 7, 2010.

David Porter Price (*) Las Cruces, N.M.; May 10, 2010.

Mary Ann Hutchison (B.S.Ed. '69) El Paso; May 11, 2010.

John Filmore Swisher Jr. (*) Greeley, Colo.; May 12, 2010.

James Harmon Reardon Jr. (*) El Paso; May 13, 2010.

Irene Mary McKinney Prescott (*) San Antonio; May 14, 2010.

Robert Donald Edmond (B.A. '51) El Paso; May 17, 2010.

William Jabalie (B.B.A. '52) El Paso; May 17, 2010.

Jorge Pedro Gonzalez Quintero (*) Ciudad Juárez, Mexico; May 23, 2010.

Alejandro Ruiz Salazar (*) Ciudad Juárez, Mexico; May 23, 2010.

Gloria Mae Tourk (B.S.Ed. '62; M.Ed. '65) Lewisville, Texas; May 24, 2010.

Thomas Franklin Enger (B.A. '80) El Paso; May 29, 2010.

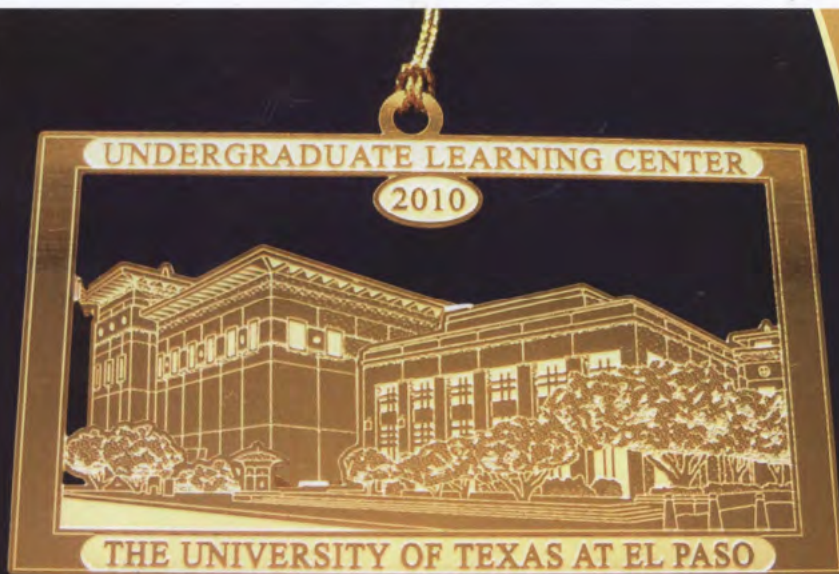
(*) Denotes attendance at UTEP.



To submit information to the AlumNotes or In Memoriam sections of *UTEP Magazine*, please contact:

AlumNotes
University Development Office
Kelly Hall, 7th Floor
500 W. University Ave.
El Paso, TX 79968-0524
 or via e-mail at alumni@utep.edu

To offer a story idea, ask a question or make a comment about the magazine, please contact **University Communications at 915-747-5526 or univcomm@utep.edu.**



Since 2001, the UTEP Alumni Association has created a series of high-quality collectibles celebrating the unique images and tradition of Bhutanese architecture throughout our campus. This year's beautifully etched brass ornament is housed in a royal blue box with a custom, gold-stamped image and an insert on the building's history.

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Featuring the Undergraduate Learning Center



Get Involved and Show Your Miner Pride

The Miner Nation is composed of UTEP alumni all around the world. With active alumni chapters in all major cities in Texas, and emerging chapters in places such as Phoenix, New York, Washington, D.C. and San Jose, Calif., it is easier than ever to stay connected with The University of Texas at El Paso.

Each UTEP college and school is working toward establishing its own chapter, following the College of Engineering's example.

However, a successful chapter needs a network of volunteers in order to stay active and relevant. The UTEP Alumni Association is asking alumni to consider becoming involved in their region or with their college.

Alumni who manage a Facebook page, watch Miner athletics with their friends or just want to connect with other Miners but do not have alumni chapters in their areas can contact the Office of Alumni Relations to learn more about meeting with or becoming

an Official Miner Contact.

Volunteering with the UTEP Alumni Association can expand your social circle, create networking opportunities, provide a way to support and give back to your alma mater, or be a fun opportunity to help others. Behind the scenes help also is needed — coordinating e-mail broadcasts, updating Facebook pages and organizing photos, for instance.

The first step is to log in to the UTEP Alumni Association's new website at alumni.utep.edu, update your alumni profile, find events and get in touch with a nearby alumni chapter.



BE A PART OF THE MINER NATION

JOIN THE UTEP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION and help us reach our goal of 5,000 members by December 2010

- Card-carrying members enjoy numerous benefits
- Membership dues provide scholarships and support programs

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