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Centennial Newsletter

UTEP Centennial Office

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The Countdown Has Begun

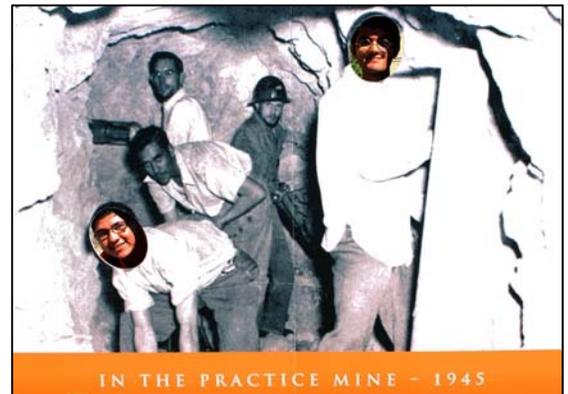


The countdown to UTEP's Centennial year kicked off on September 23, led by UTEP President Diana Natalicio, Vice President for Student Affairs Gary Edens, and Student Government Association President Paulina Lopez. Hundreds of UTEP students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends attended the event which included free food, entertainment, and giveaways. Before the event, the mysterious "big black box" in front of the Centennial Museum gave way to a large gift, wrapped in orange. During the event, GECU CEO Crystal Long helped open the gift from her institution—a Bhutanese-style structure with a digital flat screen featuring a clock that will count down to 2014. After the unveiling, the crowd witnessed the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Welcome Center inside the Centennial Museum.

The Welcome Center will serve as the official headquarters for UTEP's Centennial Celebration throughout 2014, featuring a permanent exhibit on UTEP's history, rotating exhibits on topics including UTEP athletics and Chicano history, and a gift shop stocked with new Centennial items. In 2014, the museum will host a Centennial photo contest to exhibit the work of students, alumni, and the public. "We're really proud to showcase UTEP, and the fact that we can be a part of this celebration is very exciting," said Centennial Museum Director Maribel Villalva. Both curated and self-guided walking tours of the campus will be offered from the museum lobby. A 40-seat theater will screen a variety of UTEP-themed videos, including Centennial interviews with faculty, staff, alumni and other university partners.

GECU Celebrates UTEP Centennial

GECU, the largest locally owned credit union in El Paso, teamed up with UTEP for the Centennial Celebration. The credit union donated the digital screen installed in front of the Centennial Museum that is counting down the days, hours and minutes until 2014 – UTEP's Centennial Year. Employees will wear orange on Fridays and light up branch buildings at night. GECU also provided the life-sized interactive cutouts on display at the kickoff and around campus.



Countdown Kickoff – September 23, 2013



Alumni (l-r): Alicia De Jong Davis, Dr. Lola Dawkins, Marjorie Boswell, Alice Coleman, Ellen Ramsey, Lynn Polk, Barnard Polk



Students (l-r): Melissa Sanchez and Omar Khalik



A student flash mob entertained the crowd.



Ribbon cutting (l-r): Maribel Villalva, Keith Erekson, Crystal Long, Paydirt Pete, Diana Natalicio, Paulina Lopez.



The band played and chorale sang.

Centennial Wine



The UTEP Alumni Association is celebrating the Centennial by partnering with the Miner Winery of Napa Valley, California.

The Miner Winery has created the UTEP Centennial Wine, in a vintage red and a Chardonnay, exclusively for the Centennial Celebration.

[Order Here](#)



Inside the exhibit – Paydirt Pete’s history, access to excellence, Glory Road, and more.

Contact the Centennial Office

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The University of Texas at El Paso