

Winter 1999

# Nova Quarterly: The University of Texas at El Paso

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WINTER 1999

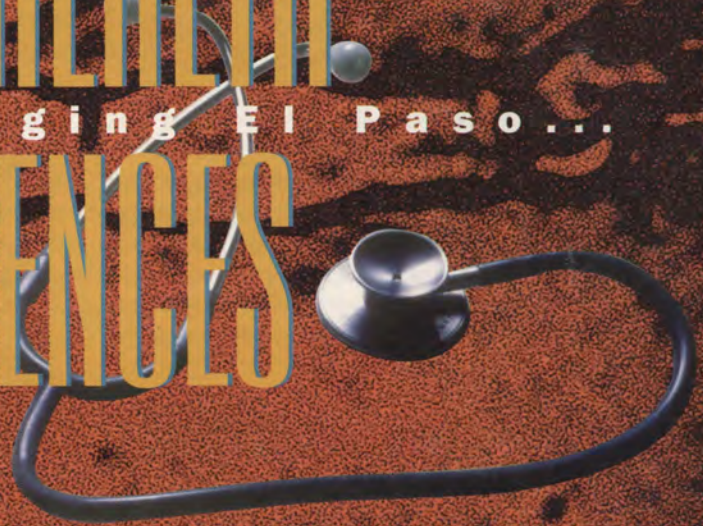
# NOVA

Q U A R T E R L Y  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

## COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Changing Names...

Changing El Paso...

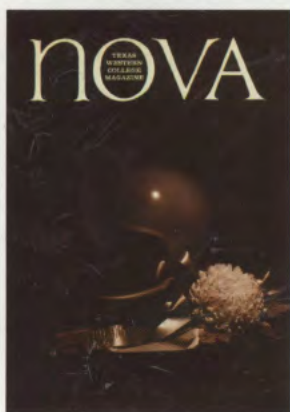




## Putting First Things First

Often, the ability to focus in any given situation is the difference between success and failure. Professional athletes refer to it as “being in the zone.” Executives call it prioritizing. Stephen Covey, in the *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, refers to it as “putting first things first.”

I tend to lean toward Covey’s version. Why? Because it defines what I believe to be the most important ideal in publishing — identify the core reason a publication was created and fulfill that mission above all else.



In the beginning, *NOVA* was created as a vehicle to “simply spread the good news about UTEP” to you, our reader. But many things have changed since our first issue in 1965. Students’ lives move a bit faster, business and computing change at a moment’s notice and the issues facing institutions of higher learning have become increasingly complex.

As the new director of the News and Publications Office and editor of *NOVA*, I began to search for a new focus for the magazine — one that would bring our readers closer to UTEP — closer to its challenges and achievements.

The one thing that struck me as most important to fulfilling the mission of *NOVA* was concentrating on stories that helped you understand the mission of our university.

UTEP is here to provide opportunities through higher education to the people of this region — an education that creates business leaders, award-winning writers, healthcare providers, educators, scientists and engineers who will, quite literally, change the face of our nation.

I hope as you read about our newly renamed College of Health Sciences on page 4, and as you learn more about the university’s accomplishments in President Diana Natalicio’s Convocation speech on page 14, that you will discover what I have discovered. By putting first things first, UTEP has become a dynamic force — changing the lives of people throughout El Paso, the Southwest and the United States.

Michael Ross  
Editor





# NOVA

Q U A R T E R L Y  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

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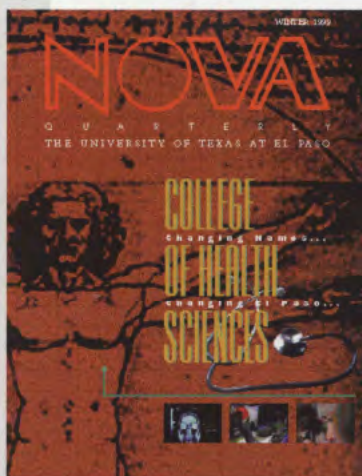
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*UTEP has expanded its role to become an important player in the area of health professions education. To reflect this expansion, the university has changed the name of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences to the College of Health Sciences — an academic setting where students are trained in a binational setting to address the healthcare needs of the border environment. (See page 4)*

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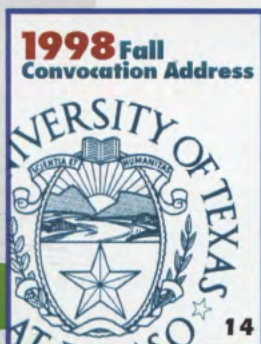
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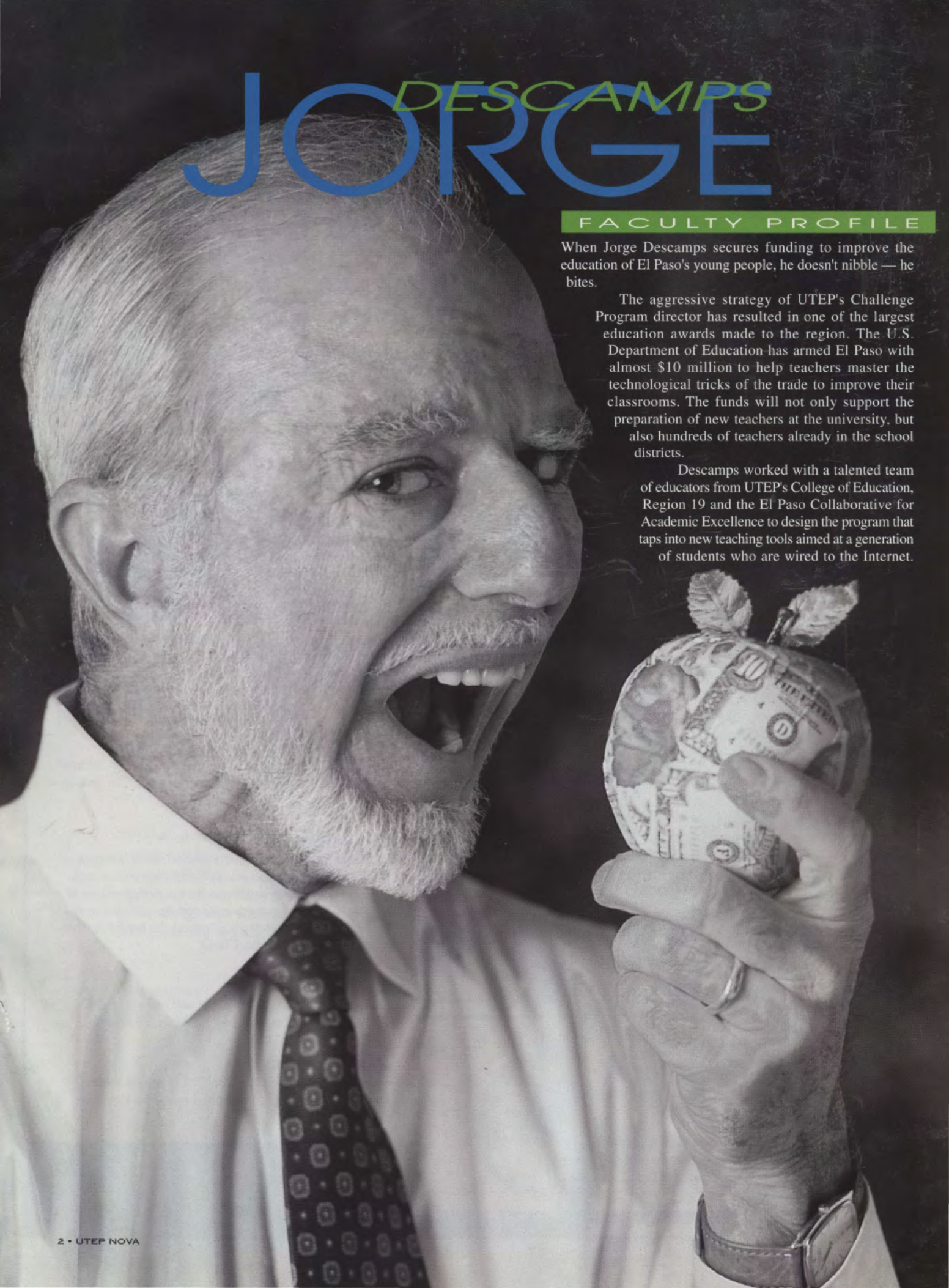
# JORGE DESCAMPS

## FACULTY PROFILE

When Jorge Descamps secures funding to improve the education of El Paso's young people, he doesn't nibble — he bites.

The aggressive strategy of UTEP's Challenge Program director has resulted in one of the largest education awards made to the region. The U.S. Department of Education has armed El Paso with almost \$10 million to help teachers master the technological tricks of the trade to improve their classrooms. The funds will not only support the preparation of new teachers at the university, but also hundreds of teachers already in the school districts.

Descamps worked with a talented team of educators from UTEP's College of Education, Region 19 and the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence to design the program that taps into new teaching tools aimed at a generation of students who are wired to the Internet.





## JOE AND OFELIA DAVILA: BUILDING A SOLID FOUNDATION

by Judy Jimenez

Ofelia Davila maintains a quiet and humble demeanor, but she is a savvy businesswoman who meets challenges with enthusiasm and determination. As an experienced property manager at Peinado Development, which Davila owns, she searches for exciting and profitable ventures that will benefit the community.

When the business' attorney Julian Bernat suggested that she support UTEP through a scholarship endowment, she agreed immediately.

"I didn't give it a second thought," she says. "I cannot think of any better investment than education—it is great to think about each of the students who will benefit from my gift."

Through her last will and testament, Ofelia made a deferred gift to UTEP by giving her home to the university. She established the endowment in her name and that of her husband Joe—an avid outdoorsman who pursued life's adventures with great zeal. The proceeds from the Joe and Ofelia Davila Endowed Scholarship Fund, which will be created by the gift, will provide direct support to competitive students from El Paso—the benefactors' hometown.

Throughout their lives, the pair of lifelong El Pasoans believed in the power of an education. After serving in the armed forces during World War II, Joe returned to the



city and developed a romance with Ofelia, whom he remembered as one of his childhood playmates.

Ofelia, who attended Aoy Elementary School, Sacred Heart Grammar School and Loretto Academy, embarked on her own career after graduation. During her interview with Emilio Peinado at Home Construction Company, she never could have predicted that she would rise through the ranks and take the helm of the business.

Ofelia remembered how she fumbled through her initial interview with the company—answering “no” to each question that would qualify her for the

position. Although she had determined that she would not be selected, much to her surprise, Peinado asked her to report to work the following Monday to assist the office manager by answering phones and filing. As the Peinado company grew and prospered, Ofelia's own responsibilities increased and she became the office manager.

When Peinado passed away, he left Davila an equal share of the business she helped build—a tangible expression of the trust and loyalty Ofelia had earned from her employer. Today, coupled with her partner Richard Peinado, the successful property management business continues to flourish. ■



# COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

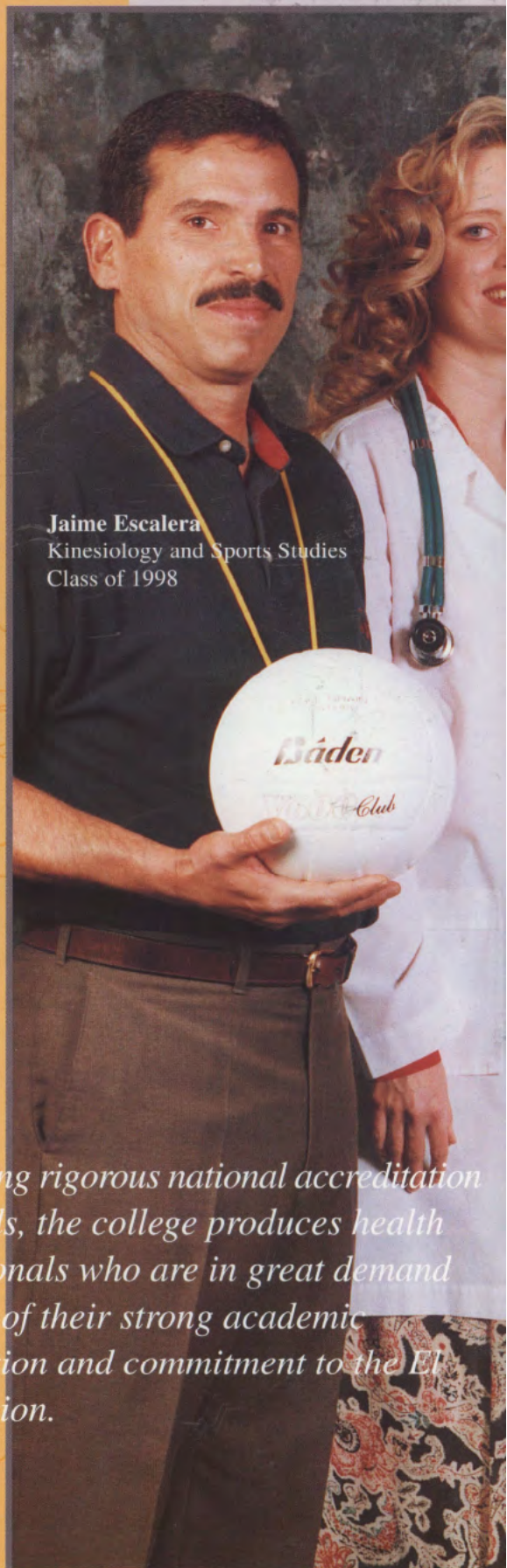
## CHANGING NAMES... CHANGING EL PASO...

by Christian Clarke and Walli Haley

**I**n this issue, NOVA Quarterly takes the pulse of the university's newly renamed College of Health Sciences, which has expanded its curricula to respond to the changing needs and challenges of the community.

*By meeting rigorous national accreditation standards, the college produces health professionals who are in great demand because of their strong academic preparation and commitment to the El Paso region.*

**Jaime Escalera**  
Kinesiology and Sports Studies  
Class of 1998







**Michelle Neuman**  
Nursing  
Class of 1998

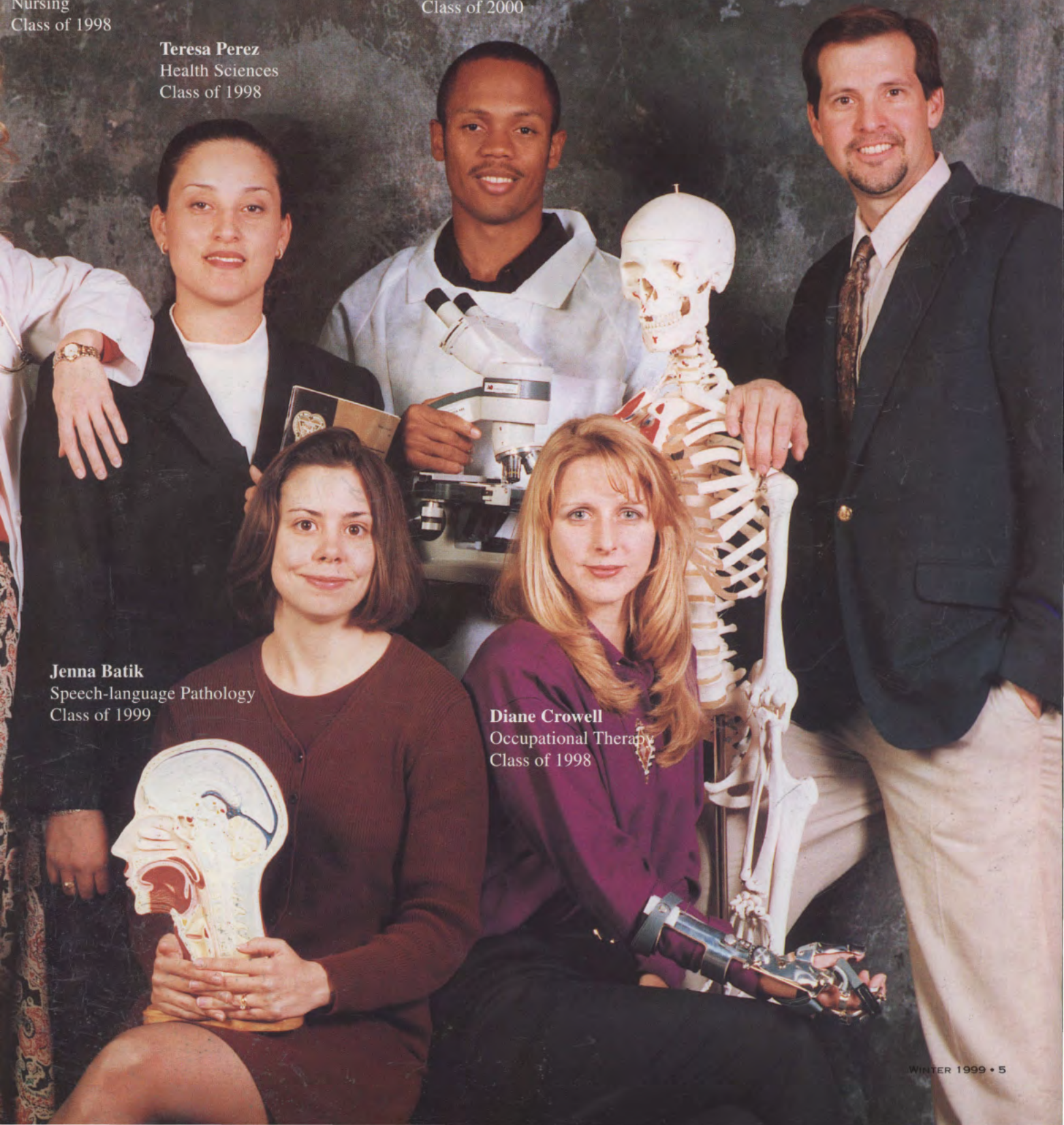
**Teresa Perez**  
Health Sciences  
Class of 1998

**Christopher Evans**  
Clinical Laboratory Science  
Class of 2000

**Mark Heimer**  
Physical Therapy  
Class of 2000

**Jenna Batik**  
Speech-language Pathology  
Class of 1999

**Diane Crowell**  
Occupational Therapy  
Class of 1998





UTEP'S College of Health Sciences is helping El Paso families live healthier lives.

As children listen for the unpredictable tones that allow UTEP audiologists to determine whether a hearing problem is present, these young minds rarely contemplate the science behind the process. Instead, these patients simply focus on the smiling faces beyond the window of their dark quiet — taking for granted the complex education required to administer the test.

When individuals face physical therapy after an accident or a stroke, they rarely think about their own patterns of movements or speech — never imagining the careful techniques that fledgling professionals at the university learn in order to treat a range of motion and speech disorders.

Since its inception, UTEP's College of Health Sciences has focused on preparing professionals to address health concerns that interfere with life's activities. With each classroom lecture and laboratory experiment, students learn how to help El Pasoans maintain their health, so they can get on with the most important task — that of leading satisfying and productive lives.



Patricia Castiglia, Dean of the College of Health Sciences

## The Foundation and the Vision

When formal nursing education began in El Paso, the field was predominated by women who were instantly recognizable by their starched white uniforms, white shoes, white stockings and ubiquitous white caps.

Now, men are joining the profession in increasing numbers and the crisp white uniforms of the past have given way to comfortable and colorful "scrubs."

Today, the field has matured into a complex practice requiring nurses to deliver patient care based on cutting-edge technology and highly specialized training — such as UTEP's doctoral degree in nursing offered in cooperation with the UT Health Science Center in Houston. Supported by a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, this program is taught via distance learning technology by both UTHSC and UTEP faculty members.

However, nursing is now a component — no longer the exclusive focus — of UTEP's health professional programs. The College of Health Sciences has developed a broad range of educational opportunities for health professionals — preparing the next generation of nurses, clinical laboratory scientists, physical therapists, kinesiologists and physical education majors, health educators, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, pharmacists, audiologists and public health administrators.

"Healthcare is changing so rapidly that it is difficult to keep up with all that is happening, but UTEP remains on the cutting-edge of the movement for interdisciplinary education that meets community needs," Patricia Castiglia, dean of the college, says.

Whereas the college once concentrated its efforts on placing healthcare providers into traditional hospital settings, today, faculty members actively reach out to the community through four school-based health centers established in El Paso's Lower Valley.

"Our students learn in a truly educational, interdisciplinary and community-based manner. We have developed community centers that are used for service and

## The Critical Path:

### Easing Each Step

Each year, UTEP's College of Health Sciences produces talented health professionals who become involved in nearly every stage of patient care in El Paso — providing acute care, performing diagnostic tests, supervising rehabilitation and offering continuous care.

By following a fictional stroke victim, who has diabetes, through the phases of treatment, *NOVA Quarterly* introduces its readers to some of the university's students and graduates whose academic training is critical to any patient's recovery.

*This progression does not attempt to represent the entire range of treatment or providers.*

### SCENARIO:

A male in his mid-50's with a history of diabetes and high blood pressure enters the emergency room exhibiting the following symptoms: weakness on his right side, slurred and incomprehensible speech and elevated blood pressure.



ARACELI REY

*"In the emergency room, we are on the front line — I may be the first person the patient sees when he is admitted."*

Araceli Rey (bachelor of science in nursing, 1995) Registered Nurse in the Emergency Room, Thomason Hospital



PATTY QUIROZ

*"I test the patient's blood for evidence of heart attack and monitor the glucose levels."*

Patty Quiroz (bachelor of science in medical technology, 1986) Medical Technologist in the Chemistry Section, Providence Memorial Hospital

— Compiled by Jeryl Marcus





education and we are administering UTEP's Student Health Center as a nurse-managed facility," she says. "All of these efforts are designed to make services more accessible and cost-effective for the community. These activities also bring the university's presence more into the community and promote the community's presence in the university."

### The Setting for Health Education

During the past decade, UTEP has dramatically increased the size and scope of its health professions programs. In 1987, the college offered three programs: nursing, speech-language pathology, and clinical laboratory sciences. Today, the number of programs has grown to nine, with the addition of *health science, kinesiology and sports studies, occupational therapy, physical therapy, public health and pharmacy.*

"Each of the recently established programs has not only created career opportunities for residents of this region — opportunities that had not been otherwise available to them — but also provided this community with highly trained professionals who understand and are committed to this region," UTEP President Diana Natalicio says.



Sciences. These current and future health professionals interact with faculty members in healthcare settings that serve as their academic training ground.

The College of Health Sciences facility features a variety of well-equipped labs, an active Speech and Hearing Clinic, and a new interactive multi-media classroom. The university recently acquired the Stanton Professional Building, which offers much needed space for the College's continued growth.

Currently, more than 1,600 students are enrolled in the College of Health Sciences. By studying and working in a binational setting, these future health professionals are addressing the healthcare needs of this border environment and developing practice and research models that have national and international implications.

### The Next Generation

By focusing on the population of this region, UTEP has received considerable national attention. As one of the few institutions that is addressing the needs of this country's rapidly changing population, UTEP plays an important role in national health science education. U.S. Department of Education statistics rank UTEP second among all American colleges and universities in the number of Hispanic graduates; and in the area of health sciences, UTEP ranks first in the nation.

As the face of healthcare is changing, the College of Health Sciences is rising to meet that challenge, ensuring that El Paso's healthcare providers are prepared to care for their community.

"UTEP is the foundation for all healthcare in our community," Pete Duarte, CEO of Thomason Hospital, says. "Without UTEP's College of Health Sciences, we would not be able to provide healthcare in this community. The continuing need for health professionals is partially fulfilled by the number of graduates who are educated and trained at UTEP."

In addition to providing practical services, the university's faculty members and students serve as important role models — inspiring the next generation.

"The college provides a much-needed service for our community by providing great role models for young children," Duarte says. "The children of El Paso have the opportunity to interact with the all kinds of health professionals. It is my hope that some of them will want to follow in their footsteps to become the health professionals of tomorrow."



*"As one of the many pharmacy interns throughout the city — at the Kellogg Community Partnership Center clinic, hospitals, retail pharmacies and rehabilitation centers — I'm involved in team management services, ensuring compliance with Medicare provisions, and medication evaluation."*

Kevin Leverette (February candidate for board exams) Pharmacy Student Intern, Rio Vista Physical Rehabilitation Hospital





## Caring for the Needs of a Community

When one of her seven siblings is ill, Elizabeth Lopez listens attentively while her mother receives instructions from the healthcare providers — good preparation for the future health professional.

At the Kellogg Community Partnership clinic in San Elizario, Lopez is in familiar territory. Each week, she and her family turn to



Elizabeth Lopez holds her sister, Nebriza, while Donald Harrison examines the child at the Kellogg San Elizario Center.

the clinic for all of their healthcare needs — needs for medical information and services that were previously unmet.

As the soft-spoken 12-year-old discusses the care her brothers and sisters receive at

the UTEP-sponsored clinic, she speaks with a stark maturity that is bred out of the reality in which she lives:

"When I am older I want to become a nurse so that I can help people in my community because we really need help," Lopez says. "In San Elizario, we need more services — we deserve more services — but sometimes they are not there."

In a region where residents often lack such basic needs as electricity, clean water and proper waste disposal, UTEP's College of Health Sciences, in conjunction with Texas Tech University, provides primary healthcare access at public school-based clinics while teaching students an important lesson in community service. Established in 1990 with major funding from the Kellogg Foundation, the clinics and corresponding health education home visits serve more than 1,000 patients each month.

From their inception, UTEP's health science programs have had a strong outreach component. Faculty, staff and students dedicate their professional expertise and

time to a variety of community projects that create a strong presence and a significant impact on the public health of this community.

"The philosophy of our college is in concert with the university mission," Dean Castiglia says. "This community is a great multicultural educational resource. Working in the clinics allows our students to evolve into caring professionals while providing much-needed healthcare to the people of this region."

*Distance Learning Classroom*



## The Programs

Building on its strong foundation in nursing, the College of Health Sciences has expanded its program offerings to provide more comprehensive and accessible health care for the rapidly growing population of this region.

### IRIS MARTINEZ



"The stroke patient requires continuous monitoring. I would put him on a cardiac monitor and assess if he has any deficits from the stroke, check blood pressure, continue to monitor the patient's vital signs, notify the doctor of the results and continue to treat the symptoms."

Iris Martinez (bachelor of science in nursing, 1997) Registered Nurse in the Intensive Care Unit, Thomason Hospital

### LOURDES AGUILAR



"We look for evidence of disease from diabetes complications. Time is important because once we pinpoint the type of organism causing the infection, the doctor can start treatment."

Lourdes Aguilar (bachelor of science in clinical lab sciences, 1998) Medical Technologist in the Microbiology Section, Thomason Hospital

### JAMES ONTIVEROS



"I interact with patients from the moment they receive what is considered a debilitating diagnosis and then follow their progression as they improve."

James Ontiveros (master of science in speech-language pathology, 1998) Speech Pathologist, Columbia Rehabilitation Center

### TERESA PROVENCIO



"Stroke victims compose 70 percent of our clients. We have the gratifying role of helping patients learn how to function despite not being able to do the things they used to do."

Teresa Provencio (bachelor of science in occupational therapy, 1997) Occupational Therapist, Rio Vista Physical Rehabilitation Hospital





### • Health Sciences: Informing Life's Decisions

Whether helping a mother learn how to properly breast-feed her baby or leading a high-school class on nutrition, El Paso's health scientists present information that people need to have healthier lives — free from chronic, disabling diseases and conditions, preventable infections and serious injury.

"Graduates of UTEP's health science program inform people how to make decisions about their lifestyle and personal health behaviors. These decisions play an important role in preventing and controlling many health problems," Julie Patten, chair of the program, says.

From health agencies to public schools, UTEP prepares many of the region's certified allied health professionals.

### • Clinical Laboratory Sciences: Behind-the-scenes Science

Clinical laboratory scientists peer into petri dishes to identify germs and separate serum from the blood's white and red cells.

Working with pathologists and technicians, they examine slivers of tissues and

microscopic particles to uncover vital information about a patient's health and well-being.

These clinical laboratory scientists provide data to physicians that is imperative for the successful

treatment of any patient. Nationwide, the demand for CLS professionals is strong — an additional 60,000 will be needed across the country by the year 2000.

With a curriculum that includes courses in chemistry and biology, UTEP prepares a significant number of the scientists who serve as an essential link in the chain of healthcare diagnoses regionally.

"Most of the program's 150 graduates

have chosen to stay in El Paso to practice. Nearly all of the graduates are Hispanic and many of them are bilingual — an asset that helps them effectively communicate with the community members whom they serve," George Harwell, CLS program director says.



### • Physical Therapy: A Moving Lesson

With a 100 percent passing rate on state board exams, UTEP is providing a steady stream of quality physical therapists to El Paso hospitals and clinics that once faced shortages of the professionals who specialize in preventing and

treating acute and chronic movement disorders.

UTEP's ongoing efforts to expand opportunities for careers in the health professions were enhanced during the past year with the formal transfer to UTEP of the cooperative Physical and Occupational Therapy programs from the UT Medical Branch in Galveston. These two high-demand programs were established in El Paso on a fast-track under the UTMB



**TONY  
OCHOA**



*"We supervise our client's workouts and train them to increase their cardiovascular maintenance."*

Tony Ochoa (candidate for bachelor of science in kinesiology, 2000) Exercise Specialist and Fitness Supervisor, Columbia LifeCare Center

**MIREYA  
NEVAREZ-LOPEZ**



*"Education plays an important role in empowering people and giving them a sense of control over their condition."*

Mireya Nevarez-Lopez (bachelor of science in health science, 1997) Health Educator, El Paso Diabetes Association

### FOLLOW UP

*"As a home health provider, I interact with patients and their entire family to do functional rehabilitation in their own homes."*

Eric LeMaitre (master of science in physical therapy, 1995) Private Contract Physical Therapy

*"We'll work with this patient to prevent another stroke and control his blood pressure. There's a lot of education that goes with this diagnosis in order to prevent further problems. Because of the diabetes we'll prescribe medication, exercise and a regulated diet."*

Donald Harrison (master of science in nursing, 1992) Site manager, Kellogg Community Partnership - San Elizario Center







accreditation umbrella to avoid the long start-up usually required.

"We are grateful to our UTMB colleagues for their support of our efforts to launch these important programs and especially grateful for their recognition of the mutual respect required for a successful inter-institutional partnership," Natalicio says.

The physical therapy program is now fully operational and independently accredited. "UTEP's program is quite competitive — attracting about 80 percent of its students from across the state. We have more than 100 applicants for the next class, which is composed of 24 students," Paul Nagel, physical therapy program coordinator, says.

Students in the master's program conduct a variety of research projects, including a study of the effect of emu oil on sore muscles, the effect of Tai Chi in enhancing balance in the elderly and the role that back muscles play in lifting injuries.

#### • Occupational Therapy: A Personal Lesson

As Tana Hadlock maneuvers through the occupational therapy laboratory, each skillful gesture is not merely academic. Confined to a wheelchair, the professor serves as a living lesson for her students to appreciate the importance of overcoming obstacles that may interfere with life's daily routines.

"For occupational therapists, the most important role we play is to help patients manage and accomplish all of their life activities — working, playing with children, cooking, maintaining their homes, moving around the neighborhood and simply caring for themselves," Hadlock says. "These



Tana Hadlock

activities define who a person is and make life worthwhile."

Since the program began, the number of occupational therapists practicing in the greater El Paso-Las Cruces area has nearly doubled.

"UTEP's program is providing critically needed clinicians for a previously underserved region. Many of the college's alumni are now clinical supervisors for the current students," Gretchen Schmalz, director of the occupational therapy program, says.

December's commencement featured the first set of graduates who received their degrees from the highly competitive UTEP occupational therapy program, which, like



physical therapy, is fully operational and independently accredited.

"This is a fast-growing profession," Schmalz says. "Now that UTEP offers these degrees, healthcare facilities no longer have to recruit professionals from other cities; they are able to find people to fill these jobs right here in El Paso."

#### • Kinesiology and Sports Studies:

##### Keeping the Ball in Play

Few people know that the field of kinesiology, "the study of movement," offers a broad range of diverse career opportunities — from working as a coach or sports manager to creating car interiors and office furniture designed to reduce physical stress.

The Kinesiology Department, which formerly focused on the preparation of physical education teachers, has metamorphasized into a multifaceted department that reflects a growing diversification of interest and research in the field.

"Today, physical education is just one component of the program," Susan Hall, kinesiology program coordinator, says. "But at UTEP, we continue to have a strong foundation of student majors interested in going into physical education because the job market here for PE teachers is red hot."

Currently, about 250 students are pursuing bachelor's degrees in kinesiology and about 30 students are pursuing master's degrees.

#### • Speech-language Pathology:

##### Listening to the Voices of Children

As UTEP students watch through a two-way mirror while a 10 year-old boy painfully stutters when asked to read aloud, they immediately understand the personal relevance of their academic preparation.

Each day, colorful murals welcome children and their families into the Speech, Hearing and Language Center, where graduate students prepare the tests and treatments that will help their young patients communicate more effectively.

The learning experiences in the clinic serve as the first practicum for the speech-language pathology students. As part of their academic preparation, each student must spend 375 hours in a clinical setting before being awarded a master of science degree in speech-language pathology.

Students and patients comfortably work together in the university's Speech, Hearing and Language Center. More than half of the program's students are Hispanic and are therefore familiar with the culture and language of the community — critical attributes for the community which their education is designed to benefit.

"Speech-language pathology is one of



Veronica Ayala works with three-year-old Angelica Calzada while other speech-language pathology graduate students monitor her progress.

the top 25 fields in the nation," Anthony Salvatore, program coordinator, says. "At both the local and regional level, there is a great need for bilingual speech language pathologists. UTEP's College of Health Sciences makes a significant contribution to the pool of speech language pathologists throughout the city and state."

#### • Public Health: Answering Pressing Issues

Families living in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions are at risk for contracting Hepatitis A, a virus responsible



for causing severe illness. But, university faculty members have tackled the problem head-on by creating a program to vaccinate school children against the virus.

The successful project is part of the UT Houston Health Science Center's School of Public Health, which offers a master's of public health degree at UTEP. Research focuses on assessing public health issues, evaluating the effectiveness of local programs and developing new ways to solve health problems.

"UTEP's unique location offers students a real window on the world when it comes to public health issues," Nuria Homedes, program director, says.

#### • Pharmacy: Filling the Prescription Close to Home

El Paso is ready to grow its own pharmacists by using its international border setting to train these important and scarce health professionals

Whereas other communities boast up to 195 pharmacists per 100,000 residents, El Paso has less than one-fourth that number. But, the region is on its way to having the pharmacists it desperately needs as a result of a partnership between UTEP and UT Austin.

The cooperative program encourages high school students to enter the field of pharmacy, assists UTEP undergraduates who are interested in pharmacy prepare for the graduate program, and allows UT Austin's students to complete their clinical rotations in El Paso.

"El Paso is fortunate to have a quality university such as UTEP, which has the academic resources to enter into a collaboration with the UT Austin. This cooperative program enhances the accessibility of pharmacy education for the young people of El Paso," Lloyd Young, program coordinator, says.

Initiated last year in cooperation with UT Austin's School of Pharmacy, ranked last year by U.S. News and World Report as the second best such program in the nation, the program has already expanded its outreach activities in the El Paso region —

opening its first clinic pharmacy that allows previously underserved residents of El Paso's Lower Valley to access medications and drug information. The pharmacy — in cooperation with Thomason Hospital, the Kellogg

Community Partnership, and Texas Tech — provides prescription services for patients who would ordinarily have to travel more than 20 miles to the outpatient pharmacy at Thomason to obtain their medications.

#### Future Diagnosis

Cooperative ventures with other Texas institutions, such as the pharmacy program, have spurred growth within the college — allowing for the establishment of additional programs and providing the region with qualified professionals at a faster rate than otherwise would be possible.

Combating the complex health problems that face the U.S.-Mexico border region requires creative community solutions based on strong partnerships among UTEP and its partners in both the public and private sector.

For more than a decade, the university has created outreach programs such as community health fairs, health education classes, primary care for residents of the Lower Valley, clinical laboratory services and the education of community volunteers who travel door-to-door to educate their neighbors about such health issues as nutrition and disease prevention.

El Paso's university now looks beyond the year 2000 to diagnose the future health education needs of the region — an expanding field that may serve as the city's next economic engine.

With its stronger base of health professions education programs, UTEP has laid the foundation for this expansion by creating career opportunities for residents of this region and providing a reliable source of health professionals for regional health care settings.

By ensuring a steady supply of qualified health professionals for El Paso, the university is educating the region's best and brightest students to use their academic knowledge to preserve the health of their own communities.



## Health-related Research: An Academic Remedy

by Christian Clarke

The El Paso-Juárez area is a living laboratory for UTEP researchers studying infection and environmental pollutants. This study of basic disease-causing agents along the U.S.-Mexico border has been reinforced by the university's expanding role in the area of health sciences and the biomedical research of its faculty members.

From the proposed Border Health Institute with Texas Tech University to the nationally recognized research of the Border Biomedical Research Center (BBRC), UTEP is inextricably linked to the expanding opportunities in the area of health education and services in El Paso.

"We are committed to bring the power of research and scholarship to bear on the problems that afflict the citizens of Texas and the nation — especially, the binational population in our immediate surroundings," Louis Irwin, chair of the biology department, says. "At the BBRC, we are able to bring the advanced study of biological sciences to our isolated part of the state to improve the health and future of the region."

Through the BBRC — funded by more than \$7 million in grants from the National Institutes of Health — faculty members tackle basic biomedical research on infectious diseases, environmental toxicology and neurological disorders. These researchers focus on the region's health problems, including:

- studying the prevalence of hepatitis in the border region (this research was featured in the New York Times);
- developing a simple, non-invasive screening test for the dangerous pathogen that causes stomach ulcers; and
- examining the Hantavirus infection in Southern New Mexico and Northern Mexico.

BBRC researchers have published more than 40 papers in prestigious medical journals during the past year alone.

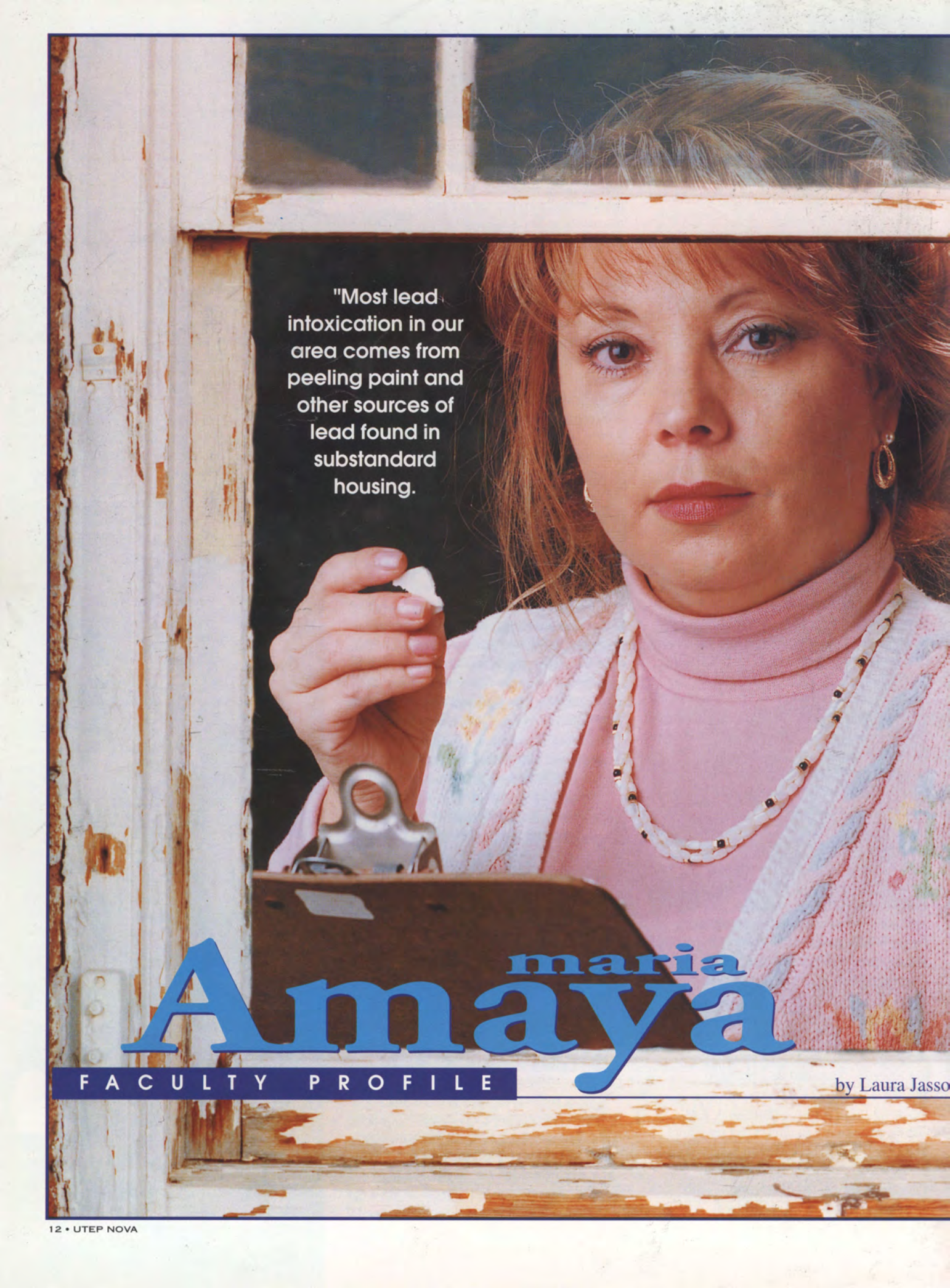
By working in concert with UTEP's doctoral program in biology, BBRC researchers study biological degradation and disease caused by environmental pollutants and infectious agents.

Although researchers believed diseases such as cholera and salmonella would be under control by now, these diseases are re-emerging in border settings.

By investigating regional problems of air and water quality and disease-causing agents, UTEP's faculty members are addressing health issues that impact border settings throughout the world.







"Most lead intoxication in our area comes from peeling paint and other sources of lead found in substandard housing."

# maria Amaya

FACULTY PROFILE

by Laura Jasso



Some look at our desert and see nothing ... I see an ecosystem."

As a citizen of the border, Maria

Amaya is a fronteriza on a mission.

The committed health scientist is patiently resolute: she will see an El Paso that boasts a thriving, healthier environment.

She envisions a cleaner, safer region, where no child has to suffer the effects of preventable lead intoxication and its resultant brain damage, a community where children have an equal chance at healthy development.

Amaya, an associate professor of health sciences at UTEP, became inspired to study border health in the late 80s when pollution in El Paso reached a disgusting crescendo. Without thoughtful intervention, she feared children might be raised in a toxic garbage dump.

"I saw horrible things disposed of in the desert, and knew of the dangers lurking in the Rio Grande," she recalls. "I became frustrated and wanted to help resuscitate our environment."

At UTEP, Amaya now coordinates the Women's Health and Nurse Practitioner degree program in the College of Health Sciences. Several years ago, she successfully submitted her first proposal to the Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy, an EPA-funded consortium of universities in the United States and Mexico.

She began studying lead exposure among expectant mothers and their unborn children. The culmination of these

years of research is a truly proactive prevention program — one which will include providing much-needed educational materials to the residents of this region.

The community-based, primary prevention program builds on theories from various disciplines, including nursing and behavioral sciences. An important component of her studies is self-efficacy, or people's perception of their ability to take care of themselves. In Amaya's prevention efforts, the challenge is finding ways to raise self-efficacy by educating parents of children who are at

greatest risk of exposure.

Amaya and her colleagues developed three didactic tools: a fotonovela, a videonovela (similar to a Spanish-language soap opera or *telenovela*), and the use of *promotoras* — specially trained community workers who educate their peers through personal contact.

"Social, cultural and linguistic factors must be considered

to communicate with target communities about environmental health issues," she says. "Community members will see people in the videonovela who are just like themselves. It will be easy for them to learn how to prevent lead poisoning by watching actors who behave in ways that may be easily integrated into their own lives."

During the early days of the production, Amaya was advised that the project could not be completed; so she turned to dedicated colleagues, undergraduate and graduate research assistants, and community members for their assistance to move the program forward.

"The fact that we accomplished this facet of our study shows that this community has a collaborative way of accomplishing things. This strength can be used to raise

consciousness about any number of environmental concerns," she says as she

reflects upon the educational film that will be used in many homes.

"The videonovela belongs to the community. It is an interdisciplinary effort — as is all environmental science," she says. "The people told us what would work and we used their input to develop these systems for at risk communities."

Border residents most likely to be exposed to lead poisoning are low-income, Mexican-American children who live in substandard homes in inner-city areas or in undeveloped, unregulated colonias, where

makeshift housing of cardboard and scrap materials is common.

"Most lead intoxication in our area comes from peeling paint and other sources of lead found in substandard housing. Another important risk factor is residue from old car batteries that

accumulates after people repair automobiles in their own yards," she explains.

Other sources of lead poisoning may be found in some herbal remedies and improperly-fired pottery used to cook and serve food.

Throughout her study, Amaya has relied on the support of other university researchers and community organizations. UTEP's Center for Environmental Resource Management and the El Paso City/County Health and Environmental Department — particularly the Lead Task Force — contributed to the study. The Kellogg Community Partnership clinics, where the video was filmed, also played a role in the project.

Amaya continues to promote the spirit of binational collaboration to solve environmental health concerns. She believes that the El Paso-Juárez region must come together as one community if problems are to be adequately addressed. "Our culture is bi-national, and therefore so are many of our disease processes. We have to stop waiting for Washington, D.C., or Mexico City to solve our environmental degradation problems for us. We must have grass-roots efforts to effect practical changes," she asserts. "This involves empowering our citizens to perceive that they can be self-efficacious."

For Amaya, collaboration on a binational basis will create a more potent and influential community — and, most importantly, one that is certainly healthier. ■

**"We have to stop waiting for Washington, D.C., or Mexico City to solve our environmental degradation problems for us."**

**"I saw horrible things disposed of in the desert, and knew of the dangers lurking in the Rio Grande. I became frustrated and wanted to help resuscitate our environment."**



# 1998 Fall Convocation Address





# ress

as delivered by  
**UTEP President  
Diana Natalicio**



*"It's all about our students —  
they are the reason we are here,"  
has been Diana Natalicio's guiding  
principle during her 10-year tenure  
as UTEP's president.*

## 1988-1998: Ten Years at a Glance

Earlier this year, I celebrated my 10th anniversary as UTEP's president. Like many such milestones, it occasioned both surprise — have 10 years really passed so quickly? — and satisfaction — we have really accomplished a lot! We have been so busy working to fulfill UTEP's mission that it has been easy to lose both a sense of time and of the cumulative impact of our efforts.

A review of the major accomplishments of the past 10 years reveals two primary themes. First, these are collective achievements. Although my 10th anniversary served as a convenient context in which to frame an institutional assessment, the fact is that this celebration is ours, not mine. UTEP students, staff, faculty and friends — all of you — contributed significantly to the progress that we have achieved. Working together as a team, we have been able to:

- More than double the annual operating budget, from \$65 million to \$145 million;
- Increase the number of doctoral programs, from one to eight;
- Increase annual grant and contract funding from \$3 million to more than \$30 million;
- Rank fourth among 37 Texas public universities in annual sponsored project expenditures;
- Rank second among all U.S. colleges and universities in the number of Hispanic graduates; and
- Plan and successfully conduct a \$50 million capital/endowment campaign, the first in the university's history.

The second theme that emerges from a review of the past 10 years is that each of the major strides we have made was, in fact, a series of countless small steps. UTEP's seven new doctoral programs, for example, did not happen overnight, nor were they the result of one individual or one department's efforts. In fact, these programs were the result of carefully pulling together all of the necessary components of a compelling proposal, including needs and demand analyses, curriculum development, library resources, faculty recruitment, technology acquisition, facilities renovation and budgetary support.

Each of these steps was a building block in the development of the doctoral proposals, and each was critical to gaining their approval. And, now, we recognize that program authorization is not by any means a final step either; it is, instead, the beginning of another series of small steps, which, collectively, will ensure the success of these important programs.

As we celebrate each of the individual accomplishments, let us also recognize how they join together to continue building toward the major institutional goals to which we are all committed.

## The Mission: Serving and Preparing the Students of this Region

UTEP's fundamental goal is to serve effectively the students who come to us with their dreams and aspirations. They are the reason that we are here and the primary basis upon which we are provided support from the State of Texas. Everything that we do must, in one way or another, support the attainment of this goal.

Who are UTEP's students?

For the most part, they are residents of this region — 84 percent from El Paso County and another 9 percent from Mexico. The other 7 percent includes students from other Texas counties, other U.S. states, and more than 70 different countries around the world. More than half of our students are the first in their families to attend college, most are employed while attending UTEP, and nearly all commute to the campus from their homes in the El Paso-Juárez metropolitan area. Nearly 55 percent of the UTEP student population is female. We can be very proud that the ethnic composition of our student body — 66 percent Hispanic, 19 percent Anglo, and 3 percent African-American — mirrors the demographics of this region.

*"More than half of our students  
are the first in their families to  
attend college ..."*

Each UTEP student represents a unique set of talents, challenges and expectations, and it is our responsibility to create and adapt opportunities that are responsive to them. In today's higher education context, there are many alternatives available to students, and issues such as cost, convenience and customer service weigh heavily in students' decisions about how best to pursue their educational aspirations.

For example, the rising cost of tuition and fees at public universities in Texas has caused many students across the state to begin their postsecondary education at community colleges, where costs have remained more modest. Following this trend, a larger percentage of local high-school graduates are enrolling at the El Paso Community College, which, in addition to offering lower costs, also provides the convenience of five campus



## Convocation Highlights

**Easing Transitions** — UTEP enhanced the communication between the university and EPCC through the work of the Permanent Articulation Committee. The university also responded proactively to legislative changes in TASP requirements for entering students.



# UTEP

**Student Retention** — Inspired by a successful pilot program conducted under the auspices of the Model Institution for Excellence grant, an important initiative has been introduced this year to increase first-year student retention.

**Customer Service** — Training programs for staff and student employees have been developed, and a variety of procedures — student access to grades via telephone and applications for admission and course availability listings on the UTEP Web site — have been implemented.

**Pocketbook Savings** — The University Bookstore contained student costs by reducing its markup on textbooks; the Development Office increased scholarship funds and the Scholarship Office more efficiently allocated those funds; and Financial Aid disbursed more than \$30 million in merit- and need-based aid, which is a new UTEP record.

**Quality Teachers** — Most of UTEP's teachers remain in El Paso and the quality of their preparation has a major impact on this community's future. UTEP serves as a national model for innovation in teacher education. The College of Education has achieved major national recognition — from leaders such as U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley and newspapers such as the *New York Times* — for reforming teacher preparation.

**AMplifying Representation** — The National Science Foundation renewed a \$5 million Phase II grant for the UT System Alliance for Minority Participation — for which UTEP serves as the lead institution. AMP brings together all nine academic components in the



UT System and the 14 community colleges with which they collaborate to foster greater representation of minorities in science and engineering programs and careers.

locations throughout the county. In the short term, UTEP's enrollment appears to have been negatively impacted by this trend, but we should see long-term enrollment gains, *if* we respond positively and creatively to it.

Convenience and customer service are clear factors in today's students' decisions about how and where to pursue higher education. As I travel across the country, I see and hear media advertisements for a number of private institutions whose focus is on the busy, working, adult student for whom convenience of class scheduling and minimization of bureaucratic procedures are major attractions. Although UTEP has made some progress in offering more classes during evening and weekend hours, it is clear that additional work must be done to assess the need for such nontraditional class scheduling and to respond to the need that is identified.

classrooms and laboratories. Through the center, more than 180 faculty participants have become acquainted with — and implemented in their classes — strategies that have proved successful in other settings. Alternatives to the standard lecture format have been explored and adapted in courses ranging from music to geology.

## Doctoral Programs: Responsive and Reflective

Another important dimension of our responsibility to serve the residents of this region is the development of academic programs that respond to their needs and which prepare them for career opportunities not otherwise available.

For the first time in its history, UTEP granted more than 10 doctoral degrees in a



*UTEP engineering students are using their academic training to build a water desalinization plant to improve the water quality for the residents of the Homestead community in east El Paso.*

Research on student retention underscores the pivotal role played by faculty members, with whom students have regular and frequent contact. When regents, legislators and the general public demand institutional accountability for student achievement — as typically measured by retention and graduation rates — attention inevitably turns toward evaluating the faculty in terms of student outcomes. The argument that student success is entirely the responsibility of students — or of student affairs professionals — falls on mostly deaf ears in today's environment. Faculty are expected to foster student achievement and to hold themselves — or be held — responsible for it.

The Center for Effective Teaching and Learning, established last year, offers a variety of faculty development activities, designed to bring the best practices to UTEP

single year, representing five different programs. More than half of these degrees were awarded to Mexican and Mexican-American students. Also during the past year, program development continued at the doctoral level, with the admission of the first cohort of students in the Ph.D. degree program in pathobiology, and authorization from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to offer a Ph.D. degree in U.S.-Mexico borderlands history.

Approval of the history Ph.D. program completes the first cycle of eight doctoral programs included in UTEP's strategic plan, a robust program development agenda by any measure. Attention must now be directed toward stabilizing enrollment in these programs, generating sustainable support for doctoral students, and ensuring that infrastructure requirements are fully met.



## Creating and Expanding Healthcare Options

UTEP's ongoing efforts to expand opportunities for careers in the health professions were enhanced during the past year with the formal transfer to UTEP of the Physical and Occupational Therapy programs from the UT Medical Branch in Galveston. These two high-demand programs were established in El Paso on a fast track and under the UTMB accreditation umbrella to avoid the long start-up usually required.

Now fully operational and independently accredited, the Physical and Occupational Therapy programs have been turned over to UTEP by UTMB, as planned and on schedule. We are grateful to our UTMB colleagues for their support of our efforts to launch these important programs and especially appreciative of their recognition of the mutual respect required for a successful interinstitutional partnership.

The Pharmacy Program, initiated last year in cooperation with UT Austin's College of Pharmacy, has greatly expanded its outreach activities in the El Paso region. The program opened its first clinic pharmacy in San Elizario in cooperation with Thomason Hospital, the Kellogg Community Partnership and Texas Tech University, enabling previously underserved residents of El Paso's Lower Valley to access medications and drug information.

In cooperation with the West Texas Poison Control Center at Thomason Hospital, a UTEP Drug Information Center is being established to serve as a resource to healthcare providers in this region. And, pharmacy faculty have begun to provide career opportunities information to young people throughout this region, reflecting their long-term investment in this community.

In addition, UTEP embarks this year on a new health professions collaboration with the UT Houston Health Science Center to offer a

doctoral degree in nursing. Supported by a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, this program will be taught via distance learning technology by both UT Houston and UTEP faculty members.

## Focus El Paso: Regional Commitment Attracts National Attention

1997-98 was another outstanding year for sponsored project funding at UTEP, with more than \$30 million in new grant awards. Such funding creates opportunities for faculty to pursue their research goals, while at the same time offering students — both graduate and undergraduate — an enriched learning experience. It also serves as a catalyst for a variety of student recruitment and retention initiatives, which, once successfully developed, become an integral part of the university's operations.

One of the most significant new grants awarded to UTEP during the past year was a \$1.2 million commitment from the Kellogg Foundation to support a major service learning initiative in the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Business Administration.

Inspiration for this program was drawn from the highly successful work of the campus ministries' student volunteer program, PRAXIS — a program that has successfully recruited more than 500 UTEP student volunteers to work in a broad range of community service projects that have been identified by agencies and organizations throughout El Paso.

These UTEP students share their time and expertise with this community, while developing an enhanced sense of civic responsibility. UTEP joins three other universities — Northeastern in Boston, East Tennessee State and the University of West Virginia — in pioneering this integrative approach to service learning.



*By investigating basic science mysteries at the Border Biomedical Research Center, students and faculty members such as Eppie Rael (right) uncover practical solutions for the region's most pressing healthcare issues.*

**Research and Sponsored Projects** — In the area of infrastructure support, the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects worked behind the scenes to provide UTEP faculty and staff members with both pre- and post-award services. This year, more than 300 proposals with a value of more than \$100 million were transmitted to funding agencies.

**Wanted: Job After Graduation** — Career Services' highly successful Career Expo brought 250 representatives of more than 100 companies to the campus to meet with more than 1,500 UTEP students.

**Tomorrow's Professors** — The National Institutes of Health awarded UTEP \$445,000 to provide undergraduate social science majors with research and education experiences that will prepare them to pursue doctoral training in scientific fields related to mental health.

**Evening the Odds** — Talent Search was launched at UTEP by the U.S. Department of Education. Funded at \$1 million, this program focuses on the early identification and recruitment to higher education of economically disadvantaged, first-generation students.

**Environmental Promise** — A \$1.7 million grant from the Paso del Norte Health Foundation has enabled CERM to develop a comprehensive water education strategy and provide direct support to *colonia* residents. UTEP also co-hosted with Congressman Silvestre Reyes a major national conference on climate variability and water resource management in the Southwest, which included the participation of NASA administrator Dan Goldin.



**A Breath of Fresh Air** — The Center for Environmental Resource Management and the Pan-American Center for Earth and Environmental Studies continue to conduct a variety of projects designed to improve the quality of life of all residents of this region. A major two-year air-quality study has been initiated to identify the pollutants in the air we breathe, and an animated ozone map of this tristate, binational region has been developed and made available to the media and to the public on an Internet Web site.

**Civic Commitments** — The Public Policy Research Center conducted a broad range of outreach activities, which included providing 5,000 hours of technical assistance to non-profit and community development corporations in El Paso County. It worked with the El Paso Police Department and the Shelter for Battered Women to support the work of the Domestic Violence Commission and it prepared a feasibility study for a World Trade Center complex that serves El Paso-Juárez.



**Knock-out Visitors** — Vice President Al Gore came to UTEP to join Congressman Silvestre Reyes in underscoring the importance of building the capacity of our schools to prepare the workforce of the 21st century. Gov. George W. Bush helped UTEP celebrate its 100th commencement in a special ceremony at the Sun Bowl Stadium.



The Sun Bowl also served as the site for the Dallas Cowboys scrimmage and its first major boxing card, featuring Oscar de la Hoya.

**Energy-minded Efforts** — UTEP facilities were greatly enhanced during the past year with the inauguration of the new Undergraduate Learning Center and conversion of the Commons cafeteria into an attractive conference center. A major and highly innovative utility infrastructure project is underway, designed to meet UTEP's increasing energy needs without additional cost. Projected energy savings will pay for the project within seven to 10 years.

**Thoughtful Sportsmanship** — The NCAA recognized Obadele Thompson as one of the Top VIII student athletes in the United States for his outstanding performance in both athletic and academic arenas. High priority



has been assigned throughout the intercollegiate athletics department to student-athletes' academic performance, and strong support has been provided by the Enrollment Services and Tutoring and Learning Center staffs.

Another exciting new initiative, related to the doctoral program in U.S.-Mexico Borderlands History, is an Immigration History Research Center that would focus on the Paso del Norte as an immigration gateway to the United States, a kind of Ellis Island of the southwestern border. Telling the story of the history of the immigration stream from the south and the impact of these immigrants on U.S. society, would be the mission of this center. Several major foundations have committed support to launch this initiative.

The focus of most of the new degree programs and many of the grant-funded initiatives at UTEP has been on this U.S.-Mexico border region. UTEP's mission includes a strong commitment to this region, and our responsibility is not only to provide educational opportunities for those who seek degrees here, but also to apply our enormous intellectual capital to the challenges and issues faced by this community.

The Immigration History Research Center, PRAXIS, the Community Partnerships in Health and the new service learning initiative are all examples of this regional commitment.

the TAAS has improved significantly, and, although the primary credit must certainly go to the children, their teachers and other staff in the school districts, the impact of the collaborative's work is unmistakable.

This summer the collaborative launched a new literacy initiative, which will complement its fine work in mathematics and science. El Paso is regularly described as a national model for the cooperation that can be achieved between universities and precollege education.

## The Bottom Line: Economic Impact

Although there are many ways in which to measure UTEP's impact on this community, one very tangible approach is to assess our economic impact. Because the bulk of the university's budget is drawn from state, federal and private sources outside of El Paso County, the money spent by the university and its faculty and staff represents a new infusion into the metropolitan economy — what economists call "export revenues."



*The Immigration History Research Center will tell the story of the history of the immigration stream from the South and the impact of these immigrants on U.S. society.*

Although some would argue that such a regional focus reduces our options, our experience during the past several years strongly suggests that it has, in fact, created enormous new opportunities for us and for the students we serve.

## Strengthening the Future of El Paso Education Today

The El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence continues to achieve success and considerable national recognition for its efforts to raise the academic achievement level of all children in this community and to prepare them to succeed in higher education or in the more highly skilled work force of the future. Performance of El Paso children on

During the past 10 years, UTEP's budget has more than doubled, from \$65 million to \$145 million. Today, with nearly 2,400 full-time employees, UTEP pays salaries in excess of \$65 million per year, a figure equal to the university's total budget in 1988. UTEP also awards contracts to and purchases goods and services from several thousand El Paso businesses each year.

In 1997, more than 11,500 contracts and purchases were executed, totaling nearly \$25 million. In addition, our athletic and other special events, the major conferences that we host — more than 20 during the past year alone — and the many visitors to our campus add to the revenues of local travel and hospitality businesses.

The total multiplier effect of UTEP's



salaries and contracts is estimated to have created more than 6,300 jobs in this community. The total income resulting, either directly or indirectly, from the university's presence is greater than \$164 million per year.

## Donors and Alumni: Creating a Legacy

UTEP's budget growth during the past 10 years has been remarkable because it has been achieved in an environment of declining state investment in public higher education. I have already mentioned the outstanding record of contract and grant awards that UTEP once again achieved during the past year, thanks to the combined efforts of faculty, staff and the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects.

The Development Office and our many dedicated community volunteers — led by Peter de Wetter's unflagging energy and commitment — also enjoyed an enormously successful year. In addition to increasing annual giving by 8.5 percent and local business support by nearly \$400,000, we have made considerable progress in achieving our ambitious \$50 million Legacy Campaign goal.

I am pleased to announce that our Legacy Campaign total to date now stands at \$45 million — 90 percent of our goal — and has resulted in the creation of more than 200 new endowments, including 80 newly endowed scholarships, 26 new professorships and chairs, and 48 new departmental excellence funds. I want to take this opportunity to offer special thanks to UTEP faculty and staff members who have made substantial commitments to this campaign.

Alumni giving has also increased during the past year by 11 percent, and a new year-round phonathon effort has contacted more than 2,800 alumni and 600 graduating seniors and secured nearly \$30,000 from first-time alumni donors.

## A High Investment Return: Budget and Legislative Issues

Despite flat state appropriations, the Budget and Financial Services staff have managed to contain costs, which, in turn, has enabled us to control tuition and fee increases and to minimize dependence on institutional reserves. Administrative costs at UTEP account for only 8 percent of total expenditures, among the lowest in public universities in Texas and comparing quite favorably to UT San Antonio at 11.5 percent and UT Dallas at 14.5 percent. This record is all the more impressive when viewed within a context of exponential increases in external



*Supported in part by the generous contributions of donors, electrical and computer engineering professor Vijay Singh (center) creates research opportunities for students in the Electronic Devices Lab.*

audits and compliance reporting, changing technologies, and increased service demands.

One of our major ongoing challenges has been to secure for UTEP the capital funding support for technology, library materials and building repair, renovation, and construction that is available to other state institutions through the legislatively appropriated Higher Education Assistance Fund (HEAF).

*"Administrative costs at  
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Despite the shrinking commitment to higher education by the State Legislature, the case for external support of UTEP becomes more compelling each day, because all investors seek to place their trust — and their funds — in organizations that offer the promise of success. UTEP's record of delivering on its promises during the past 10 years has been exemplary — extraordinary by almost any measure — and supporters see clearly UTEP's capacity to yield rich dividends on their investments.

## Juntos Llegaremos: The Next 10 Years

1997-98 has been another highly successful year at UTEP, and I congratulate all of the faculty, staff and students who contributed to that success.

What is most striking is not only the enormous collective effort that has led to our accomplishments, but also the steady rise in our expectations as we build upon the stronger foundation of those accomplishments.

We are indeed a different university today than we were 10 years ago. I thank all of you for your commitment of time and talent to this university and its important regional mission.

*Together, we are making a real difference. ■*

**Economic Development** — The College of Business Administration and the Texas Centers for Border Economic Development are playing a major role in a number of regional initiatives. The Family and Closely-held Business Forum and the Franchise Center continue to attract enthusiastic participants and international recognition for the College of Business Administration. A new Small Business Administration-funded initiative provides executive education for small business owners, the first such program west of the Mississippi.

### Desert Landscapes —

Construction of the outdoor educational complex at the Centennial Museum, funded entirely by generous donors, is well on its way toward completion.



### Facilities Face-lift —

During the next three years, Facilities Services will supervise \$14 million in facility improvements supported by tuition revenue bond proceeds authorized by the Texas Legislature. More than 45 elevators across the campus will be improved; 150 classrooms will be refurbished; electrical systems in eight older buildings will be modernized; mechanical systems in several buildings will be upgraded; auditoriums across the campus will be renovated; the fiber-optic network on the campus will be upgraded; and fire safety improvements will be made.

**Smooth Steel Sounds** — Pandemonium, UTEP's steel drum ensemble, which includes students from both music and metallurgical and materials engineering, delighted 8,000 El Pasoans at a Music Under the Stars concert at the Chamizal National Memorial.



**Enshrining the Bear** — The Don Haskins Center offered El Pasoans a variety of entertainment options throughout the year,

including a special tribute to Coach Haskins, after whom the facility is now named, upon his induction in the Basketball Hall of Fame.

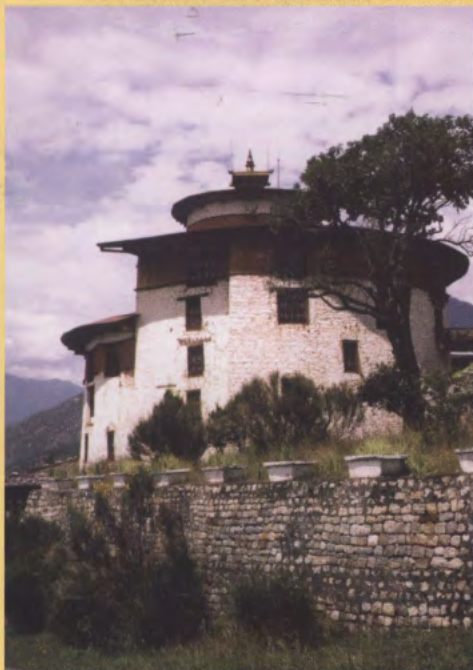
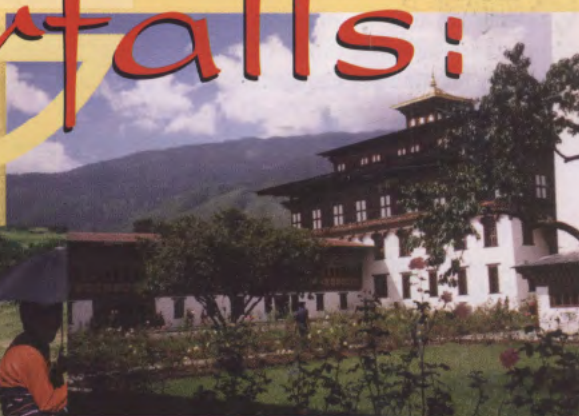
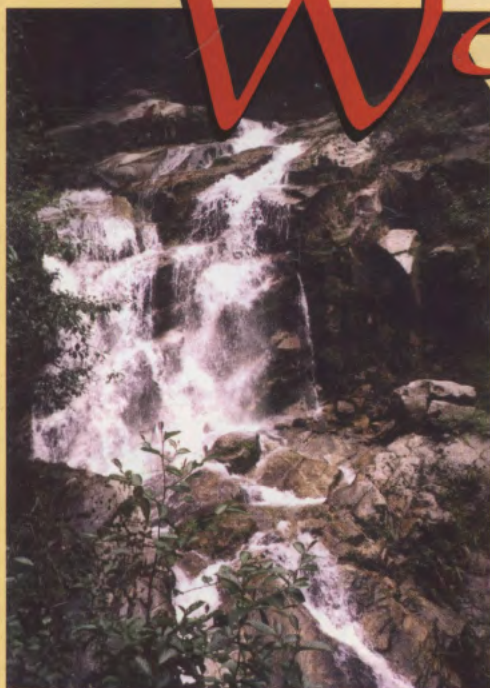






# Dragons & Waterfalls:

Reflections on the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan



## Jigme Dorji Karchung:

During her trip to Bhutan, UTEP President Diana Natalicio met with Jigme Dorji Karchung, the university's only Bhutanese graduate. After he received his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering in 1978, Jigme returned to Bhutan, where he has been involved in building an electrical power infrastructure throughout the country.







*In September, UTEP President Diana Natalicio spent her vacation in the Kingdom of Bhutan. The university shares a long-term link to the landlocked country in the eastern Himalayas through its campus architecture, which was modeled on Bhutanese temples pictured in a 1914 National Geographic photo essay.*

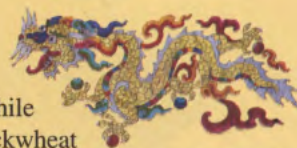
*President Natalicio shares her journey through Bhutan with NOVA readers — providing a glimpse into the beautiful country through her own reminiscences and photographs that capture the colorful majesty of the kingdom.*

As the Druk Airlines plane made its approach into the Paro airport, I wondered why I had waited so long to visit the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan. Since first learning about the Bhutanese architecture of the UTEP campus, I had hoped that I would one day see first-hand the source of that inspiration, and, finally, after 26 years on this campus, I was about to live that dream.

Bhutan is a small country, about the size of Switzerland, with a population of approximately 800,000. In many ways, it is a "vertical" country, with huge elevation differences, ranging from nearly sea level along its southern border with India, to high Himalayan peaks along its northern boundary with Tibet. From west to east, Bhutan is divided by a series of rivers whose deep valleys were, prior to the construction of a road in 1978, isolated from each other. Historically, the rivers served as major north-south travel arteries, and along them, at strategic locations, are many of the dzongs (or fortresses), which have served as an inspiration for UTEP's buildings. Rounding curves on the east-west road, these beautiful structures suddenly appear, glowing in the sunshine or peeking out from the mist.

Most Bhutanese people live on farms, where the variations in elevation produce an amazing range of agricultural products. While we were there, it was apple harvest season in the Paro and Thimpu valleys of western Bhutan, and nearby rice fields were ready to yield their precious grains, Bhutan's dietary staple. At lower elevations, such as the winter capital of

Punakha, warmer temperatures produce bananas and mangoes, while fields of graceful pink buckwheat blossoms dot the central mountains of the Bumthang district.



Nearly everywhere, chile peppers dry on rooftops, punctuating the gentle countryside with their bright red color. Wildflowers, birds and butterflies, as varied as the microclimates in which they reside, contribute to the rich and absolutely stunning palette of the Bhutanese landscape.

Bhutanese people wear the national dress — a *ka*, or tunic, for men, and a *kira*, or long jacketed dress, for women. Groups of smiling school children in plaid *ka* and *kira* uniforms appear everywhere along the roads as they walk many kilometers to school each day.

Archery is Bhutan's national sport, although soccer and basketball are gaining popularity. There is no television in Bhutan, but computer technology is being introduced. The national dish of Bhutan is *emadatshi*, which is similar to our own *chile con queso*.

During two short weeks in Bhutan, I was overwhelmed by the beauty of the countryside, the serenity of the surroundings, and the dignity of the Bhutanese people. I regret that I didn't make this trip sooner, and I promised myself that I will soon go again. Meanwhile, I will enjoy my photographs, which convey far better than these words, my extraordinary visit to Bhutan.

And ... in case anyone is wondering ... I am happy to report that the Bhutanese have done a good job of capturing the spirit of UTEP's architecture in their beautiful buildings! ■





## A Healthy Perspective



As he shivered through a life-threatening bout of whooping cough as a child, David Satcher remembered the look of determination and hope in his mother's eyes. At the time, neither mother nor son would know the impact this moment would have on the man who would achieve the national post of Surgeon General.

At UTEP's Winter Commencement, the nation's "First Doctor" challenged more than 1,300 degree candidates to have a passion for the possible and embrace life's challenges by building their own reservoirs of hope.

"I have come to know over and over again just how powerful hope can be, even in the direst of situations. Hope is infectious. Hope is strong," Satcher said. "Keep in your hands hope, heart and help. They are essential for the journey. The future of our nation and, indeed, the world may well be in your hands."

During Satcher's commencement address, the widely respected public health official and former medical school president applauded the university for its role in providing educational opportunities to the people of the El Paso-Juárez region. He emphasized UTEP's achievements that have been nationally recognized by:

- the National Science Foundation, which designated UTEP as a Model Institution for Excellence based on the university's success in creating educational opportunities for non-traditional students;
- the Department of Education, which ranked UTEP second in the nation for the total number of bachelor's degrees and 11th in the number of master's degrees awarded to Hispanics; and
- the *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education*, which recognized UTEP as the best college for Hispanic students in the health professions because the university ranked first in the nation for the number of degrees awarded to Hispanics in the field.

The Surgeon General is familiar with UTEP's successes because of the growing national reputation of the university and its president Diana Natalicio, who Satcher says is one of the people he respects most in higher education.

He is also connected to UTEP on a personal level; his son, David, graduated from the university with a bachelor's degree in languages and linguistics in 1992 and now teaches in Juárez.

### God's Minute

*I Have only just a minute,  
only sixty seconds in it,  
forced upon me, can't refuse it  
didn't seek it, didn't choose it  
but it's up to me to use it.  
I must suffer if I lose it,  
give account if I abuse it.  
Just a tiny little minute  
and yet eternity is in it.*

— unknown

*Quoted by U.S. Surgeon General  
David Satcher at UTEP's  
1998 Winter Commencement.*



Robert Moore, assistant managing and metro editor of the El Paso Times, received his bachelor's degree in political science at UTEP's Winter 1998 Commencement. During his final semester, Moore played an instrumental role in bringing both the Lt. Governor's and Gubernatorial debates to El Paso.

Photos by Chris Chavez

## Making History

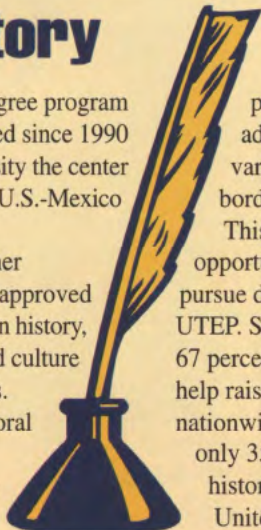
UTEP's eighth doctoral degree program — the seventh to be implemented since 1990 — promises to make the university the center for research on the history of the U.S.-Mexico border region.

In October, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the university's doctoral degree in history, which focuses on the history and culture of the U.S.-Mexico borderlands.

While there are many doctoral programs in history that offer specializations in U.S. or Latin American history, UTEP's

program is the first to specifically address the unique issues related to the varied cultures of the U.S.-Mexico border region.

This Ph.D. program represents the first opportunity for people from this region to pursue doctoral studies in the humanities at UTEP. Since UTEP's student population is 67 percent Hispanic, this program also will help raise the number of Hispanic Ph.D.s nationwide. Between 1946 and 1990, only 351 — 1.5 percent — of the 22,700 history doctoral degrees awarded in the United States went to Hispanics.





## The de Wetter's Lasting Legacy

For more than three decades, Peter and Mardee de Wetter have nurtured the university's development through their generous donations of



time, talent and financial resources. The university community gathered in October to dedicate UTEP's Administration Annex, affectionately known as the Alumni Lodge, as the Peter and Margaret de Wetter Center.

The naming of a UTEP facility for living individuals follows a rather rigorous approval process, culminating with the Board of Regents of the UT System, who, alone, have the legal power to grant such a request. This year, the board allowed UTEP to re-name the cherished campus building in tribute to the de Wetters' generous spirit and lasting legacy.

Together, the de Wetters have created endowments for the English department's creative writing program, the University Library to support the purchase of classical and contemporary works in poetry, drama and fiction, and a scholarship fund for presidential scholars.

Mardee, an accomplished poet and graduate of Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy (now UTEP), has worked tirelessly to advance the academic culture of El Paso and make real the dreams of generations of UTEP students.

Peter, a retired businessman and former mayor of El Paso, is chair of UTEP's historic Legacy Campaign

to raise \$50 million to increase the university's permanent endowment. Due to his unflagging energy and commitment, the campaign's total to date now stands at \$45 million — 90 percent of its goal.

The UTEP building that will bear the de Wetter name was built in 1941 and was the original home of the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority — of which Mardee was a member — before it became the Administration Annex in 1969. When the university's Alumni Office moved into the building, it became known as the Alumni Lodge. It once housed the university's Office of External Relations. Now, the Center for Inter-American and Border Studies calls the facility home.

"In recognition of their numerous contributions, the university searched for a gesture — both grand and intimate — that would communicate our thanks to these precious benefactors," UTEP President Diana Natalicio said. "Although there are no words that adequately say 'thank you' to two people who have given so much for so long, with this dedication we will ensure that their names will be prominently and permanently written on the heart of this campus as they are on the hearts of those whom they have touched."

## Crossing Borders

For Dennis Soden, the U.S.-Mexico border represents a point of connection rather than a line of separation.

As director of the Public Policy Research Center, Soden pulls together the multidisciplinary talents of UTEP faculty members whose research impacts the hemisphere — most recently, by examining the feasibility for a World Trade Center complex in the El Paso-Juárez area.

"El Paso is an ideal location to research social, political and economic issues within a binational and multicultural context," Soden, who also holds an endowed professorship in Western Hemispheric Trade Policy Studies, said. "UTEP's faculty members have the research capabilities, language skills and the cultural awareness to fully explore policy decisions and their impact on the region."





# Political Contest

The eyes of Texas were upon El Paso as UTEP hosted the city's first debates between the candidates for the state's most powerful positions — Lt. Governor and Governor.

In September, Republican Rick Perry squared off against Democrat John Sharp for an hour-long debate about the educational and economic issues facing Texans.

One month later, Governor George W. Bush met his Democratic challenger Garry Mauro in the only face-to-face meeting between the political rivals.

Both candidates spoke directly to issues affecting Hispanics and drew attention to border issues that are relevant and important to the state's future — from NAFTA to the disparities in funding for higher education.

Both the Lt. Governor's and Gubernatorial debates were organized by the *El Paso Times* and supported by UTEP, the *Dallas Morning News*, KERA TV in Dallas, the Texas Association of Broadcasters and KCOS-PBS and KVIA-TV in El Paso.



Lt. Governor  
Rick Perry



Governor George W. Bush

Photos by Chris Chavez



Garry Mauro



John Sharp

## ACADEMIC FEAT

Through its faculty members, UTEP attracts an impressive amount of intellectual capital to El Paso as part of its mission to serve the people of this region. This year, UTEP awarded promotion and tenure to 18 faculty members who have

demonstrated their commitment to the university by providing quality educational opportunities and focusing their scholarship on issues and ideas that impact the region.

Newly tenured and promoted faculty members are:

### Promotion to Professor

Pablo Arenaz — *Biological Sciences*

Feroza Jussawalla — *English*

Panagis Moschopoulos — *Mathematical Sciences*

### Award of Tenure for Associate Professors

Peeter Kirs — *Information and Decision Science*

Garland O'Quinn — *Health Sciences*

### Promotion to Associate Professor and Award of Tenure

Eduardo Barrera — *Communication*

Julia Eyer — *Health Sciences*

Kate Miller — *Geological Sciences*

John Nash — *Educational Leadership*

Emma Perez — *History*

Luis Ramos — *Languages and Linguistics*

Ramon Ravelo — *Physics*

Susan Rippberger — *Educational Leadership*

Benjamin Saenz — *English*

James Salvador — *Chemistry*

Robert Webb — *Biological Sciences*

James Wood — *Psychology*

Raymond Zimmerman — *Accounting*



# NY Times Highlights UTEP's Promising Education Practices

As Seen In

## The New York Times

In November, the *New York Times* recognized UTEP's College of Education for its successful efforts to improve teacher preparation by bridging classroom theory with classroom experience.

In its "Promising Practices" report, released in September, the U.S. Department of Education commended the university for innovative ideas such as requiring teachers to serve as interns in classrooms and work alongside their students. The *New York Times* highlighted some of these practices in its "Education Life" supplement distributed Nov. 1.

"Don't be a sage on the stage, be a guide on the side," Stephanie Hadley, an El Paso student said, summing up the new method of teaching that discourages teachers from merely standing in the front of the classroom to lecture. Instead, future teachers are encouraged to engage their students in group discussions that demand them to question the material and draw their own conclusions.

Maribel Alarcon, a UTEP education student, shares the cover of the publication with the front-page copy that provides a glimpse into the educational issues tackled inside the 44-page insert: "America's Teaching Crisis — States are toughening certification exams. Colleges are raising standards. Teachers are caught in the middle. It's an all-out assault."

The article, written by Randal C. Archibold, explores how the nation's colleges of education — pressured to raise admission standards and improve curricula — are looking for ways to help future teachers "pass muster" today.

"The university ... is growing a teaching hospital," the *Times*' article noted, "but one that aims to turn out teachers rather than doctors. And, to carry that analogy further, the E.R.s where the interns apply theory to practice are schools like H.D. Hilley Elementary, right in the middle of a cotton field in nearby Socorro.

"There, Maribel Alarcon, a student teacher, huddled on a recent day with a pack of sixth graders who measured and snipped and folded their multicolored construction paper into Origami, all in the name of geometry.

"Do you see the triangles?' she asked as they twisted and turned their frogs and whales to find the shapes. 'Is there a parallelogram in there?'"

"Taking a breather, Ms. Alarcon summed up the value of the classroom experience: 'On campus we got a lot of theory, but here we have hands-on practice with the kids. This gives us real approaches.'

"It is such approaches that educators hail as the wave of the future for education schools, which have been looking inward to find ways to improve the way they themselves teach ...

"Increasingly, medical schools are seen as models for teacher preparation programs, which are driven more and more by a need to strike a better balance between teaching theories of learning and giving education students a more practical, clinical experience in elementary and secondary classrooms...

"Teachers are now prepared more like doctors and nurses, and less like philosophers and historians,' Arturo Pacheco, dean of the College of Education at UTEP, said.

"The National Commission on Teaching and America's Future recommended such an approach in a report last year, suggesting that field experience be increased to a full school year instead of the typical half year, but under close supervision from instructors or 'mentor teachers.' The report did not suggest abandoning theory and methodology courses, and to strong programs like El Paso's, striking a balance is key. though, has not been immune to the drive to raise standards. The education program has raised its minimum grade point average for admission (and staying in) to 2.5 from 2.25, and is requiring its 1,500 students to take additional math and science classes ...

"The education program has restructured in the last few years, with the centerpiece the drive to increase preparation in the field. In keeping with the teaching-hospital model, seniors are called interns and spend about 600 to 700 hours in the field

— double what they used to — at 25 partner schools.

"They are like Christine Dalby, one of 13 interns spending this semester at Ascarate Elementary School.

"I could not imagine not having this experience,' said Ms. Dalby ..."

The article also includes a report card on New York's colleges and universities and a sampler of future accountability issues that will be faced at the state and national level:

- In Texas, 70 percent of a training program's graduating teachers must pass the state exam, or it will lose accreditation (UTEP already exceeds this standard); and

- Throughout the country, school districts will receive \$180 million for teacher testing and training. These funds are part of the Higher Education Act that President Clinton signed into law in the fall — allocating \$1.2 billion to hire and train teachers.

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## Dear Alumni:

It's been 25 years since I graduated from UTEP, but I still vividly recall the fun-filled days when I participated in campus activities as a member of Alpha Beta, a service fraternity at the university.

I remember how the "social" types of the fraternity regularly rounded us up for the Homecoming parade and other spirit-filled events that showcased the students' proudly decorated booths, fanciful floats, and colorful costumes. Each year, we fought for the coveted Overall Athletic Championship trophy for the organization that won the greatest number of individual sport titles. (I am proud to share that we eventually did secure this all-important bragging right.)

I also fondly remember the parties, picnics and camaraderie (though most of us could not spell the word) we shared. And, of course, I remember how the Alpha Betas always sat together in block formation for Miner football and basketball games.

Why should my reminiscences matter to you? The answer: my fraternity brothers and I (and the members of our auxiliary, Alpha Beta Gamma) had a great time here at our university.

As all Miners who attended El Paso's university — UTEP or Texas Western College or Texas College of Mines — we have many fond memories of our time here. Our university experiences and friendships made us who we are today.

Years later, I am still proud to be a UTEP Miner ... and that's why I became involved in the Alumni Association. You should too. I invite you to take an active role in your UTEP Alumni Association to support our *alma mater* and make the university experience even better for our student successors.

Near or far, your participation is important. Just because you don't live in the El Paso region doesn't mean you cannot participate. The Alumni Association offers exciting and satisfying activities that help pull together the Miners with whom we shared a campus and those who came before and after us.

We also have a lot of fun along the way!



Sincerely,  
Larry Trejo  
1999 UTEP Alumni Association President  
and Proud Graduate of the UTEP Class of '73



## The 1999 UTEP Alumni Association Board of Directors

### Executive Committee

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Pamela Phippen, 1st Vice President  
Marcia McNamee, 2nd Vice President  
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Paul Cunningham  
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Linda East  
Luis Villalobos  
Keith Fong

*Larry Trejo (left) receives the Alumni Association's Presidential Gavel from Past President Linda Troncoso.  
(Photo by Javier Vicencio)*

## Can You Dance?

*Members of Viva El Paso enjoyed a Texas Hoe Down with Homer Dale of the "Class of 48."*





## Remembering a Cheerful Tradition ... One Last Hurrah for Leonard Chant



because of his contagious energy that animated festivities and inspired a younger generation of Miners to embrace the spirit of the week.

Leonard and his wife Cathy (not an alumna, but you'd never know it) spent the whole week at the Alumni Lodge. They greeted visiting alumni and renewed old friendships. They showed their pride and spirit by wearing the traditional TCM orange and white each day. A florist by trade, Cathy took charge of the flower arrangements and helped with the lodge decorations.

Each time Leonard Chant (Class of 1938) led his annual rendering of the Miner's cheer at the Golden Grads luncheon, he brought the house down.

For 28 years, the Yell Leader from the TCM era traveled from California to his *alma mater* for Homecoming. Leonard became an integral part of the yearly activities



For the past two years Leonard's health did not permit him to travel to El Paso for Homecoming. This summer, the spirited Miner died at the age of 82.

At this year's Golden Grads luncheon, alumni remembered the cheerful chants of the man who stirred the spirit of so many. Leonard will be sorely missed, but his legacy and memory will live on in the hearts of those privileged to know him.



## Partners and Pioneers Saddle A Rootin', Tootin' Homecoming

Can-Can girls, gun fighters, sheriffs and line dancers combined to transform the UTEP campus into the Wild, Wild West!

Departments across campus marked their territory by branding their buildings with frontier-inspired decorations. The showdown almost resulted in a draw, but the judges

hung first-place honors on the College of Science.

Students took to the streets with 25 floats for the annual Homecoming Parade down Main Street (University Avenue). The 62nd Army Band, horse units and a stagecoach helped this parade gallop into the history books.



## Starry, Starry Night



Children's voices floated above the thousands of sparkling lights that draped the trees and buildings as part of UTEP's annual Season of Lights ceremony.

Season of Lights, a holiday tradition that dates back to the '60s, featured a concert by the 62nd Army Band and a choir of more than 300 Boy and Girl Scouts. Thousands of spectators enjoyed the magical lights and were invited to a heart-warming radio-play version of "It's a Wonderful Life."

Each year, UTEP joins the Alumni Association in adding more lights to the campus display — making UTEP a must-see stop on any tour of holiday lights in El Paso.





**30s** **Sue McLean** (B.A.'34) is the author of *The Life and Times of First Christian Church of El Paso from 1885-1985*. She received the Award of Excellence for outstanding service to the El Paso community and its branch of the American Association of University Women.

**40s** **Richard Mithoff** (B.B.A.'46), chairman emeritus of Mithoff Advertising, was honored by the Advertising Federation of El Paso for 50 years of leadership and service.

**50s** **Robert Cave** (B.B.A.'55) developed and opened The Burro Street Exchange, a 14-store, retail center — the first major construction project in Cloudcroft in almost 50 years.

**M. Rey Dutchover** (B.A.'58) retired after 40 years of working in education in Texas, New Mexico, California and Venezuela.

**Ivan Saddler** (B.S.E.E.'50) is a teacher at Motorola University.

**Polly Saddler** (B.A.'52) is retired and lives in Arizona with her husband, Ivan.

**Ronald Schaefer** (B.S.M.I.'52) has semi-retired and is a consultant in Florida.

**60s** **Ben Botello Jr.** (B.B.A.'68), who has been a U.S. Department of Education employee for 22 years, earned an M.S.Ed. from the University of Southern California.

**Janis Cavin** (B.S.Ed.'68; M.Ed.'77) is the vice president of institutional advancement at the University of Tulsa.

**Gary Crowell** (B.A.'69; M.Ed.'72) is the associate superintendent of the Pasadena Independent School District.

**Carlos Cuarón** (B.S.Ed.'61) has retired from teaching after 23 years of service.

**Jaime Einstein** (B.A.'67) is an associate general counsel with Baxter International in charge of legal services in Latin America, Africa and the Middle East.

**Mario Garcia** (B.A.'66; M.A.'68), author of *The Making of a Mexican-American Mayor: Raymond L. Telles of El Paso*, is a professor of history and Chicano studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

**Leandro Gonzalez** (B.S.E.E.'63) is the group manager for CDSI where he supervises 33 engineers and technical systems analysts at Ft. Bliss. In 1992, he retired from the Department of the Army after 30 years.

**Michael Griffin** (B.B.A.'65) retired from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency where she was a commissioned national bank examiner.

**George Guess** (B.S.Ed.'64), a retired pilot from TransWorld Airlines, is a registered investment adviser in Phoenix.

**Sandra Herrera** (B.S.'67; M.Ed.'74) was promoted from school principal to Ogden City Schools coordinator of federal, state and community relations.

**Judith Lee** (B.A.'65) is the vice-president of Texas American Brokerage, a commercial real estate firm.

**Keith Miller** (B.A.'65) is president of the Siesta Key Chamber of Commerce and owner of Lotions & Potions, a fragrance and body care shop.

**David Morin** (B.A.'65) is celebrating 20 years in private practice as a rehabilitation massage therapist specializing in athletic injury rehabilitation.

**Richard Routh** (B.S.'63) has retired as manager of field engineering with Boeing North American.

**Keithley Wagner** (B.S.Ed.'63) is on the staff of the Amen Wardy home in Colorado. He also is a photographer.

**Tom Warren** (B.B.A.'66) is the owner and manager of Art's Muffler and Brake Shop.

**Albert White** (B.S.'67) is the president and chief executive officer of Centillum Technology of Fremont, Calif., where he also serves on the board of directors.

**70s** **Ali Al-Dahwi** (B.S.C.E.'78) is the president and chief operating officer of Cambio Networks.

**Miguel Arce** (B.A.'74) is the regional director for the Department of Health and Human Services.

**Tim Brady** (B.A.'73) has completed the American Board of Preventive Medicine Specialty training in occupational and environmental medicine at the Texas Institute of Occupational Safety and Health at the University of Texas Health Center at Tyler.

**Raymond Briggs** (B.A.'74) is a teacher at Coronado High School.

**Jean Kay Butterworth** (B.S.Ed.'74) is a first-grade teacher at Rosa Guerrero Elementary School.

**Marie Carawan** (B.A.'71; M.Ed.'89) is a first-grade bilingual teacher at O'Shea Keleher Elementary School.

**Margo Endlich-Portillo** (B.S.Ed.'71; M.Ed.'83) is the articulation and tech prep coordinator at El Paso Community College.

**Andy Evalds** (B.S.E.E.'73) is the general manager of Boeing's operations in El Paso.

**Nick Gagliano Jr.** (B.A.'79) is an assistant principal at El Paso High School.

**Luis Garcia** (B.S.'76) is the district director for the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

**Lisa Hajar** (B.S.N.'78) is the administrative director of outpatient treatment for the Diabetes Management and Wound Care Centers for the Bellaire Medical Center in Houston.

**William Jabalie** (B.S.'79) is the 1998-1999 El Paso Dental Society president.

**Steve Kunert** (B.A.'79; M.A.I.S.'89) is teaching English at Oregon State University.

**Thomas McKay** (B.A.'71; M.A.'75) was voted 1997-98 teacher of the year at Raymond Telles Academy. He also was inducted into the El Paso Boxing Martial Arts Hall of Fame.

**Rachel Miles** (B.S.Ed.'71) is the YMCA vice president for financial development.

**Gilberto Monarez** (B.B.A.'76; M.Ed.'87) completed a space technology and biomedical research space discovery graduate course conducted by the U.S. Space Foundation in Colorado Springs. Monarez is a computer liaison at Wiggs Middle School in El Paso.

**Roger Montgomery** (B.B.A.'70) is the vice-president of pricing for Southwest Gas Corporation in Las Vegas.

**Dolores Payan** (B.A.'70) is a paralegal specialist in the U.S. Customs Service Fines and Penalties Office.

**Mike Payan** (B.A.'76), branch manager of the Armijo Library, earned a masters degree in library science.

**Irma Ramirez** (B.A.'71) is an eighth-grade English teacher at Henderson Middle School.

**Richard Robins** (B.A.'70; M.Ed.'73) received the Meritorious Service Medal after retiring from the U.S. Army Reserve after 28 years.

**Ed Rosen** (B.A.'71; M.Ed.'77) has been promoted to employment services coordinator at Bridgepointe Center.

**Gerald Schafer** (B.A.'71) is the director of library and information services at Bay Path College.

**Francis Smith III** (B.A.'71) has completed 15 years of service as a microbiologist in newborn screening at the Texas Department of Health.

**Nick Valenzuela** (B.B.A.'74) has retired as an accountant and auditor after 30 years with the Department of Defense. He is now working on an MBA in finance.

**80s** **Patrick Angel** (B.B.A.'88) is self-employed as an SQA Y2K Certification Officer for ABN/AMRO - LaSalle International Bank in Chicago. He also is the owner of Random Access Technologies Inc.

**David Carrillo** (B.A.'86) was promoted to lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy.

**Jamey Dillard** (B.S.'86) is a teacher at Morehead Middle School.

**Alicia Gaspar de Alba** (B.A.'80; M.A.'83) received her Ph.D. in American studies from the University of New Mexico and is a professor of Chicano studies at UCLA. She is the author of *Chicano Art Inside/Outside the Master's House* and the forthcoming novel, *Sor Juana's Second Dream*.

**Eric Mountin** (B.A.'89) is a special agent with the FBI.

**Pedro Ortega** (B.S.Ed.'84) is the head coach of girl's basketball at Socorro High School.

**Andrea Plaza** (B.A.'83) is the senior communications associate at the New Jersey Resources Corporation.

**Wayne Ponce** (M.P.A.'84) has retired as the assistant deputy chief with the U.S. Probation Office after 23 years of service.

**Lily Ramirez** (B.S.N.'80; M.S.N.'95) is a nurse practitioner and director of the UTEP Student Health Center.

**Yolanda Rangel** (B.S.C.S.'87) is a fifth-grade bilingual teacher at Sierra Vista Elementary School.

**Francisco Rodriguez** (B.S.Ed.'80), who earned a master of science degree in education from Texas A&M University, is the language arts chair and a sixth-grade teacher at South Park Middle School in Corpus Christi.

**Gilbert Rodriguez** (B.S.'84) is a programmer analyst at the Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina.

**Adriana Sierra** (B.B.A.'85) received her master's degree in organizational management from the University of Phoenix. She also was awarded an Outstanding Alumni Award from the El Paso Catholic Diocesan Schools.

**Felipa Solis** (B.A.'83) co-anchors the evening news for Channel 9-KTSM, the NBC affiliate in El Paso.

**Alfonso Soto III** (B.B.A.'86; M.Acy.'89) is an attorney with Krafur, Gordon, Mott, Davis & Woody P.C.

**Janet Stebleton** (M.S.N.'85) earned her nurse practitioner degree from the University of Texas at Arlington and is a certified nurse practitioner in Albuquerque.

**Caroline Stone** (B.S.Ed.'85) is a teacher at O'Shea Keleher Elementary School.

**Brian Summers** (B.S.Ed.'82) is the office manager of the east side El Paso Physical Therapy Services.

**Martin Vila** (B.S.C.E.'87; M.S.'90) is manager of the Rio Grande Valley Region for Raba-Kistner Consultants Inc.

**David Valdez** (B.S.'86) is the medical director of PacificCare Health Systems of Texas in San Antonio.

**Jerry Walker** (B.S.Ed.'81) is the head football coach at Parkland High School.

**Barbara Zavala** (B.B.A.'90) is an agent with the Internal Revenue Service.

**Denise Ziemski** (B.B.A.'84) is a sales representative for Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical.

**90s** **Jesus Aguilera** (B.A.'92) is a legal assistant in the Office of the Attorney General for the State of Arizona.

**Irma Boada** (B.S.E.E.'95) is a quality assurance engineer at ELCOM Injection Molding Company.

**David Bonilla** (B.B.A.'92) opened a general law practice in El Paso. Bonilla was the Texas consultant for U.S. Home Corporation in Houston.



# OBITS

**David Bowidowicz** (B.B.A. '94) has completed a six-month deployment to the Persian Gulf aboard the U.S.S. Carney.

**Edward Bradford** (B.B.A. '93) is the plant finance manager of Davol Surgical Innovations S.A. de C. V. in Juárez, Mexico.

**Karen Brooks** (B.S.Ed. '92) is a special education teacher at Zach White Elementary School.

**Reid Culton** (B.S.N. '90) graduated from the University of North Texas Health Science Center and is working on his residency in family practice medicine.

**Loretta Diehl** (M.S.N. '93) received a 1998 Donald C. Roush Award for Teaching Excellence from New Mexico State University.

**Naomi Esparza** (B.A. '91) is an English teacher at Montwood High School.

**Catharine Foster** (M.S.N. '94) has been appointed to the New Mexico Board of Nursing by Governor Gary Johnson. She is a nurse practitioner in Las Cruces and teaches part-time in the family nurse practitioner program at UTEP.

**Aurora Garza** (B.B.A. '98) is a mechanical buyer for Sippican Inc.'s ocean systems division operations in El Paso and Juárez.

**Lori Glasgow** (B.S. '95), who graduated from basic and AIT training for the U.S. Army, is a correctional specialist at Ft. Lewis, Wash.

**Albert Gonzalez** (B.S.M.E. '94) is a U.S. Navy surface warfare officer aboard the U.S.S. McCluskey.

**Lorena LaPuma** (M.P.A. '97) is a 1998 YWCA Reach Award Recipient.

**Jessica Levy** (B.A. '93) is the attorney recruiting coordinator for the law firm of O'Melveny & Myers LLP.

**Maureen Lewis** (B.B.A. '95) is a human resources information systems manager for a medical laboratory in Dallas.

**Sherita Martin** (M.Ed. '95) is a math teacher at Burges High School.

**Theresa Moss** (B.S.N. '98) is a nurse in the surgical unit at St. Vincent Hospital and Health Center.

**Richard Ortega** (B.I.S. '93), a special education teacher at Sierra Vista Elementary, has been named teacher of the year in the Socorro Independent School District. He also is a finalist for the teacher of the year award for Region 19.

**Frank Perez** (B.A. '93; M.A. '97) is pursuing a Ph.D. in communication at the University of New Mexico.

**Holaya Ponce** (B.S. '90), a supervisor for the West Texas Community Supervision and Corrections Department, earned a master's degree in counseling.

**Heidi Rigg** (B.S.N. '95) is a nurse in the specialty care nurseries at Thomason Hospital.

**Carlos Sanchez** (B.S.M.E. '91) is a project engineer with Willbros Engineers Inc. where he works on domestic and international projects and proposals.

**Ray Sanchez** (B.A. '93) is the author of *The Miners*, a history of UTEP sports.

**Robert Skov** (M.S. '92) has been named to the 1998-99 Cotton Leadership Class.

**Deanna Suggs** (M.S.N. '91) received a 1998 Donald C. Roush Award for Teaching Excellence from New Mexico State University.

**Gloria Vasquez** (B.B.A. '90) passed the human resources certification exam and works for the Human Element of Business Inc.

**Eduardo Escalante** (B.B.A. '88)

June 14, 1998. Escalante was a lifelong resident of El Paso who retired from the U.S. Immigration Service. He is survived by his parents, Jose and Maria; his companion of 14 years, Enrique; brothers, Carlos, Rafael and Juan; and sisters, Irene and Elizabeth.

**Thor Gade** (B.A. '49) June 19, 1998. Gade was a resident of El Paso for more than 50 years. He was a longtime El Paso lawyer and a veteran of the U.S. Army. He served as president of the El Paso Bar Association and director of the State Bar of Texas. He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Darlene; daughters, Charitine and Barbara; and sister, Thora.

**Marion Lopez Jr.** (B.A. '51) June 28, 1998. Lopez was a lifelong resident of El Paso and a veteran of World War II. Lopez was preceded in death by his wife, Suzanne; sister, Martha; and his parents, Marion and Marguerite Lopez. He is survived by his son, Michou; daughter, Patricia; and brothers, Charles and Jerry.

**Ron McCluskey** (B.A. '70) June 30, 1998. McCluskey was a resident of Ft. Worth and a veteran of the U.S. Army 101st Airborne Division. He served as the president of McCluskey and Associates law firm in El Paso and chief counsel/executive director of the El Paso Employers' Association. He was a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Bar of Washington, D.C., the American Bar Association and the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. McCluskey was preceded in death by his parents, Alfred and Elizabeth. He is survived by his son, Patrick; sisters, Sharon and Linda; and brothers, Michael and Tom.

**Orval Story** (NG) July 12, 1998. Story was a resident of El Paso where he owned several car dealerships and other businesses. He was a member of the Shriners, Blue Lodge, Scottish and York Rite Bodies, El Paso Chamber of Commerce, Better Business Bureau and the Texas Automobile Dealers Association. He is survived by his sons, Jared and Jim; and daughters, Audrey, Cherann and Kaye.

**Guadalupe Muñoz** (B.S.Ed. '73) July 15, 1998. Muñoz was a lifelong resident of El Paso who worked as a teacher for 33 years with the El Paso Independent School District. She was a lifelong member of the Texas PTA. She is survived by her son, Pablo; and daughters, Eva, Angelina, Virginia and Dolores.

**Jesse Armstrong** (B.A. '59) July 23, 1998. Armstrong lived in El Paso for 27 years and was senior vice-president of Norwest Bank. Armstrong is survived by his wife, Mary; sons, Joseph and Steven; and daughters, Mary, Melissa and Charla.

**Richard Andrews** (B.A. '71) July 28, 1998. Andrews was a professor of accounting at Ottawa University in Kansas. He served with the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne and 7th Special Forces. He was preceded in death by his father, Charles. He is survived by his wife, Delores; children, Richard, Michelle; mother, Barbara; brother, John; and sister, Carolyn.

**Mary Patrick** (M.A. '57) July 29, 1998. Patrick was a lifelong resident of El Paso who retired from teaching in El Paso public schools after 38 years of service. She was preceded in death by her husband, W. D. (Pat). She is survived by her daughter, Nancy; and sister, Willa.

**Margaret Miller** (B.S. '60) Aug. 9, 1997. Miller was a resident of San Antonio. She was the office manager and paralegal for her husband, who was an attorney. She is survived by her husband, Mallory Miller Jr.; son, Mallory III; mother, Mrs. R. D. MacNeil; and her daughter Helen.

**Geneva Hardison** (B.A. '58; M.Ed. '62) Aug. 18, 1998. Hardison was a resident of El Paso for more than 50 years. She attended Marion Manor, Bel Air Junior High School and Bel Air High School. She was a member of the Fabens OES and the Retired Teachers Association. She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard. She is survived by her daughters, Francis, Elizabeth, Sarah, Geneva and Ann; and sisters, Mary and Sarah.

**Hal Oliver** (B.S. '60) Aug. 23, 1998. Oliver was an engineer in the natural gas industry and a Korean War veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He was a longtime El Paso resident. He is survived by his wife, Betty; sons, Brian and Kyle; and daughter, Kay.

**Bernice Dittmer** (B.S.Ed. '62; M.A. '66) Sept. 5, 1998. Dittmer was a resident of El Paso for more than 50 years. She was an artist, writer, civic leader and philanthropist. Dittmer was a lifetime member of the Community Foundation Board, the UTEP Library Board and Viva El Paso. In 1983, she was the recipient of the Gran Paseña award from UTEP. She is preceded in death by her husband, Emil Jay. She is survived by her son, John; and daughter, Julie.

**Anthony Munguia** (B.I.S. '96) Sept. 12, 1998. Munguia was a lifelong resident of El Paso. He was a teacher and seventh-grade head football coach at Canutillo Middle School. He is survived by his wife, Melissa; children, Sean, Alyzabeth, and Alyssa; mother Lorenza; brothers, Ernie and Francisco; and sisters, Gloria and Martha.

**Alejandro Duran** (B.A. '54) Sept. 14, 1998. Duran worked in El Paso for the past 30 years as a cardiologist and internist. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He received the Debaque Fellowship and a United Nations grant. He was active in the U.S. Army Reserves, the Southwest Association of American Hispanic Physicians, the Baptist Clinic in South El Paso and the Lords Ranch. Duran is survived by his son Alexander III; sisters, Elda and Amparo; and his partner, Delia.

**Gloria Medrano** (B.S.W. '83) Sept. 20, 1998. She is survived by her mother, Elisa; father, Laureano; brothers, Manuel and Lance; sisters, Maria and Laura.

**Mary Barfield** (B.M. '55) Sept. 29, 1998. Barfield was a resident of San Antonio where he was a retired teacher and served as a mentor to children at Northwood and Woodridge elementary schools. She is survived by her husband, Acie; daughter, Beth; son, Bruce; and sister, Ruth.

**Okla McKee** (M.A. '55) Oct. 9, 1998. McKee worked for the Catholic Diocese of El Paso for more than 40 years and was a longtime member of the El Paso Archeological Society. She is survived by her daughter, Carol; and son, Terry.

**John Imming** (M.Ed. '76) Oct. 18, 1998. Imming was a resident of El Paso for 30 years. He retired from the U.S. Army after 26 years of service. He served in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. He retired from teaching at Magoffin Elementary School. Imming was preceded in death by his wife, Mildred. He is survived by his sisters, Kathelyne, Madonna and Margaret.

**Daniel Reade Jr.** (B.S. '80) Nov. 9, 1998. Reade was a security manager with Phelps Dodge and a Vietnam War veteran from the U.S. Air Force. He is survived by his wife, Gloria; son, Daniel; daughters, Andrea and Catherine; and parents, Daniel and Gloria.

Compiled by Judy Jimenez





## Supporting UTEP Student-Athletes in their Quest for Excellence in Academics, Athletics and Leadership through Service to the El Paso Community.

Join the UTEP Miner Foundation and make a difference! To offset the cost of annual student-athlete scholarships, the Office of Athletic Development is implementing the following three new Miner Foundation programs.

# 1

### Be Part of the Team!

If you're a Miner Fan, we want you! The **Team Fund Drive** will serve as the primary annual fundraising campaign for the Miner Foundation and UTEP Athletics. Held in the spring, the Team Fund Drive will consist of organized teams of individuals/volunteers who strive to attain the greatest number of renewals and new season ticket donations, as well as non-ticket contributions to the Miner Foundation. Teams and individuals are driven by the cause, raising money to fund UTEP student-athlete scholarships and by numerous incentives and motivating factors present throughout the five-week fund drive.

# 2

### Miner Moonlight Auction & Gala

Held in August, the **Miner Moonlight Auction & Gala** will include a cocktail reception, formal sit-down dinner and both silent and live auctions. It promises to be full of quality auction items and entertaining sideline activities! The Office of Athletic Development is looking for volunteers interested in assisting in organizing the event, procuring auction items, identifying table captains and obtaining advertisement and sponsorship for both the event and auction programs.

# 3

### Let's Hear It for the Miners!

The establishment of **El Paso Miner Fan Clubs** is a grass roots effort to get the entire El Paso community involved with UTEP Athletics. The Office of Athletic Development is reaching out to Miner fans across the El Paso area, welcoming and inviting them to experience the excitement of UTEP Athletics. Fan Clubs will be organized in the West, Northeast, East, Central, South and Lower Valley regions of El Paso.



For more information on becoming a Miner Foundation Program Volunteer, please call:

**The UTEP Office of Athletic Development  
at (915) 747-8759.**

# NOVA

Q U A R T E R L Y

The University of Texas at El Paso  
El Paso, Texas 79968-0522



WINTER 1999

# NOVA

Q U A R T E R L Y

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO





*This issue's From the President is a guest column by Charlie Villa, a UTEP alumnus who completed his six-year appointment to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in September.*

*M*y association with UTEP has had a profound influence on my life. UTEP's accessibility and affordability made higher education attainable for me as a young El Pasoan, and it opened my eyes to a much larger world. I owe much of what I have accomplished to the opportunities made possible by my years at UTEP, and I am committed to assuring similar opportunities for others.

One such opportunity came to me when, in 1993, Texas Gov. Ann Richards appointed me to membership on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. I was honored to be one of 18 Texans from all walks of life charged with the planning, coordination and evaluation of all higher education under state authority. Shortly before my appointment, the former Texas Commissioner of Higher Education visited El Paso and commented that "never in your lifetime" would UTEP have additional doctoral programs. Not an auspicious beginning! But there is more to the story.

During my tenure on the Coordinating Board, I have joined my colleagues in approving six new doctoral programs at UTEP. The case that UTEP made for robust expansion of its graduate programs was compelling because it was based on a solid foundation of quality undergraduate programs, a growing research portfolio and a strong commitment to the region's human, economic and technological development.

It was clear to me and my fellow Coordinating Board members that UTEP had carefully defined its role and mission and identified areas of Ph.D. program development where the university possessed unique capabilities and demonstrated strengths. These planning efforts paid off, and UTEP's robust agenda now includes nine competitive doctoral programs involving faculty from all colleges.

As my tenure on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board concludes, I am pleased to have been a part of the significant progress that higher education is making across the state. I am especially proud to have participated in UTEP's successful efforts to enhance the quality and stature of its graduate and research programs, which, in my opinion, have clearly positioned it for Tier 1 status.

This success story has evolved because of the strong leadership of UTEP President Diana Natalicio and the university's excellent faculty and staff. In closing, I want to thank them for their vision, hard work, and dedication to our students.



Charlie Villa

— Charlie Villa



# NOVA

Q U A R T E R L Y  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

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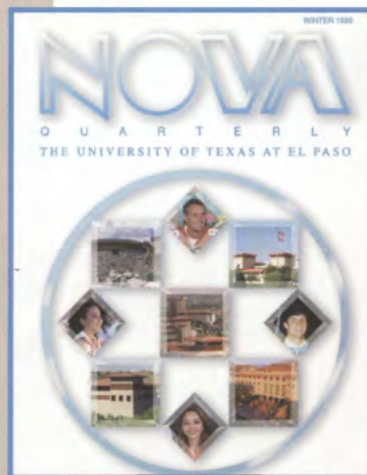
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# PRESERVING THE BOR PEOPLE IN HISTORY



From left, historians Emma Perez, Samuel Brunk and Ernesto Chávez.



# BORDERLANDS AND ITS

by Sonny Lopez

**A**lthough the size and scope of their goal may seem overwhelming, Ernesto Chávez and his colleagues in UTEP's one-of-a-kind U.S.-Mexico borderlands history doctoral program are fighting to bring to life the long-neglected stories of this unique region's people.

Establishing this doctoral program also means creating an ambitious research agenda.

"I'm trying not to lose the people in this very large and broad borderland project," Chávez says. "It has been difficult because most of these people are ethnic Mexicans and Mexican-Americans."

As a group, Hispanics have traditionally been ignored in history, even though they are the fastest-growing segment of the population in Texas and throughout the country. The borderlands history program will try to combat this underrepresentation, launching an era of study that delves into the group's heritage and culture.

"I don't think we should lose tradition," Chávez says. "Even though many people don't necessarily call themselves Chicanos, there wouldn't be certain traditions or certain history if there hadn't been that movement."

"My parents lived in Juárez before they moved to Los Angeles," he says. "Two of my brothers were born in Juárez, another in El Paso, and I was born in L.A. We're definitely L.A. boys, but we know where it all goes back to. My parents visited Juárez about a year ago and they said it has changed dramatically. I wonder what's been lost?"

UTEP's new doctoral program will focus on the distinct characteristics of both sides of the border, while at the same time studying the unique social fabric that has been created along the border region.

Chávez, who researches and writes about the Chicano movement, works closely with three history colleagues whose research also focuses on the borderlands: history department chair Samuel Brunk, who has studied Mexican revolutionary Emiliano Zapata; Cheryl Martin,

whose research includes colonial Mexico and the borderlands; and Emma Pérez, who is serving a yearlong distinguished professorship at the University of New Jersey and whose research includes the women of Texas, the Yucatan and the Mexican Revolution.

The researchers will use the history of the El Paso-Juárez area, including its indigenous societies, to consider major issues of global economy, environment, technology and politics — all of which transcend geographical boundaries — while revealing the experiences of ordinary people.

"Oral history becomes vital when we try to fill in the entire picture, which can't be contained by man-made, or for that matter, any borders," says Pérez, adding that finding the voices of the average people — especially women — can be difficult.

"As a Chicana historian, what really bugged me during my research was that as I went through the records, all I got were the words of priests, politicians and other officials talking about these women — never their (women's) voices. The common folk get lost, and that's sad because most of us are tied to these common folk."

Brunk says that UTEP's location makes it the ideal institution to offer the new borderlands history doctoral program.

"I'm here because we offer a clear program in the perfect place for it. It shouldn't take us long to double the knowledge of this region and make UTEP the center for borderlands research," he says.

"You can't capture the life experiences in places away from the border. Where else can you do research in Mexico and the United States in the same day? Being in El Paso is vital; the border is so dynamic and there's a sort of rootlessness, yet there is a remarkable sense of identity." ■



# Research and Sponsored

*With a robust research and sponsored project agenda, UTEP has recruited outstanding faculty members who are committed to conducting nationally competitive research that is relevant not only to the needs of the regional community but to issues of national and international concern.*



## Mission: Border Health

The study of basic disease-causing agents along the U.S.-Mexico border has been reinforced by the university's expanding role in the area of health sciences and the biomedical research of its faculty members.

- In a region where residents often lack such basic needs as electricity, clean water and proper waste disposal, UTEP's College of Health Sciences provides primary health care access at public school-based clinics while teaching students an important lesson in community service.
- Through the Border Biomedical Research Center, researchers tackle basic biomedical research on infectious diseases, environmental toxicology and neurological disorders. These researchers focus on the region's health problems, including studying the prevalence of hepatitis in the border region, developing a simple, non-invasive screening test for the dangerous pathogen that causes stomach ulcers, and examining the Hantavirus infection in Southern New Mexico and Northern Mexico.
- With the development of the Border Health Institute, UTEP and its partners — Texas Tech's El Paso campus and the Paso del Norte Health Foundation — will create health career opportunities for

residents of the region, foster research on the critical health issues affecting the U.S.-Mexico border, and position El Paso as a major regional health science center.

## Mission: Education

UTEP's educational commitment reaches far beyond the campus. Through active collaborations with El Paso-area school districts, UTEP has become a national model for educational reform and the preparation of teachers.

- The El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence, an umbrella organization housed at the university, brings together the city's education, community, business and civic leaders to work toward a common goal of high academic standards and achievement for students at all educational levels.
- As one of six National Science Foundation Model Institutions for Excellence, UTEP is poised to spearhead national science, engineering and math curriculum reform. This model for educational reform will benefit not only engineering and science, but the entire university and other public urban institutions.
- The Technological Innovation Challenge grant is designed to



# Projects

by Catherine Dunn, Walli Haley, Sonny Lopez and  
Jeryl Z. Marcus

improve access to computer technology in the public schools and develop teacher confidence and proficiency in teaching with computers. This far-reaching program infuses the schools with computer hardware while providing an educated force of professional teachers through intense training and mentorship.

## Mission: Environment

Through collaborations across campus in science and engineering, UTEP is finding innovative solutions to environmental problems that threaten the health, safety and economic development of the Southwest border region.

- The Center for Environmental Resource Management, a university research hub, provides university-wide coordination of outreach, service, education, policy and research activities focusing on environmental issues. The center brings together multidisciplinary perspectives to address environmental issues in areas such as biology, ecology, geology and chemistry.
- UTEP's Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy, which was established by Congress in 1990, is a consortium of U.S. and Mexican universities that initiate comprehensive analysis of solutions to acute air, water quality and hazardous waste problems that plague the U.S.-Mexico border.
- UTEP also is home to the world's most innovative water desalinization project. Brine management — the removal of salt from brackish or polluted water — will add to the region's supply of clean water. It also is essential to producing cost-effective solar energy, which through the creation of a solar pond can generate energy and electricity.

## Mission: International Business

UTEP is uniquely poised geographically, academically and culturally to play a significant role in the global economy. The College of Business Administration has a robust mission that focuses on providing applied research to develop the regional economy.

- Forecasting maquiladora employment, the number of plants in operation, aggregate value added and payroll wages is the role of the Border Region Modeling Project of the Department of Economics and Finance.
- The Center for the Study of Western Hemispheric Trade provides international business and economic research on the impact of economic developments on foreign and commercial policy in the region.
- The North American Free Trade Agreement Intermodal Institute is designed to tackle a wealth of issues ranging from studying the history of transportation in El Paso to the expansion of NAFTA to other Latin American countries.

## Mission: International Communication

As the 21st century emerges, the U.S.-Mexico borderlands region is gaining new significance. UTEP, directly on the border and the largest Mexican-American-majority university in the nation, is finding innovative ways to communicate the university's evolving expertise on border issues and concerns.

- With the click of a mouse, students can access a unique way to learn more about the complex connection the United States and Mexico borderlands share. The Borderlands Encyclopedia CD-ROM offers

students at all grade levels important and timely information about the U.S.-Mexico border in both English and Spanish.

- UTEP and El Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología — the Mexican equivalent of the National Science Foundation — will establish a cooperative research and development program. The collaboration will promote advanced networking on Internet 2 between the United States and Mexico through applications in digital storage and use, distance learning and education, telemedicine, distance instrumentation manipulation and use, advanced networking, simulation and modeling.

## Mission: Immigration

El Paso holds enormous symbolic importance as the port of entry from Mexico — as the "Southwest Ellis Island" — so it is fitting that UTEP is the site of an international educational and research center dedicated to the history of the movement of people from Mexico to the United States.

- The Center for Inter-American Border Studies is dedicated to establishing innovative visions of the border and the Americas.

Researchers have a number of collaborative projects under way, including the first exit poll in the upcoming Mexican presidential election, the investigation of a series of Spanish colonial presidios in Northern Mexico and a study of the sociological context of violence against women in Juárez.

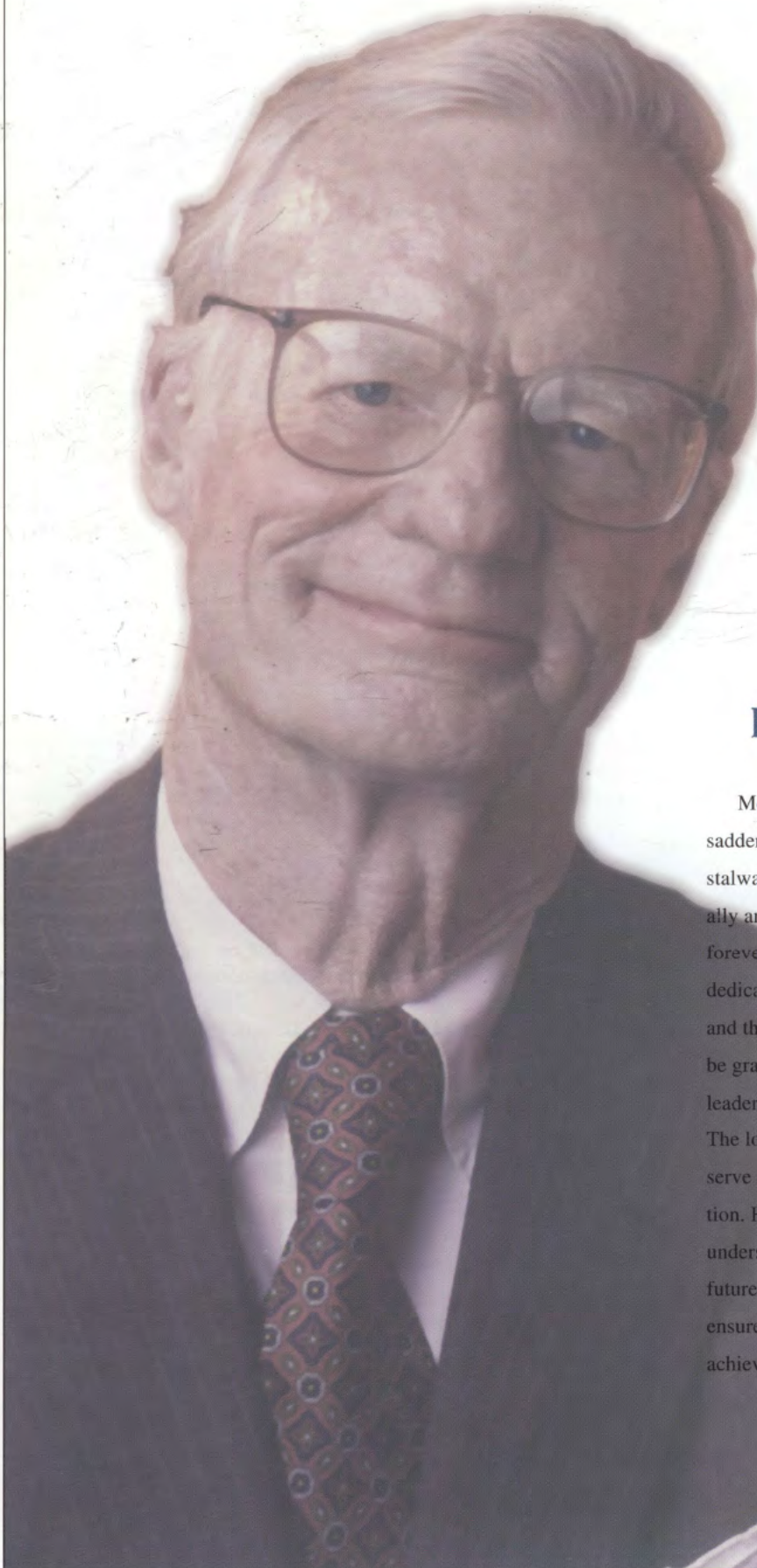
- The Immigration History Research Center integrates scholarly research and public programming and encourages community involvement to contribute to the development and interpretation of knowledge about the immigration experience. UTEP recently signed an agreement for the university to share in the wealth of primary documents from the Mexican national archives.

## Mission: Manufacturing and Materials

UTEP's materials research projects are finding new and better ways to use metals, from developing longer-lasting prostheses to cleaning up space debris.

- Through a grant from the U.S. Department of Defense, UTEP's Materials Research Institute is working with its Mexican counterpart to find biomedical applications for titanium tantalum alloys. This material, originally developed by Los Alamos for weapons systems, is being adapted for biomedical implants such as hip replacements.
- Understanding the impact phenomenon — how materials strike each other in space — will enable researchers to find ways to clean up outer space, which is so polluted that 43 percent of the debris striking communications satellites and space shuttles is man-made.
- UTEP's Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative is an innovative science cooperative that unites government agencies, industry and researchers on both sides of the border to create and transfer environmentally sound and energy-efficient materials technology.
- UTEP's new Center for International Manufacturing integrates industrial research and academic study in such areas as robotics, computer-aided manufacturing and industrial engineering. The center's research will help U.S.-based manufacturers — including 700 regional plants — remain competitive in the global marketplace. ■





## PETER DE WETTER

Members of UTEP's extended family were greatly saddened by the Oct. 17 passing of Peter de Wetter – a stalwart champion of higher education, a staunch UTEP ally and, most importantly, a dear friend. This institution is forever indebted to Peter for his personal generosity in dedicating his time, talent and resources to this university and the students we serve. We will always remember and be grateful for his commitment and for the extraordinary leadership he provided as chair of the Legacy Campaign. The long-range benefits of this ambitious undertaking will serve as a tribute to Peter's vision and unflagging dedication. He was the epitome of a committed volunteer who understood well UTEP's potential to contribute to the future of this region, and who was tireless in his efforts to ensure that UTEP would have the resources required to achieve its full potential.



# LEGACY

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## campaign

by Timi Haggerty

In 1997, UTEP President Diana Natalicio and a group of committed volunteers publicly announced the university's ambitious \$50 million Legacy Campaign, a special effort focusing on building capital resources of endowment, facilities and equipment through which UTEP can serve the long-term needs of its students and the entire border region.

At the onset of this campaign, there were some who argued that the goal was too ambitious: "El Paso is a poor community — there is no way you can raise \$50 million here!" However, thanks to a vigorous volunteer effort with support from individuals, corporations and foundations, UTEP recently reached its initial Legacy Campaign goal — nearly a year ahead of schedule!

The goal-shattering gift came from Larry Durham, a 1964 alumnus and former Miner football player whose generous pledge of \$3 million will enable UTEP to proceed with construction of a new kinesiology and athletic complex near the Sun Bowl Stadium.

"All of us at UTEP are enormously proud and pleased that the generosity of our many friends and supporters has enabled us to reach our initial \$50 million goal," UTEP President Diana Natalicio says. "We are particularly pleased that an extraordinary gift from one of our alumni took us over the top. This major accomplishment has energized us all to press on during the next several months to take the Legacy Campaign to new heights and thereby build an even stronger foundation for UTEP's bright future."

The outstanding support of the El Paso community has encouraged Legacy Campaign leadership to step up current outreach efforts to all UTEP alumni and friends, urging them to share in the university's efforts to increase opportunities for students to receive an excellent, affordable and accessible education. The Legacy Campaign will continue until its originally scheduled completion date of Aug. 31, 2000.

This next phase of the Legacy Campaign will be a wide-ranging effort to promote awareness, encourage participation as donors and develop volunteer involvement among alumni and all citizens of the El Paso-Juárez region.

All alumni and members of the El Paso community are encouraged to consider an investment in UTEP, whether it be a monetary donation or a gift of time as a volunteer for one of the university's many important programs and initiatives.

UTEP is this region's greatest asset, playing an important role in the human and economic development of the border area, and local support is the cohesion that strengthens this special mission.

"We also will heighten our efforts to reach alumni across the nation, encouraging them to make possible for future generations the same opportunities that UTEP provided for them," Vice President for Institutional Advancement David L. Madeira says. "Though we have reached our initial goal, our capital needs for faculty support, student scholarships, research support and facilities far outstrip what we have raised. We are succeeding, but there is still much to be done.

"We still need the help and support of many more people — here, across the country and abroad — to make this a triumphant effort for UTEP, for the El Paso community and for our international family."

The campaign will conclude with an all-out celebration in November 2000 to toast the university's success in accomplishing and surpassing its campaign goals, proving, yet again, that the opportunities and possibilities are limitless.



# HENAAC on the Border

When the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Conference (HENAAC) came to El Paso this fall, it was the first time in its 11-year history that the annual event was held in a location other than Los Angeles or Houston.

UTEP was the academic host of the conference, which pulled together the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the local chapters of the Society for Mexican American Engineers and Scientists and the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers.

The conference attracted approximately 3,500 attendees, including university faculty and students, scientists, engineers and business professionals from across the country.

HENAAC honored the best and brightest Hispanic engineers and scientists across the nation. A rigorous national screening and selection process, involving an independent committee of highly respected scientists and engineers, was used to identify the award winners.

The 19 honorees included six UTEP College of Engineering graduates:

- Chairman's Award — **Jaime Oaxaca**, vice chair of Coronado Communications;
- Executive Excellence Award — **Robert Amezcua Jr.**, vice president of strategy and business operations for IBM;
- Outstanding Technical Achievement Industry Award — **Alfred Griffin Jr.**, Texas Instruments Inc.;
- Most Promising Engineer Award — **John Olivas**, astronaut for NASA Johnson Space Center; and
- Community Service Awards — **Diane De Hoyos**, senior supplier/quality engineer for General Motors, and **Richard**



*UTEP President Diana Natalicio (center) and HENAAC organizers Ray and Anna Mellado welcomed engineers, scientists and students from across the country to the annual conference, which featured a job fair and awards ceremony.*



**Martinez**, MAES national president and missile engineer for the U.S. Department of Army.

"Each of the honorees is a role model for our students, and the fact that six of them are UTEP graduates is all the more impressive," says Andrew Swift, dean of the College of Engineering. "When our students see the accomplishments of UTEP engineering graduates, they see what they also can achieve."

## UTEP Enrollment Increases as More Freshmen, Doctoral Students Enter UTEP

Fall enrollment at UTEP increased from 14,676 to 14,695 students, reflecting the university's successful recruitment efforts to attract outstanding students, especially at the freshman level.

For three years, freshman enrollment has increased at UTEP. This year, overall freshman enrollment increased 10.8 percent and the number of first-time freshmen increased 8.7 percent. The number of **transfer students** increased by 4.7 percent.

The 1999 **entering freshman class** contains top high-school graduates and other high-achieving students — including about a dozen high-school valedictorians — who are choosing UTEP over other quality institutions.

Of the first-time freshmen enrolled at the university last year, 45.6 percent were in the top 25 percent of their high-school classes. These students indicated that the quality of the UTEP faculty, the academic and research opportunities, and the university's affordable tuition made UTEP their number one choice.

At the **doctoral level**, fall enrollment increased by 9.8 percent. University officials say this increase reflects UTEP's evolution into a comprehensive university offering a broad range of programs at all levels.

This fall, the first cohort of students entered a new doctoral program focusing on the history and culture of the U.S.-Mexico borderlands. UTEP's eighth doctoral degree program — the seventh to be implemented since 1990 — promises to make the university the center for research on the history of the U.S.-Mexico border region.



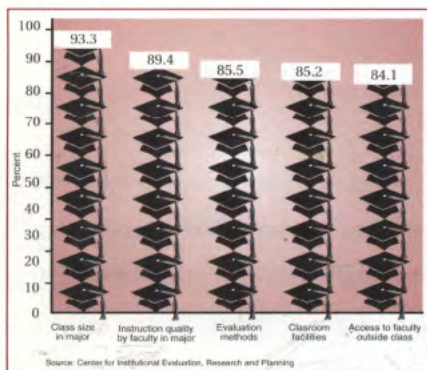
*UTEP Football Coach Charlie Bailey announced his retirement after one of the team's most successful seasons. Intercollegiate Athletics Director Bob Stull has launched a national search for Bailey's replacement.*



## Graduates Find UTEP Experience Satisfying

A survey conducted by UTEP's Center for Institutional Evaluation, Research and Planning shows that an overwhelming majority of UTEP grads (84.1 percent) would recommend the university to a friend or relative, and nearly all of the students surveyed (94 percent) gave the university credit for enhancing their ability to think critically.

The high marks were tallied from the responses of 1,521 UTEP students who took part in the survey, which was designed to elicit feedback from graduating seniors. The survey revealed that students were overwhelmingly satisfied with their class size, quality of instruction, evaluation methods, facilities and access to faculty members outside the classroom.



"Student success and retention really happens in the classroom," says Maggy Smith, associate vice president for undergraduate studies and program coordinator for the Entering Student Program. "No matter what we do as an institution to provide support, retention really happens daily as students get to know their professors and establish some connection. The CIERP survey results show that professors are connecting with their students in a very positive way."

More than 75 percent of the students in the survey gave high ratings to their professors. A high number (80.3 percent) also said they regularly took part in UTEP student organizations or activities, and of those students, nearly all (96.1 percent) rated their campus activity experiences as "excellent" or "acceptable."

"The survey shows that students find UTEP activities provide a satisfying experience. For me, it confirms the good work of many people on campus who provide services to our students," Dean of Students William Schafer says. "Though we're known as a commuter institution, students enjoy being part of the college experience. UTEP students do participate — in a very active way — on our campus, and we have numerous ways for students to be connected to the university."

## Cutting-edge Community

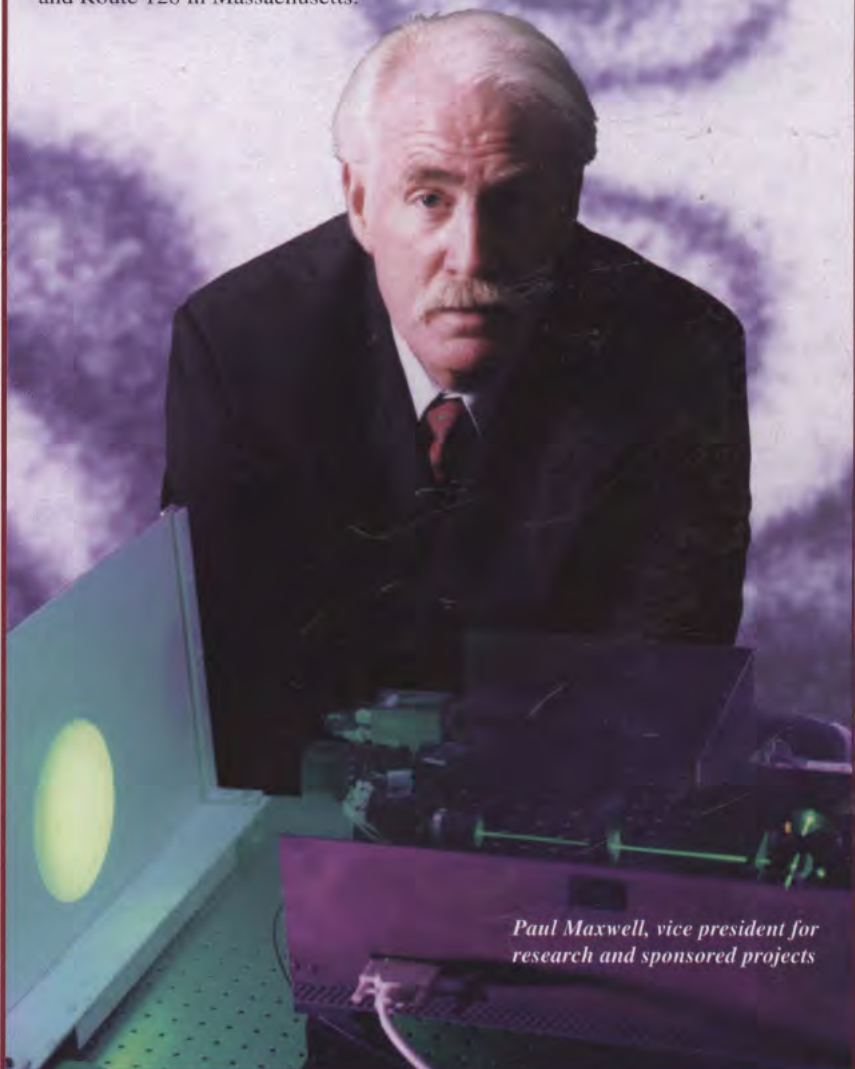
Paul Maxwell is UTEP's million-dollar man. Overseeing a research and sponsored project portfolio of more than \$140 million, the vice president for research and sponsored projects plays a key role in helping the university successfully compete at the national and international level for grants that put UTEP on the cutting edge — developing research solutions for biomedical, aerospace, environmental science and international trade issues.

Located in the world's largest binational metropolitan area, UTEP conducts innovative research projects for agencies such as the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency and NASA.

Whether reducing energy costs or modernizing production processes, UTEP researchers' discoveries also impact the bottom line. By providing academic expertise to businesses from Levi Strauss to Johnson & Johnson, UTEP uses its major investment of intellectual capital to move industry forward.

"Thirty years ago, UTEP conducted almost no research," Maxwell says. "Today, we have a dozen major interdisciplinary research centers and 16 college-specific research centers covering key areas of science, engineering, policy and education to add to our store of knowledge."

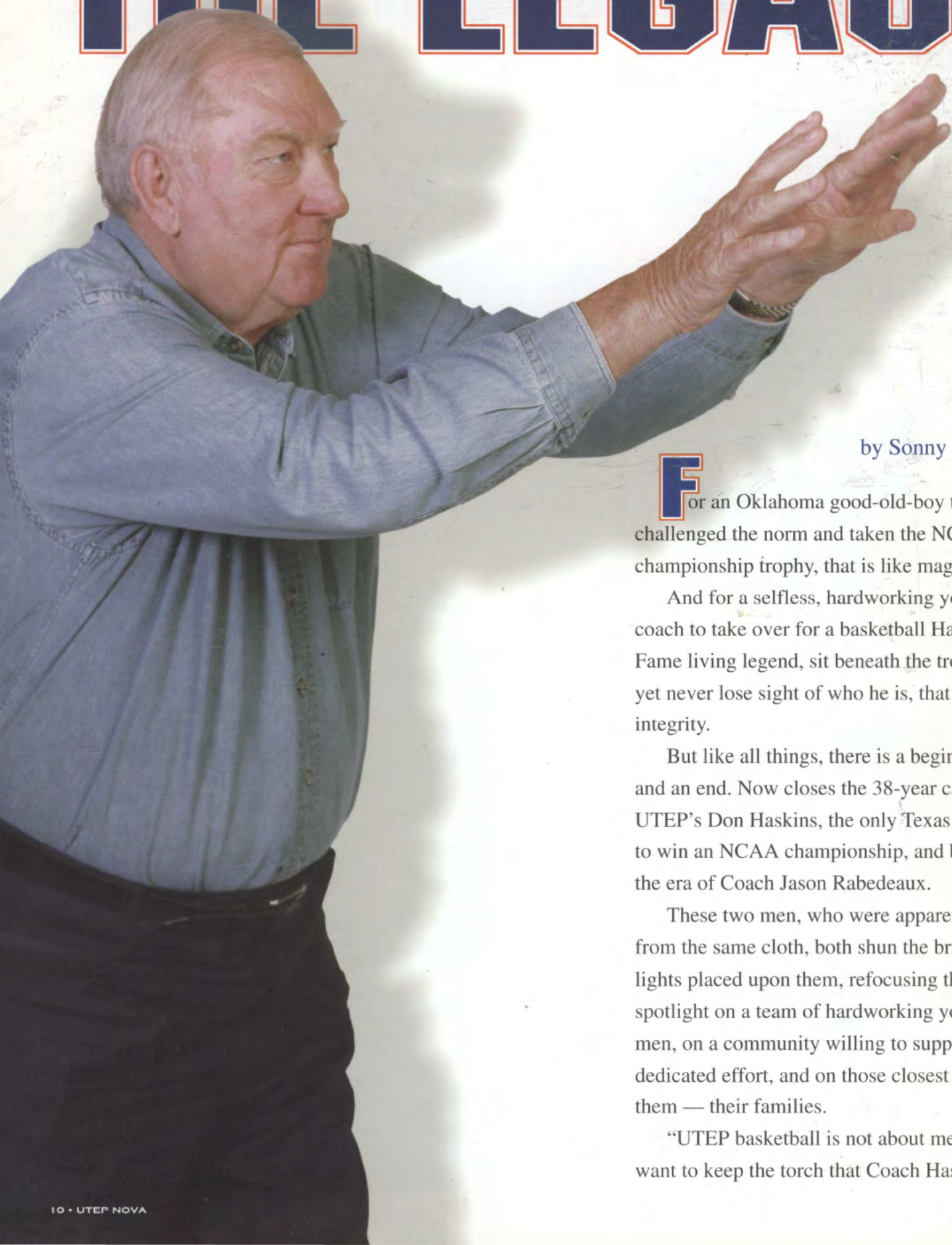
The impact of UTEP's research program may transform the El Paso region into a thriving economy similar to the technology- and science-based communities of Silicon Valley in California, Research Triangle Park in North Carolina and Route 128 in Massachusetts.



*Paul Maxwell, vice president for research and sponsored projects*



# THE LEGACY



by Sonny Lopez

**F**or an Oklahoma good-old-boy to have challenged the norm and taken the NCAA championship trophy, that is like magic.

And for a selfless, hardworking young coach to take over for a basketball Hall of Fame living legend, sit beneath the trophy, yet never lose sight of who he is, that is integrity.

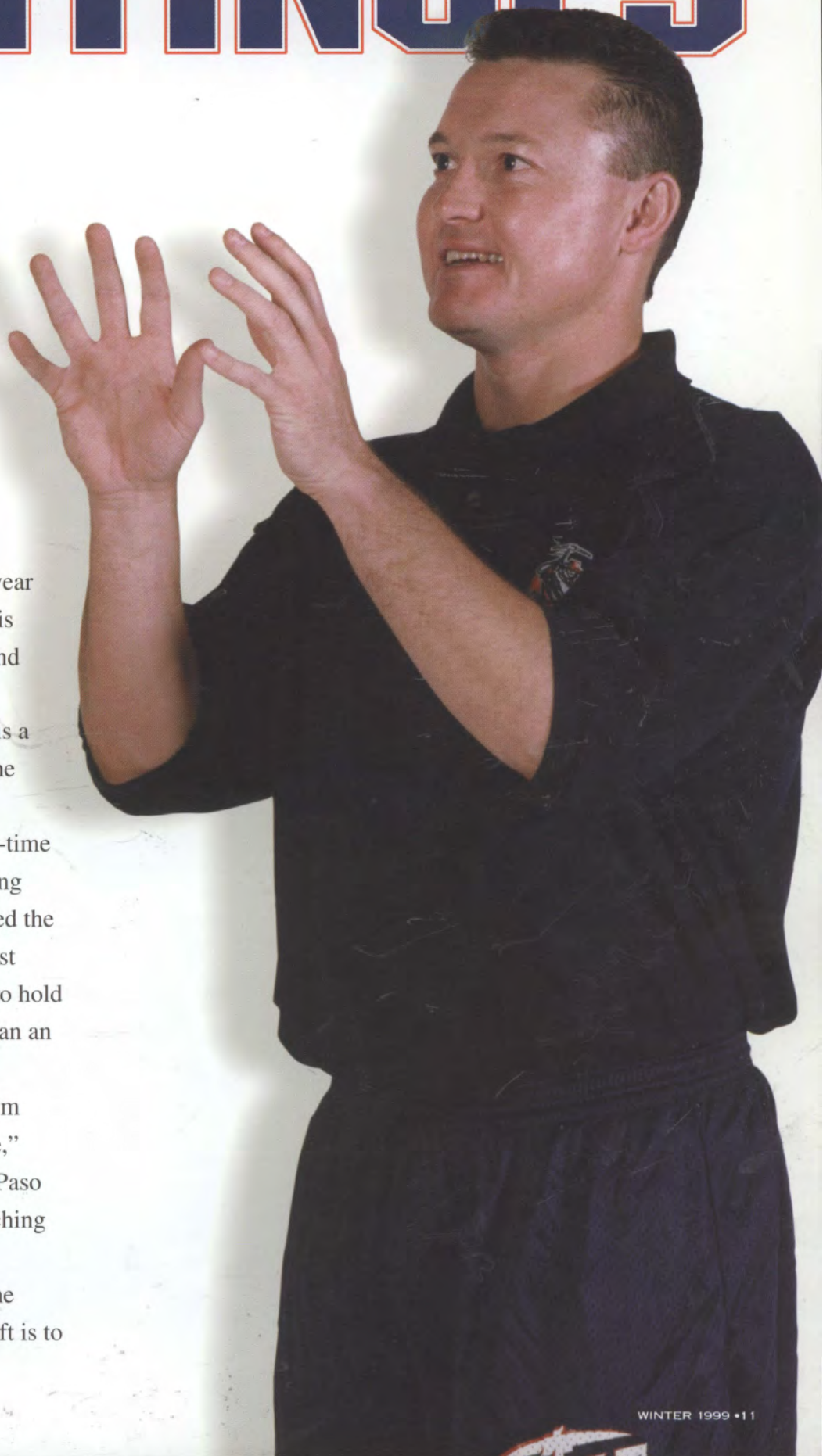
But like all things, there is a beginning and an end. Now closes the 38-year career of UTEP's Don Haskins, the only Texas coach to win an NCAA championship, and begins the era of Coach Jason Rabedaux.

These two men, who were apparently cut from the same cloth, both shun the bright lights placed upon them, refocusing the spotlight on a team of hardworking young men, on a community willing to support a dedicated effort, and on those closest to them — their families.

"UTEP basketball is not about me. I want to keep the torch that Coach Haskins lit



# CONTINUES



burning,” says Rabedaux, who will wear the required suit and tie at games, but is more comfortable in a UTEP T-shirt and shorts.

“I just want to continue making this a successful program for the team, for the university and for the community.”

Straightforward words from a first-time head coach. Yet oddly, they stir haunting echoes of a legendary coach who ripped the clip-on tie from his neck within the first minute of a game, and who preferred to hold meetings in his pick-up truck rather than an office.

“It’s kind of hard to answer how I’m feeling and where things are or will be,” says Haskins, who just returned to El Paso from a grueling daily schedule of coaching the NBA’s Chicago Bulls.

“UTEP has hired a good coach. The program is in good hands. All that’s left is to say ‘thank you’ and ‘adios.’”



# The State of the Univer

Excerpts from  
UTEP President  
Diana Natalicio's  
1999 Fall  
Convocation  
Address





**T**his fall, UTEP dedicated the new Chihuahuan Desert Garden at the Centennial Museum. Beyond enhancing our campus with its beauty and providing all of us with a haven for quiet moments, the garden is a living laboratory of more than 100 species of indigenous plants that will serve as a rich educational resource for the campus and the El Paso community.

The Chihuahuan Desert Garden in many ways serves as a metaphor for this university. Like the garden, **UTEP is indigenous to this region.** We were established to respond to the needs of the region's mining industry, and for more than 80 years we have created educational opportunities that are responsive to the dreams and aspirations of the people of this binational region.

Just as we identify and nurture native plants in our garden, help them achieve their full potential, and gain recognition for their beauty and sustainability in this environment, our primary mission on this campus is to identify the enormous talent residing in this region, nurture it, and gain for it the opportunities and recognition that it so richly deserves.

### **Legislative Session: PUF/HEAF and the Border Health Institute**

As I think back to the events of the past year that will have the most significant impact on UTEP's future directions, the work of the **76<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature** figures most prominently. The Texas Legislature always plays a major role in determining UTEP's opportunities and constraints. This year, thanks to the energy and cohesiveness of the El Paso delegation, opportunities far exceeded constraints.

Among the important outcomes of the Legislature is funding to support UTEP's equipment, library and facilities needs. Although the constitutional amendment that would have led to a long-term resolution of the disparity in capital funding between **PUF and HEAF**



institutions did not pass, funds were appropriated to UTEP and other PUF institutions to address this inequity during the current biennium. These funds will enable us to carry out much-needed building maintenance and repairs, and to purchase essential library materials, technology and equipment to support teaching and research programs.

A second major outcome, with long-term implications for our future development, is UTEP's participation in the endowments created with funds from the Texas **tobacco settlement**.

UTEP is the only academic institution included in the allocation of endowment funds, which were earmarked for health science centers throughout the state. UTEP's \$25 million endowment, together with a similar endowment at Texas Tech's El Paso campus, form a \$50 million base upon which we can jointly



**Gubernatorial Talk** — Last fall, UTEP was privileged to host televised debates for the two highest state offices, Lt. Governor and Governor. These debates were the only such face-to-face meetings between the candidates during the campaigns.



Texas Gov. George W. Bush

**Law School Preparation** — The Legislature also addressed this community's aspirations to strengthen legal education by appropriating funds to enhance and expand upon the outstanding work of the Pre-Law Institute at UTEP. All 10 of the students who took the LSAT examination after participating in the institute last summer were accepted to prestigious law schools throughout the country, including Harvard, Columbia, Michigan, Indiana, Oregon and Virginia.

**Legal Library** — Newly appropriated funds from the Legislature will allow UTEP to acquire critical legal materials for the University Library, which will serve as a resource for both Pre-Law Institute students and El Paso's legal community. These funds also serve as a foundation upon which UTEP will develop a specialization in border legal studies.

**Sports Training** — Kinesiology and sports medicine studies will be enhanced as a result of the Legislature's appropriation of \$2 million toward a much-needed facility for that program. With Intercollegiate Athletics taking the lead, UTEP is working to secure additional private sector funding to construct and equip a facility that will accommodate both programs.

**Partners in Student Success** — Instead of assuming that students must adapt to a university's procedures and practices, UTEP has taken a student-centered approach through which their needs and constraints help guide planning and their learning determines the university's success.

**New Student Orientation** — UTEP set records this summer in the number of new students — nearly 2,500 — who participated in orientation

programs and in the number who participated in the increasingly popular Gator Camp, an expanded orientation program conducted with support from UTEP's Alumni Association.



# CONVOCATION

begin to develop the **Border Health Institute**. We are fortunate to have a third major partner, the Paso del Norte Health Foundation, which has made a significant commitment to work with UTEP and Texas Tech to create a broad-based medical and allied health science education and research center in El Paso.

Working together, we will create health career opportunities for residents of this region, foster research on the critical health issues affecting the U.S.-Mexico border, and position El Paso as a major health science center in this region.

Texas Tech's recent announcement that they will initiate planning for a four-year medical school in El Paso will greatly strengthen the Border Health Institute, and we applaud the Tech board's commitment to pursue this long-awaited goal.

## Academic Programs: Tier 1 Aspirations

With the support of the UT System Board of Regents and the Coordinating Board, UTEP now offers nine **doctoral degree programs**, adding this year a new Ph.D. degree in history with emphasis on the U.S.-Mexico border. The growth in doctoral enrollments, in the range of doctoral programs offered and in the number of doctoral degrees granted annually enabled UTEP to meet for the first time this year the Carnegie criteria for "Doctoral Institution" status, a major milestone in our quest to be recognized as a **Tier 1 university in Texas**.

At the **master's level**, the first graduates of UTEP's physical therapy

program received their degrees this year, and authorization was granted to begin offering a new master's degree in information technology, a partnership between the colleges of Business Administration and Engineering. Another collaboration, this one among sister institutions in the UT System, has led to the development of two web-based master's programs in business administration and in educational technology, which will enable students to pursue these degrees asynchronously and at a distance.

The growth in UTEP's **health science** programs continued during the past year with the inauguration of a cooperative doctoral program in nursing with the UT Houston Health Sciences Center and the acceptance of 11 El Pasoans into the cooperative doctor of pharmacy degree program with UT Austin's School of Pharmacy. Having completed their prerequisites at UTEP, these pharmacy

students will spend the next two years in Austin, then return to El Paso for their practical experience in pharmacies throughout this community.

Reflecting the broadened base of programs now offered by the college, including physical and occupational therapy, nursing, speech

pathology and audiology, clinical laboratory science, and kinesiology and sports studies, its name was changed this year to the College of Health Sciences. Our thanks for the outstanding work to **transform the "nursing school," as so many El Pasoans still refer to it, into a comprehensive health sciences college.**

As we look toward the future, the growth in UTEP's health sciences



UTEP: El Paso's university



programs and the research conducted under the auspices of the **Border Biomedical Research Center**, together with the planned expansion of Texas Tech's medical school, lays a solid foundation for the development of a major health science center in El Paso. A feasibility study, to be conducted this year by consultants engaged by the Paso del Norte Health Foundation, will help us determine how best to proceed with this important development.

## El Paso Education: Collaborations and Recognition

Cooperation also has been ongoing with school districts in El Paso County, primarily through the work of the **El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence**. The collaborative's success has been widely and frequently recognized at national meetings and in major publications, including a recent honorable mention for UTEP by *Time* magazine for our work with schools in this community. Thanks to the many UTEP, school district, and community partners who have ensured that its work is done — and done well.

UTEP's **College of Education** also has received many accolades for the comprehensive restructuring of its programs and for its commitment to reform teacher preparation. **It was cited as one of three exemplary teacher preparation programs in the country by the U.S. Department of Education.**

College leaders have more invitations than they can possibly accept to speak throughout the country on the important work that they and their colleagues in the college have done. But it is clear that teacher education is no longer the sole responsibility of the College of Education,

and the college has been able to count on the strong and steadfast commitment of the colleges of Science and Liberal Arts, whose faculty have worked hard to understand and effectively play their role in teacher preparation.

Faculty from several colleges have become involved in a new **Community Partnerships** initiative in the College of Liberal Arts funded by the Kellogg Foundation. As part of a service learning consortium, which includes Northeastern University in Boston, the University of West Virginia and East Tennessee State University, UTEP is creating opportunities for students to engage in service in schools and other community settings and to use their experiences to enrich their courses on this campus.

Several faculty members have become mentor faculty at **Alliance Schools** in the community, working side by side with teachers, principals, parents and the El Paso Interreligious Sponsoring Organization to ensure that all children have access to the full range of educational opportunities that they deserve.

Not all of the partnership work occurs in schools, however. An interesting example of the special experience that students gain through this program is a public relations campaign that four UTEP students designed for the El Paso Lighthouse for the Blind. Another involves a partnership between UTEP students and



*UTEP partners with area school districts to increase educational opportunities for all students.*

**Welcome to UTEP** — The Entering Student Program is designed to ensure that students have the kind of support they need to get off to a good start and ultimately succeed in achieving their dream of earning a degree.

Greatly expanded academic advising, clustered courses and a university seminar course are among the strategies designed to build stronger ties between students and the university and thereby improve student retention and success.

**ESP**  
Entering Student Program

**Freshman Valedictorians** — Freshman enrollment set a new record this year. We are particularly pleased that 11 valedictorians from high schools in El Paso County elected to enroll at UTEP this fall.

**Increasing Aid** — Financing higher education continues to be a major challenge for many students, and UTEP is working hard to increase available support, in the form of both merit-based scholarships and need-based financial aid.



**Scholarship Support** — The number of applications for Presidential Scholarships, UTEP's most prestigious scholarship program, increased by 29 percent this past year, and, thanks to the university's many generous donors, the dollar value of scholarships offered to this fall's incoming freshmen increased 34 percent. Scholarship awards were presented to more than 1,500 students and exceeded \$1.6 million this year.

**Financial Aid** — The Office of Financial Aid presented 45 workshops to more than 3,300 students and parents in area schools during the past year, providing information on available federal and state financial assistance and assisting in the preparation of required documentation. More than \$35 million in need-based aid, both grants and loans, was distributed to approximately 7,000 UTEP students during the past year.

**Ties and Transfers** — UTEP and El Paso Community College announced an agreement that will enable students who earn associate's degrees at EPCC to transfer all 62 hours required for those degrees to UTEP. This step was made possible by EPCC's restructuring of all associate's degrees to limit the course credits required to no more than 62 hours.



**Common Core** — UTEP and El Paso Community College adopted a common core curriculum consisting



of 14 courses that not only fulfill the core curriculum requirements at both institutions but also are fully transferable between institutions.



#### **Collaborative Funding** — The El Paso

Collaborative for Academic Excellence has benefited from funding from the Lucent Technologies Foundation, Pew Charitable Trusts and the National Science Foundation, whose \$11.5 million in grants will support educational reform in El Paso.



**The El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence**

**Outstanding Outreach** — The U.S. Department of Education awarded more than \$700,000 to continue the good work of federally funded outreach programs, including Upward Bound, Talent Search, the High School Equivalency programs and Student Support Services.

**Educational Commitment** — UTEP's College of Education, in partnership with the Socorro Independent School District and Region 19 Education Service Center, received two major educational technology innovation grants totaling \$15 million, the largest such commitment to a single program in the United States.

#### **Biomedical Research**

— UTEP continues to be the beneficiary of considerable external funding, including from the

National Institutes of Health. The research of the faculty who work with the Border Biomedical Research Center provides the basic research underpinnings essential to the development of the Border Health Institute.

**Patented Research** — Research activity has led to opportunities for the university to secure patents to protect and capitalize on the intellectual property developed on this campus — from a seismic pavement analyzer to a drug treatment for Alzheimer's disease.

**Internet 2** — UTEP is developing the infrastructure required for Internet 2 connectivity, which is important for research and education initiatives at UTEP, as well as for establishing cooperative research and development programs with colleagues and institutions in Mexico.

# CONVOCAATION

faculty and high-school students in the Socorro school district to restore the Socorro Mission.

## Research and Sponsored Projects: National Rankings

UTEP continues to rank among the top five public universities in Texas in total research and sponsored project expenditures. To sustain that level of activity, UTEP must submit highly competitive proposals to federal and state agencies, foundations and corporations.

In 1999, faculty and staff members submitted 389 proposals seeking funds in the amount of \$124 million, an increase of 23 percent and 24 percent, respectively, compared to the previous year. During the same time period, UTEP received 241 grant awards totaling nearly \$52 million, an increase of 63 percent over 1998 and a new record.

On the national level, UTEP ranked 74<sup>th</sup> among all 3,700 U.S. colleges and universities in total National Science Foundation funding for the 1996-98 period; 10 years ago, UTEP did not even appear in those rankings. In 1997, UTEP ranked first among all U.S. colleges and universities in total grant awards from

the National Science Foundation's Education and Human Resources Directorate, joining Berkeley, Harvard, MIT and Stanford in the top five — not bad company!

This significant progress in securing external funding, together with the growth in doctoral programs, positions UTEP well toward reclassification in the Carnegie university categories and Tier 1 status in Texas.

## Donors: Building on a Local Foundation

In addition to the external funding that comes to UTEP via grant proposals to federal agencies and national foundations and corporations, we are fortunate to have the support of local El Paso foundations, which are especially interested in our institutional development and well informed about our potential to contribute to the future human and economic development of this region.

The Paso del Norte Health Foundation has provided generous and strategically important support for initiatives in the Center for Environmental Resource Management, the colleges of Science and Health Sciences, and the Social Work Program.

Another local organization that has been consistently supportive of many UTEP initiatives is the Robert E. and Evelyn McKee Foundation, whose most recent commitment enabled us to upgrade computer laboratories in the College of Business Administration.

The El Paso Natural Gas Foundation has been a long-time supporter of UTEP from fine arts equipment to renovation of the Commons Cafeteria, which was renamed the



*UTEP faculty members welcome students into the university's research labs to enhance their educational experiences.*



El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center in recognition of this extraordinary support.

The **Cimarron Foundation** has provided support for many UTEP programs, including most recently supporting the establishment of the Public Policy Research Center.

Biomedical research at UTEP has been supported by the **Stern and Goldwell foundations**.

The **Shiloff Family Foundation** has generously supported programs ranging from chemistry to the UTEP Dinner Theatre.

Music programs and KTEP have been the beneficiaries of support from the **Huthsteiner Fine Arts Trust**, as has the library from the **Sam D. Young, B. Price, and de Wetter Family foundations**.

Student scholarships have been the focus of support from the **Rotary, Anward, Blaugrund, Margarita Mascarenas, Virginia Farah, and El Paso Community foundations**.

We are grateful to all of these local foundations for recognizing the importance of partnering with UTEP, El Paso's university.

## Legacy Campaign: Great Expectations

# LEGACY

campaign

El Paso community support of UTEP is also evident in the significant progress that we have made in the Legacy Campaign. I am pleased to report that we have raised more than \$52 million in endowment funds, and nearly all of these endowments have come from individuals and organizations in El Paso.

We are confident that we will exceed our goal during the fifth and final year of the campaign, and we are extraordinarily grateful to the donors for their generosity, and to the volunteers, led by Peter de Wetter (who passed away in October), for their commitment of time and talent to the campaign.

## Fulfilling the Mission Together

Let me also express again our appreciation to UTEP's faculty and staff members. This university's success is the result of the collaborative efforts of a large number of individuals, both on and off campus, who have made a firm and abiding commitment to UTEP and to the students in whose lives we have the privilege of participating.

This is a place where dreams do come true, and we are all fortunate indeed to play a role in that process.

Thanks to all of you for the many ways in which you create conditions for student success. Your commitment to UTEP's mission and to the students we serve has enabled us to make enormous progress during the past several years and prepared us well to face with confidence the many opportunities and challenges of the new century. ■



**Bye-bye Bear** — In August, Don Haskins announced that he would retire after nearly 40 years as UTEP's basketball coach.



There is no way to appropriately characterize the impact that the Bear has had on UTEP and the community, and there is no way to adequately express El Paso's appreciation to him for all that he has done to bring us recognition and respect. His loyalty to UTEP and to this community, his outstanding record of more than 700 victories, his role in the integration of men's basketball as he and his all-black starting five players won the NCAA championship in 1966, his election to the basketball Hall of Fame, all have meant so much to this university. He leaves big shoes to fill — and probably a few clip-on ties as well — but the future of UTEP basketball is bright because of the solid foundation that he has built.



## Athletic Momentum

— With a new WAC Conference configuration, many new faces on the coaching and administrative staff, a new logo, new colors, and new

energy and enthusiasm, UTEP Intercollegiate Athletics faces the future with confidence. With support from the campus and from the El Paso-Juárez community, 1999 - 2000 promises to be an exciting year in Miner athletics.

**Special Events** — Athletic facilities such as the Don Haskins Center and the Sun Bowl provide excellent venues for special events, attracting a broad range of entertainment to El Paso, from concerts to monster trucks, boxing and wrestling bouts.

## Inspirational

**Commencements** — UTEP's commencement ceremonies afford the university an opportunity to invite prominent individuals to be speakers; this year, we welcomed Dr. David Satcher, U.S. Surgeon General, and Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard of California to the university's graduation ceremonies.



David Satcher

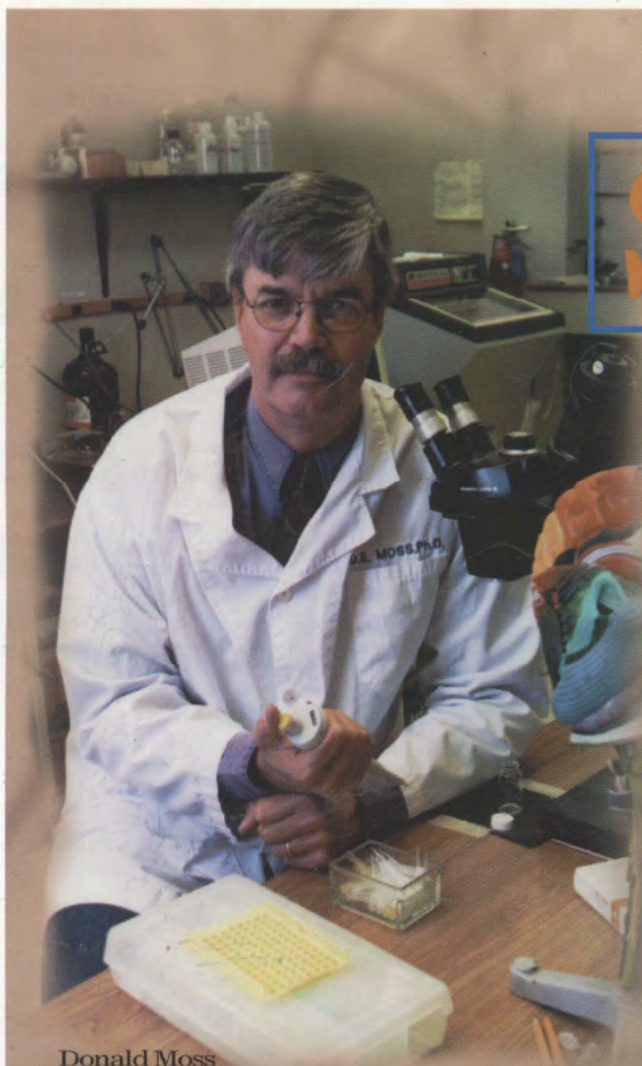


# Patented Solutions

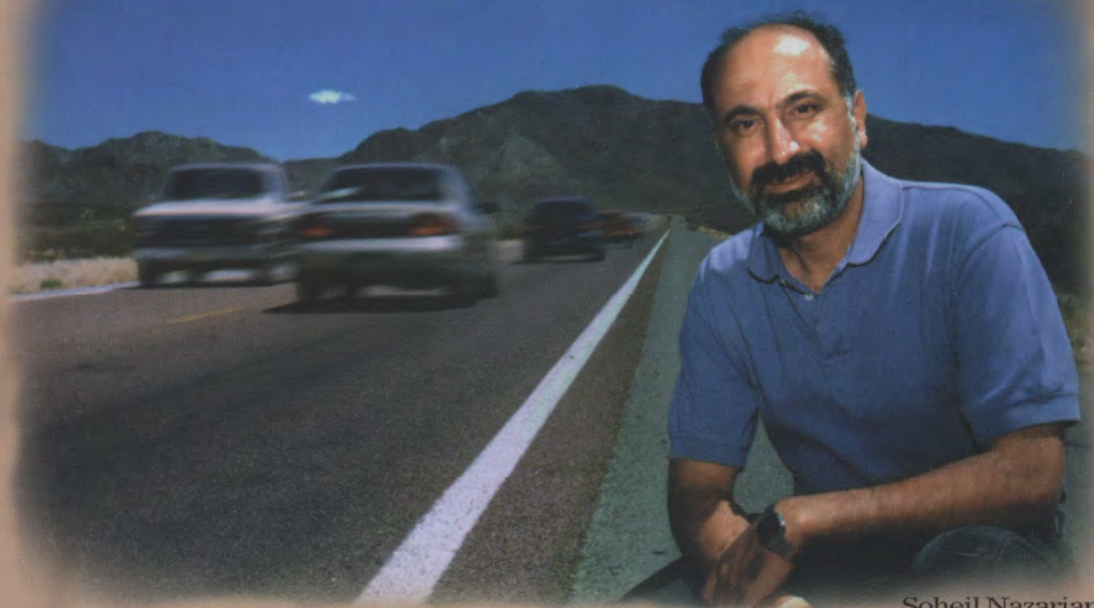
## FACULTY FOCUS

UTEP researchers understand the powerful market opportunities of intellectual property and are securing patents for their on-campus developments — transforming their academic ideas into profitable solutions, addressing the most challenging research issues and attracting national attention to UTEP in the process.

- Soheil Nazarian, a civil engineering professor, and Mark Baker, a former UTEP geology researcher, created a pavement analyzer that is being commercially marketed throughout the country.
- Jean Robillard, a former UTEP materials science researcher, received a patent for a new process that virtually eliminates forgery or misuse of identification documents through the application of small holograms.
- After three decades of research, Donald Moss, a psychology professor, received a patent for a new drug for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.
- Researchers in the College of Science — Russell Chianelli, Jorge Gardea-Torresdey, William Mackay, Nicholas Pingitore and Kirk Tiemann — have applied for a patent that will make use of creosote plants, common in the desert Southwest, for the phytoremediation of metal-contaminated soils.



Donald Moss

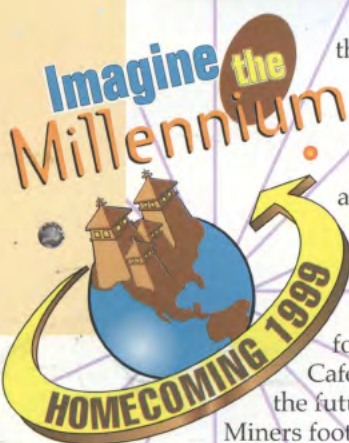


Soheil Nazarian



## 2000 Alumni Association Board and Officers

Thomas Meece, President  
 Pamela Pippen, President-Elect  
 Marcia McNamee, First Vice President  
 Paul "Rusty" Gibbs, Second Vice President  
 Michael Bernstein, Treasurer  
 Lisa Ann Schoenbrun, Secretary  
 Larry Trejo, Past President  
 Miguel Corona  
 Pat Dominguez  
 Linda East  
 Ronald Harvey  
 Debra Koch  
 Kay Mooy  
 Deanna Nasser  
 Pete Payan Jr.  
 Mike Rosales  
 Luis Villalobos  
 Tony Woo



The 1999 "Imagine the Millennium" celebration was one for the memory books.

The Alumni Association worked closely with the Student Development Center's Involvement Committee to bring together the past, present and future of the university. Hundreds of Golden Grads returned to the UTEP campus to participate in activities such as the Golden Grads Luncheon.

Students, faculty and staff not only competed against each other in the parade float and building decorating contests, but also in "Name that Tune," "Movie Jeopardy" and "Mining for Gold."

The competitive spirit was put on hold for an evening of good food, music and togetherness at the off-campus social at Paradise Café. After a week of reminiscing about the past and looking toward the future, the Homecoming celebration peaked when the Fighting Miners football team beat Southern Methodist University 42 - 28.

Dates for Homecoming 2000 will be released once the athletic schedule is finalized. Check your mail and the Alumni web page (link from [www.utep.edu](http://www.utep.edu)) for more details to make plans to be part of the excitement.

## New Alumni Coordinator



UTEP Alumni Relations is proud to welcome back Doreen Black as the new alumni coordinator. She left the

university three years ago and has returned to campus with new energy and new ideas.

If you have questions or concerns about alumni programs and activities, please call her at 915/747-8600 or 800/687-8004, or contact her via e-mail at [dblack@miners.utep.edu](mailto:dblack@miners.utep.edu).

## Distinguished Alumni Reception



John Boice and Mardee de Wetter were honored at the Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Reception Oct. 8. Boice received the Alumni Award for Professional Excellence and de Wetter received the Alumni Award for Exceptional Service. The university also honored the six Gold Nugget recipients: Charles Brown, College of Education; Enrique Gomez, College of Science; Carl Green, College of Liberal Arts; John Martin Lantz, College of Health Sciences; Tony Marquez, College of Engineering; and Ignacio Urrabazo, College of Business Administration.



## 50s

**Michael Finerty** (B.A. '56) has retired from Kaiser Permanente in San Francisco, where he was a neurologist.

**Carl Hutchins Jr.** (B.A. '52) is semi-retired and a self-employed insurance adjuster.

**Sherrod McDaniel** (B.B.A. '58) is with the Financial Crimes Unit of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office in Chicago.

**Alan Rash** (B.B.A. '53) has retired from practicing law after 39 years of service with Diamond, Rash, Gordon and Jackson.

**William Wood Jr.** (B.A. '52) owns William E. Wood and Co., which specializes in commercial real estate, development and investments.

## 60s

**Xavier Bañales** (B.A. '69; M.Ed. '73), board president of the East Bay Spanish-speaking Citizens Foundation, has been an officer with the Girl Scouts for 25 years.

**Liz Bryant** (B.A. '64; M.Ed. '90) has retired from teaching in El Paso and now resides in Ruidoso.

**Jerry Esparza** (B.B.A. '67) is an international account executive with Unisource Package Systems.

**Reiner Gerbel** (B.S.E.E. '64) has returned to Houston from Malaysia after a two-year assignment with Conoco.

**Leila Hobson** (B.S. '69; M.Ed. '74) is the vice chair of the Estate and Gift Tax Group of the State Bar of Texas Taxation Section and a member of the Texas Bar's Women and the Law Section Council. She is board certified in estate planning and probate law.

**Helen Knopp** (B.B.A. '65) is the vice president of customer and public affairs for the El Paso Electric Company.

**Jack McCarden** (B.B.A. '69) has been promoted to shareholder and executive vice president of JDW Insurance.

**Wendy McCarty** (B.S.Ed. '65) is an associate professor of education at Illinois College.

**Paul Mitchell** (B.A. '63) is celebrating his 30th year as an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church and 10 years as a senior pastor at Countryside United Methodist Church.

**Helen Paulus** (B.S. '60) volunteered as an oral surgeon in China and El Salvador.

**Catherine Porter** (B.S. '62) is a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee Sport Psychology Registry. She is the author of *The Mental Athlete*, which is available in German, French and Japanese.

**Frank Romero** (B.B.A. '62; M.Ed. '67) was awarded the 1999 Oak Cliff Good Samaritan Award.

**Retha White** (B.S.Ed. '68) has earned an M.S. in communication disorders from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. White has a private clinical practice and works for Los Angeles County as a school-based speech language pathologist.

**Mary Wicha** (B.S.Ed. '64), a sixth-grade English teacher in San Antonio, is working on her administrative credential.

## 70s

**Ruben Armendariz** (B.B.A. '72) has retired from the National Labor Relations Board in San Antonio. He has started a second career as an arbitrator in labor/management disputes between unions and employers.

**Ada (Elena) Avila** (B.S.N. '76; M.S.N. '81) is in private practice as a counselor and *curandera*. She is the author of *Woman Who Glows in the Dark*.

**Patricia Ayala** (B.A. '78) is the vice chair of the 1999-2000 Texas Affiliate Board of Directors for the American Heart Association.

**Monica Beard** (B.S. '79) is an account manager at the

Hospital for Roche Diagnostics, Diabetes Care Division in Dallas.

**Irene Chavez** (B.A. '79) is the chief development officer for the Sierra Providence Health Network.

**L. Gayle Crawford** (B.A. '71) is a project manager for LEXIS - NEXIS in Dallas.

**Martini DeGroat** (B.B.A. '78) of Southwestern Bell Telephone has been appointed to serve on the Building and Zoning Advisory Committee for El Paso.

**Joyce Feinberg** (B.A. '71) has been appointed to the Texas Commission for Volunteerism and Community Service.

**W. Vernon Fields** (B.B.A. '70) has retired from Allstate Insurance Co. and is traveling across the United States in a motor home.

**Jere Franco** (B.A. '72; M.A. '83) received a \$10,000 grant from the Texas Council for the Humanities to conduct El Paso teacher workshops. Franco is the author of *Crossing the Pond: Native Americans in World War II*.

**Oscar Gabaldón Jr.** (B.A. '79) is board vice president for the El Paso Coalition for the Homeless. He also is serving a second term as the Tierra del Sol Elementary School PTA president.

**Ernest Garcia** (B.B.A. '74) is the owner of E.J. Garcia Insurance Services in San Diego, Calif.

**Wayne Grinnell** (B.A. '73), a land-planning consultant, has been appointed to serve on the Building and Zoning Advisory Committee for El Paso.

**William Haight** (B.S. '71) is a senior systems engineer on the Joint Stand-off Weapon for the U.S. Navy and Air Force. He also is a member of the Interagency Lithium Battery Safety Working Group for the Department of Defense.

**Sam Hughes** (B.S.Ed. '73; M.Ed. '79) is the assistant principal of La Vernia High School.

**Ed Huskinson Jr.** (M.S. '75) is a consultant to the mining industry and serves annually as a judge at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show.

**Dan Jakana-Lule** (B.B.A. '76) is the general manager of Jakana Foods Inc. in East Africa.

**Guy Johnsen** (B.S. '71), who was featured on the cover of the *Texas Veterinary Medical Association Journal*, is the first El Pasoan to serve as president of the association.

**Chester Jordan** (B.B.A. '75), a community activist and member of the El Paso Black Chamber of Commerce, has been appointed to serve on the Building and Zoning Advisory Committee for El Paso.

**Gilberto Monarez** (B.B.A. '76; M.Ed. '87) participated in an educational workshop on writing K-12 space curriculum, biomedical research and space flight at the NASA Ames Research Center in California. He works at Wiggs Middle School as a computer/technical application instructor and staff developer.

**Saul Moreno** (B.S.W. '79), a graduate of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, earned a master's degree from Webster University.

**Horacio Muñoz** (B.S.Ed. '77) is a second-grade teacher at San Elizario Elementary School.

**Robert Muñoz** (B.S. '77) has been named the Dean of Work Force and Continuing Education at Odessa College. He also is serving a three-year term on the Odessa Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

**Rene Peña** (B.B.A. '78) was named to the executive board of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants. He is a managing partner and president of the accounting firm of Starr, Colton, Peña, Vogel and Co.

**William Pope** (B.S. '72) is a Dallas-based capital equipment sales consultant for Beckman Coulter Inc.

**Paul Rando** (B.S.Ed. '75) is entering his 24th year as a teacher and baseball coach at Bonabel High School in Louisiana.

**Consuelo Rodriguez** (B.A. '74; M.Ed. '85) is a bilingual kindergarten teacher at Roberts Elementary School.

**Tony Rodriguez** (B.A. '74; M.Ed. '85) is an assistant attorney general in the Child Support Division of the Texas Attorney General's Office in El Paso.

**Albert Segovia** (B.S.Ed. '79; M.Ed. '90) is an at-risk coordinator at Guillen Middle School.

**Linda Smith** (B.S.Ed. '72) is a reading specialist at Rosa Guerrero Elementary School.

**Larry Trejo** (B.A. '73) is the executive director of the Community Initiatives and Information Services Department of the Ysleta Independent School District.

**Susan Vaughan** (B.S.Ed. '71) is a first-grade reading recovery teacher at Tierra Del Sol Elementary School.

**David Woods** (B.S.Ed. '70) is a journalism and English teacher and student newspaper sponsor at Aldine Senior High School in Houston.

## 80s

**Effie Barros** (B.B.A. '81) is a comptroller for Marmon Mok Architects in San Antonio. Barros participated in "Leadership San Antonio," a yearlong program organized by the San Antonio Greater Chamber of Commerce and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

**Marco Barros** (B.A. '80) is the executive director of the San Antonio Area Tourism Council.

**Russell Broaddus** (B.S. '87) is an assistant professor of pathology at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

**Joquin Bustamante** (B.S.Met. '80; M.S. '84) is a supplier development specialist at Allied Signal Aerospace.

**Oswaldo Cajas Jr.** (B.S. '82) has been named an associate for Callaway Architects Inc.

**Terri Casarez** (B.A. '83) owns a human resources consulting firm in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, specializing in EEO/Affirmative Action and employee consulting and training.

**Manuel Chavez** (B.S. '82) is an administrator for DJ Home Health.

**Tim Collins** (B.A. '83) was elected to the board of directors of the Independent Insurance Agents of Texas.

**Roland Correa** (B.B.A. '88) has been appointed to serve on the Building and Zoning Advisory Committee for El Paso.

**Katherine Gibson** (B.S.C.E. '88) received her doctor of jurisprudence from the University of Texas School of Law.

**Rene Grosdidier** (B.S. '83) is on duty at the Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, Fla.

**Travis Hughes** (B.S.C.S. '86) is a certified financial planner for AXA Advisors.

**Dianne Josephson** (M.S.N. '80) is the author of *Intravenous Infusion Therapy for Nurses: Principles and Practice*. She also is listed in the Sigma Theta Tau *International Nursing Honorary 1999 Media Guide to Health Care Experts*.

**Catherine Lazorko** (B.A. '86), city of Las Cruces public information officer, has received six awards from the Southern New Mexico Press Club, ranging from best annual report to best news release.

**Richard Luna** (B.A. '81) is the managing editor of the *Statesman Journal* in Salem, Ore.

**H. Doug Madden** (M.S. '84) earned a master's degree in computer science at Washington University in St. Louis. He is the project leader in the Contract Production Office at the National Imagery and Mapping Agency.

**Patrick McCarthy** (B.S. '80) retired as a U.S. Army major after 17 years of service. He is a guard at Sullivan Prison in New York.



**Bruce Monk** (B.B.A. '85) is the vice president and controller of the Snack Food Association.

**Teresa Montoya** (B.B.A. '81) owns Teresa Montoya Communications, an agency specializing in public and media relations, community relations, strategic planning and promotions.

**Laurie Paulino** (B.S.Ed. '89; M.Ed. '93) is a career and technology counselor at Irvin High School.

**Mark Pearson** (M.S. '85) is the manager of groundwater contamination projects for Maxim Technologies Inc.

**Sallie Peck** (B.S.Ed. '89) was selected from among 1,700 nominations in 42 school districts as a Teacher of Distinction by the Teacher Excellence Foundation.

**Elizabeth Perez** (B.S.Ed. '81) is a fifth-grade reading, language and social studies teacher at Rosa Guerrero Elementary School.

**Marnie Rocha** (B.A. '88) was named 1998 - 99 Teacher of the Year at Andress High School.

**Stephen Sanchez Jr.** (M.P.A. '85), a coordinator for the Pueblo Youth Service Bureau, earned a master's degree in guidance and counseling from New Mexico State University.

**Alfonso Soto** (B.B.A. '86; M.Accy. '89), a shareholder in the tax department of Kemp, Smith, Duncan and Hammond, was named El Paso's Young CPA of the Year for 1998 - 1999.

**April Suriani** (B.A. '87) earned her master's degree in health service management and policy from New School University. She is an adjunct professor at the Syracuse University Newhouse School of Public Communications.

**Paul Zacour** (B.B.A. '84) has been appointed to serve on the Building and Zoning Advisory Committee for El Paso.

**Paul Anaya** (B.S. '90) earned an M.D./Ph.D. from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. He has been accepted into the internal medicine residency program at Emory University.

**George Ayala** (B.A. '91), a bilingual teacher in the Socorro Independent School District, is a teacher for the Region 19 Homeless Program, which serves the El Paso Shelter for Battered Women and Tigra Inner Resources.

**Robert Bassuk** (B.S.N. '91) works in Occupational Family Health at Thomason Hospital.

**Miguel Corona** (B.B.A. '90; M.A.I.S. '98) is the marketing manager of the Southwest for JobDirect.Com, an on-line recruiting service.

**Maryadele Dennis-Troxler** (B.I.S. '93) was named 1999 - 2000 Teacher of the Year for the El Paso Independent School District. She also is a volunteer for the American Heart Association and YMCA.

**Mark Godfrey** (B.S.C.S. '95) works for EDS as an information analyst.

**Cristina Guerra** (B.S. '94) earned a degree in medicine from The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine. Her medical residency will be in general surgery at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Pennsylvania.

**Keyass Harding** (B.S. '91), who graduated *cum laude* from Phillips Theological Seminary, is the pastor of Dellrose United Methodist Church in Wichita, Kan.

**Dale Hernandez** (B.A. '91) received the 1998 Gen. Horace M. Wade Innovation Award for his work as a rotational deployment expert while assigned to Air Mobility Command headquarters at Scott Air-Force Base in Illinois.

**Judy Jimenez** (B.A. '93; M.A. '97) is a public information officer/grant writer for the Clint Independent School District.

**Bryan Johnson** (B.A. '91) is the affiliate relations manager for the Fox Latin American Channels and the sales manager for the northern cone, including Colombia, Venezuela and Central America.

**Robin Kashishian** (B.B.A. '95) was promoted to senior accountant at Deloitte and Touche in McLean, Va.

**Joan Keating** (B.I.S. '93), a math teacher at El Paso Country Day High School, is the 1999 TMSA Math Coach of the Year.

**Chris Knackstedt** (M.B.A. '96) has been promoted to chief financial officer of Sierra Medical Center.

**Gilbert Lara** (B.B.A. '94) participated in the third phase of Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training 1999 in Thailand while assigned to the dock landing ship U.S.S. Comstock.

**Carmenita Littlejohn** (B.I.S. '96) is a sixth-grade language arts and social studies teacher at Montwood Middle School.

**Ronald Livermore** (B.I.S. '95) is an eighth-grade math teacher at Wiggs Middle School.

**Susan Magdaleno** (B.S. '93) earned a Ph.D. in cell biology from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

**Ana Martinez** (B.S.E.E. '96; M.S.E.E. '98) joined Sandia National Laboratories and is pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of New Mexico.

**Cheryl Matijevich** (B.S.Ed. '91) is a fourth-grade teacher at Escontrias Elementary School.

**Beatrice Maestas** (B.A. '90) is an assistant director of development in the UTEP Office of Institutional Advancement.

**Marcia Miller** (M.S.N. '93) was awarded a scholarship from the Dayton Alumni Chapter of the University of Cincinnati College of Nursing. She is a professor of nursing at Sinclair Community College.

**Maria Piñon** (B.I.S. '92) is a fourth-grade teacher at North Loop Elementary School.

**William Potter** (M.P.A. '95) directs the Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment for Jacksonville, Fla.

**Misty Ptasnik** (B.I.S. '92) is a fifth-grade teacher at Horizon Heights Elementary School.

**Abraham Ray** (B.S.C.S. '90) is a real estate investor and software consulting project manager at Trilogy Software Inc.

**Josie Rangel-Pacheco** (B.I.S. '94) is a first-grade teacher at Del Norte Heights Elementary School.

**Gabriela Rey** (B.S. '94) received her doctor of dental surgery degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio.

**Douglas Rittmann** (B.S. '69; M.S. '90; Ph.D. '99) is a water systems division manager for El Paso Water Utilities.

**Corina Robledo** (B.S.N. '98) is a registered nurse at Sierra Medical Center's medical/oncology units.

**Paul Salo** (B.A. '94) is a social sciences teacher at Stephen F. Austin High School in Austin, where he received the teacher appreciation award.

**Siradol Siridhara** (M.S. '97) earned his Ph.D. in civil engineering.

**Jae Sok Son** (Ph.D. '99) is an assistant professor in computer engineering at the University of Texas - Pan American.

**Angela Taylor** (B.S. '93) is an assistant district attorney of Galveston County.

**Gabriel Thomas** (Ph.D. '99) is an assistant professor in electrical and computer engineering at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada.

**Terry Tipton** (B.A. '93) is pursuing a master's degree in liberal studies at Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla.

**Jorge Villegas** (B.B.A. '94) is a first-year law student specializing in international business law at Cornell University.

**Katie West** (B.A. '97) is an assistant media buyer and production manager for Perrault and Associates Inc., an El Paso-based advertising agency.

**Tracy Yellen** (M.P.A. '95) has been appointed to serve on the Building and Zoning Advisory Committee for El Paso.

## OBITS

**William Foster Jr.** (M.A. '67) June 22, 1997. He was a resident of Louisiana who had worked as a bilingual director in the Vernon Parish.

**Ada Miller** (B.S. '44) Jan. 2, 1999. She was a resident of Bellville, Texas, who had worked for the Forestry Service during World War II. Miller is survived by her husband, Harry; son, Frank; daughter, Ann; and granddaughters, Megan and Ashley.

**Frederick Boehm** (B.S. '39) Feb. 18, 1999. He was a resident of Oregon who had retired from real estate and Allied Signal.

**Francisco Salas-Porras** (B.S. '48) May 2, 1999. He was a lifelong resident of El Paso and served in the U.S. occupational forces in Korea after World War II. Salas-Porras was the retired owner and president of Sunland Motor Sport Center. He was active on the Texas Disability Council board, the El Paso City Charter Commission and the El Paso downtown Rotary Club. He is survived by his wife, Josefina; daughters, Ana, Marta and Cristina; and sons, Alberto, Francisco Jr. and Daniel.

**Lesli R. Mandell** (B.S.W. '96) May 6, 1999. She was a social worker for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Dallas and previously for the YWCA of El Paso. She is survived by her parents, Lawrence and Shiela; and brothers, David and Robert.

**Yvonne McLaughlin** (B.A. '84) July 2, 1999. She was a resident of Houston who once managed the Four Seasons Flower Shop in Williamsburg, N.Y. She was chair of the American Red Cross in North Carolina. McLaughlin is survived by her husband, James; sons, Thomas, James, Michael and John; parents, Toby and Emma; brothers, Martin, Rick and Toby Jr.; and sister, Karen.

**Evelyn Womack** (NG) July 13, 1999. She was a sixth-grade teacher at Mesita Elementary School. Womack was a member of Alpha Delta Pi. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harold. She is survived by her stepdaughter, Sally; sisters, Hazel and Peggy; and grandchildren, Mark, Greg and Joe.

**Mona Cordell** (B.A. '53) July 15, 1999. She was a lifelong resident of El Paso and a retired teacher. Cordell is survived by her sister, Ruby.

**Della Deputy** (B.A. '49) July 28, 1999. She was a teacher with the El Paso Independent School District for 25 years. Deputy was preceded in death by her husband, Keith; and her son, Brett. She is survived by her son, Keith; and daughter, Christy.

**Lenora Jenness** (B.A. '40; M.Ed. '62) July 30, 1999. She was a counselor in the El Paso Independent School District. She was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Lenora; and brothers, Paul and Carroll. She is survived by her husband, Harry; children, Harry, Leslie and Jon; and sisters, Laetitia, Carmen and Cecil.

**Frances McSwain** (M.A. '56) Aug. 9, 1999. She was a resident of Ft. Worth who worked in El Paso public schools for 36 years. McSwain was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, the El Paso Woman's Club, McDowell Club and the American Association of University Women. She is survived by her husband, John; and sister, Selma.

**Mary Hood** (NG) Sept. 14, 1999. She worked as a librarian at Radford School and Morehead Junior High School. She was preceded in death by her husband, John. She is survived by her daughters, Sallie and Martha; and granddaughter, Nora.

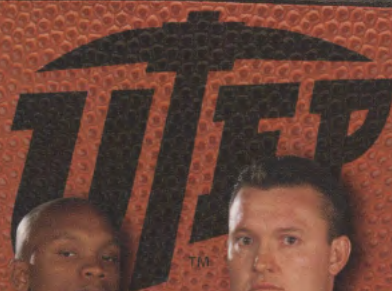
**Artie Bowden** (B.A. '35; M.A. '52) Sept. 17, 1999. She retired from Zavala Elementary School after 35 years of teaching. Bowden served as president of the Teachers Association, Delta Kappa Gamma, the American Legion and Eastern Star. She was preceded in death by her husband, N. H. Bowden. She is survived by her daughter, Alyce; brother, Robert; sisters, Eunice, Elouise and Martha; and her companion, Olivia.



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# NOVA

Q U A R T E R L Y

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