

Spring 1992

Nova Quarterly: The Magazine of the University of Texas at El Paso

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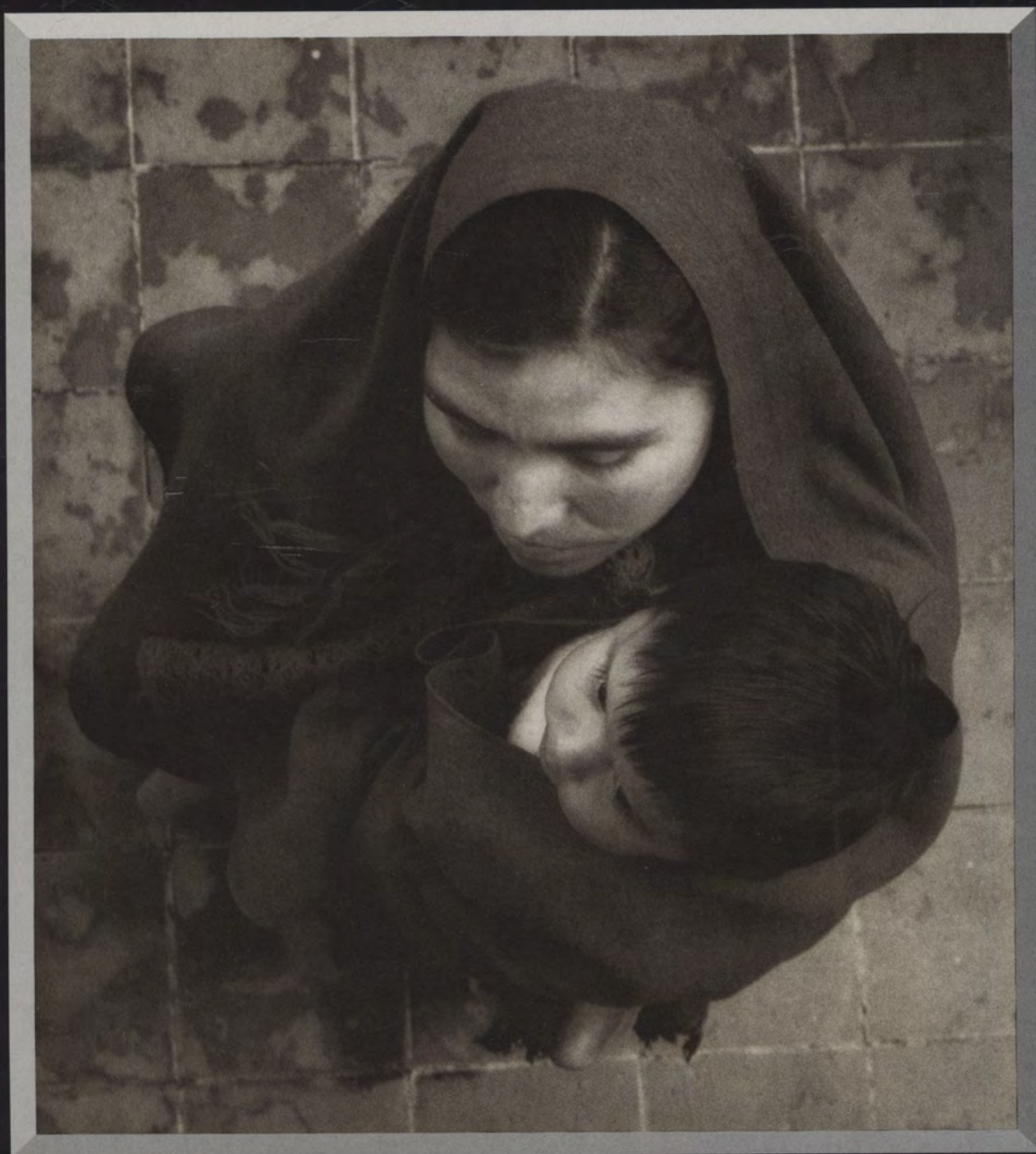
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NOVA

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

Q U A R T E R L Y



SPRING • 1992

FROM THE EDITOR

Out of sight, therefore, out of mind. This used to be a prevailing attitude about UTEP's remoteness from the core and crux of things. But today you will find few people dwelling on the university's desert isolation. Instead, this once widely perceived liability has been converted into a window of opportunity, with the outside world looking in to discover UTEP's secrets in teaching, technological advancements, and in minority education.

The transformation of minus into pluses yields positive returns for UTEP. Private contributions to the university were up 72 percent in fiscal year 1991 over 1990. The university generated \$58.7 million in non-state funding in comparison to the \$34.4 million (36.8%) state-appropriated dollars for university expenses. UTEP's role in shaping national educational agendas also grows impressively as people around the country turn to the university and its president for leadership.

The national shortage of scientists and engineers has spurred some coalition building to tackle the problem. President Diana Natalicio chairs the Environmental Technology and Waste Management Consortium, composed of a group of historically black colleges, minority universities and private companies. With support from the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, the consortium works to develop a future work force for the environmental technology and waste management industry.

President Natalicio is also chair-elect of the Quality Education for Minorities: Math, Science and Engineering Network. This effort aims to strengthen pre-collegiate and undergraduate preparation of minorities in technical fields. It is estimated that for the remainder of the decade, 85% of the new people in the work force will be minorities or women and immigrants.

The Peace Corps and UTEP will soon launch new initiatives on the border. Next year, UTEP expects to offer Peace Corps

students certification in bilingual education. Returning Corps volunteers who worked in public health settings will participate in the public health master's program. Active volunteers in Cd. Juárez will capitalize on UTEP's expertise in the region.

On another front, UTEP participated in an early planning session with the Foreign Service and private sector to develop strategies for the preparation of people assigned to overseas posts. UTEP received the only invitation extended by the Foreign Service.

As UTEP's involvement in these initiatives matures, *NOVA* will bring you the details.

In this issue: Linda Ethridge writes about UTEP's latest effort to serve another non-traditional student population through the Center for Life Long Learning; we also explore our roots in serving students south of the border, and you will see and remember old Mexico through the images of the late Mexican photographer Manuel Carrillo.

Corrections: In the rush to publish our Winter 1991 issue and get it in your hands before the end of the year, these errors occurred:

The eclipse story carried the heading "El Eclipse Mexicana." In Spanish "eclipse" is masculine, so the adjective should be masculine as well: "Mexicano." The intuition article made reference to one of Wes Agor's books, the correct title of which is *Intuition in Organizations: Leading and Managing Productively*.

We are grateful to our readers for all the complimentary notes we have received on the "Shangri-la on the Border" essay and pictorial. Additional copies of this article, in a separate booklet, are available for two dollars. Make checks payable to UTEP and send to:

Shangri-la
News and Publications
The University of Texas at El Paso
El Paso, Texas 79968

VIEW OF UTEP



View of the northeast tower of the newly remodeled Geological Sciences Building

NOVA



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On the cover:

Camila desde arriba dos caras
(*Camila from above two faces*)
Mexico City, D.F., 1961
Photograph from the Library's
Manuel Carrillo collection.



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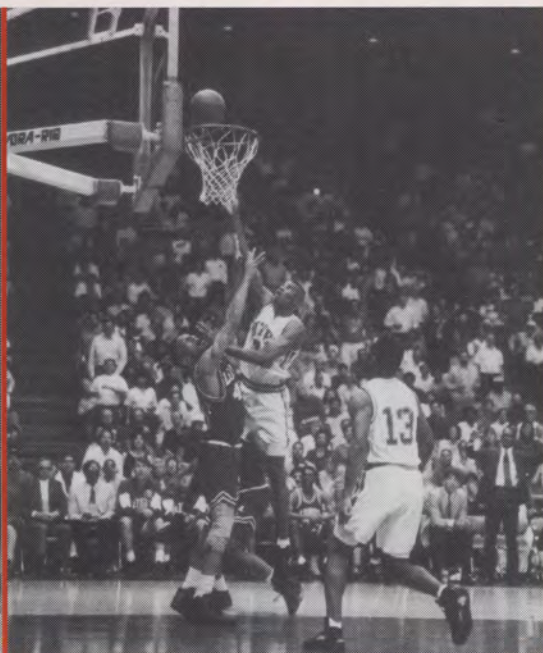
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1991 Testimonial Gifts

*Scenes from the March 7, 1992
UTEP vs UNM basketball
game. The Miners won, 72-54.*



UTEP's Mexican Connection

By Chris Williams

Tijuana

Cd. Juárez

Chihuahua

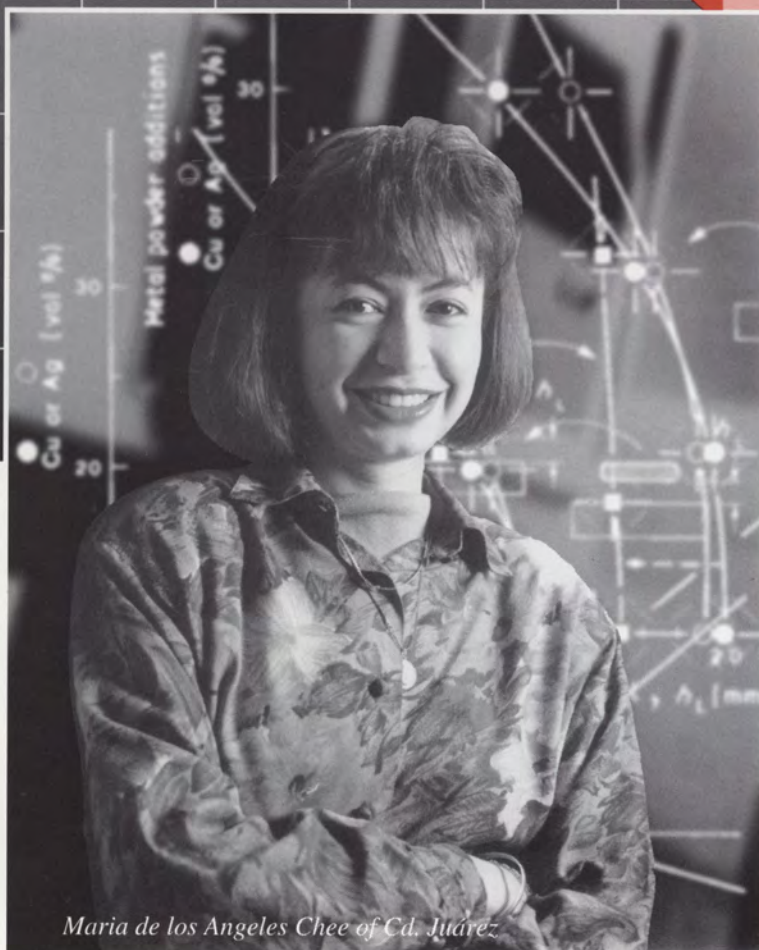
Monterrey

Guanajuato

Mexico City

Puebla

Oaxaca



Maria de los Angeles Chee of Cd. Juárez

UTEP-MEXICO CONVENIOS

National system

Universidad Pedagógica Nacional de México

Chihuahua, Chihuahua

Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua

Instituto Tecnológico de Chihuahua

Instituto Mexicano Norteamericano de Relaciones Culturales

Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua

Universidad Autónoma de Cd. Juárez

Instituto Tecnológico de Cd. Juárez

Guanajuato, Guanajuato

Universidad de Guanajuato

Monterrey, Nuevo León

Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey

Universidad Regiomontana, A.C.

Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo Laredo



Mexico City

Instituto Tecnológico Autónoma de México
Dirección General de Institutos Tecnológicos
Centros de Investigaciones en Optica, A.C. (CIO)
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas
Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores
Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana

Oaxaca, Oaxaca

Universidad Autónoma Benito Juárez de Oaxaca

Puebla

Universidad de las Américas, Cholula, Puebla
Universidad Autónoma de Puebla

Tijuana

Colegio de la Frontera Norte

Manuel Lopez of Chihuahua, Mexico, had a clear-cut career goal—join the family mining business.

Also clear to Lopez was where he needed to go for training.

“The Texas College of Mines was the closest college and had a good reputation,” he recalls.

After graduating in the UTEP Class of '37, Lopez continued on to a successful career in mining. Although satisfied with his life's work, Lopez believes young students today would be better off pursuing a different career path.

“Metallurgy, mechanical or electrical engineering are all good fields,” Lopez says.

One young Mexican scientist who has followed Lopez's advice is Maria de los Angeles Chee of Cd. Juárez. Although she found UTEP's electrical engineering courses tough at first, she soon discovered that the field satisfied her love for mathematics-related study and her curiosity about things electrical.

“Since I was a kid, I always wanted to know what made electrical devices work,” Chee said one recent afternoon in her cozy office in the College of

“It's absolutely the case that our future is closely tied to what happens in Mexico. What we can do is create opportunities for empowerment over there, because if we don't, we are continually going to be addressing the symptoms of problems created by economic disparity between the two countries.”

—Diana Natalicio

Engineering. Although she received her bachelor's degree from UTEP last December, Chee now stays busy doing double duty as a teaching assistant and graduate student.

She hasn't decided yet what she wants to do with her degree. But whatever she ends up doing, Chee seems targeted for success. Her impressive 3.95 grade-point-average made her the top graduate in the College of Engineering last fall, and such prominent corporations as AT&T and IBM have already expressed an interest in employing her.

Lopez and Chee aren't just examples of UTEP's tradition of developing successful students. They also represent the university's historically fruitful relationship with Mexico.

Ever since September 23, 1914, when a budding Mexican engineer named R. R. Barbarena was one of the 27 students who formed the first class at the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy, the university has nurtured a mutually beneficial relationship with Mexican students and institutions.

Today, UTEP enrolls 934 Mexican nationals, the largest concentration of Mexican students at any university in the country. That strong Mexican presence didn't just happen by accident. Thanks to the foresight of the Texas Legislature, initiatives such as the PASE program permit needy Mexican students to pay the same tuition as Texas residents. Plus, UTEP has managed to dramatically increase educational opportunities for Mexican students despite rising tuition costs during the years of peso devaluations.

The UTEP-Mexico connection goes beyond student education. UTEP faculty and staff are presently working with a wide range of Mexican institutions to improve the quality of life on both sides of the border.

Figuring prominently in these efforts are three UTEP organizations: the Institute for Manufacturing and Materials Management (IM³), the College of Engineering, and the Center for Inter-American and Border Studies.

IM³ spearheads a number of efforts to stimulate border economic development. These include developing Borderbase, a computer database containing socio-economic data on the six Mexican and four U.S. states on the U.S.-Mexico border, promoting the transfer of university-based technological research to the private sector, and developing models for the region's long-term economic growth.

IM³ is also working with leaders from the United States and Mexico to develop a border position on the pending North American Free Trade Agreement, and also to develop plans for improving the border's infrastructure, which includes such areas of concern as airports, highways, ports of entry, health care and the environment. The institute helped develop infrastructure improvement legislation for presentation to the U.S. Congress.

In addition, the College of Engineering—with strong support from Hans Mark, chancellor of the UT System—is

"There's double-digit unemployment in El Paso. . . We need to have our industrial base expand dramatically and bring in better quality, higher-paying jobs. And I'm not just talking about El Paso, I'm talking about Paso del Norte, the whole region."

—Don Michie

laying the groundwork for a "materials corridor" in which institutions in Mexico and the United States will work together to improve the quality of manufacturing in both countries through applied research. In light of the pending free trade agreement with Mexico, consortium organizers believe this "materials corridor" could significantly upgrade the quality of life in the region.

The Center for Inter-American and Border Studies is actively engaged in a variety of efforts to improve the quality of life along the border. It has negotiated convenios, or formal working agreements, with Mexican institutions for cooperative research and exchange, and sponsored joint conferences on water, free trade, and urban infrastructure.

The center is involved in the creation of a binational institute on water policy to educate public officials about water problems in El Paso and Cd. Juárez.

"If water consumption continues at the rate it's at now, our water will disappear in 30 years," says center director Samuel Schmidt.

The center is also actively engaged in a program to train faculty from the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional in Cd. Juárez to teach English as a second language. In return, UPN faculty will train teachers from the El Paso Independent



Joint ventures with area firms help solve manufacturing engineering problems and give students research experience.

School District to teach Spanish as a second language.

On a broader scale, the center organized a conference in Tijuana last fall involving several universities in the U.S. and Mexico to educate policymakers in Mexico City and Washington, D.C. about the impact of the free trade agreement on the border.

UTEP is also working with federal officials in the United States and Mexico doing important research on air pollution. Working through the Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy (a consortium of U.S. and Mexican institutions), UTEP's College of Engineering, the federal Environmental Protection Agency and SEDUE (Mexico's version of the EPA) are studying auto emissions

in Cd. Juárez to better understand vehicular pollution there.

"I think that it's important to work with Mexico because when you think of the future of El Paso and the region, you can't think about it unilaterally, and act as if it exists in a vacuum," says UTEP President Diana Natalicio. "It's absolutely the case that our future is closely tied to what happens in Mexico. What we can do is create opportunities for empowerment over there, because if we don't, we are continually going to be addressing the symptoms of problems created by economic disparity between the two countries."

It isn't just Mexico that gains from this relationship, Natalicio continues.

"It's real easy to think that we're

providing resources and opportunities and they're simply accepting them," she says. "In fact, they have a lot of expertise and talent, and we need to capitalize on their resources as well."

A good example of the reciprocity in the UTEP-Mexican relationship is the Border Fulbright Program which allows scholars to live in their own country while they teach in another. Currently, Roberto Dominguez from the Universidad Autonoma de Cd. Juárez (UACJ) teaches in UTEP's College of Business Administration. Maria Benitez, also from UACJ, teaches sociology and social work at UTEP.

Cooperation with Mexico has been important for American mining companies since the early part of this century. Lured by Mexico's rich mineral deposits, American companies like UTEP's neighbor, ASARCO (then known as American Smelting and Refining), invested heavily in the Mexican mining industry, helping to create a demand for engineers from both sides of the border.

To help meet this demand, the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy was created, and judging from the subsequent careers of its graduates, it fulfilled its mission with flying colors.

Among the many outstanding Mexican mining engineers graduated by the mining school was Salvador Treviño, Class of '41, who was named an Outstanding Ex-Student in 1961. In his acceptance speech that year, Treviño estimated that fully one-third of Mexico's mining engineers were UTEP graduates—a remarkable achievement.

Mexican students from Treviño's era recall that earning a UTEP degree in those days meant hard work both in and out of the classroom. It was the depression, and everyone—Mexicans, Anglos, professors—was poor.

To make ends meet, many students worked for the federal National Youth Administration, making 30 cents an hour. For several years, Treviño worked as a gardener on campus for the NYA. Another prominent Mexican graduate from that period, Arturo Morales, was paid by the NYA to do chores for John W. "Cap" Kidd, UTEP's legendary engineering professor.

Perhaps because times were so tough, the UTEP engineers from that period, both Mexican and Anglo, formed a camaraderie that has lasted to this day. At UTEP's 1991 Homecoming, when a group of these depression-era mining engineers gathered at the Alumni House to reminisce, they recalled that a sense of humor also helped to ease the pain of hard times.

One particularly painful incident for Treviño was the time Cap Kidd gave him an "E" (similar to today's "I" or "incomplete") for a course. Treviño, a top student, was sure Kidd had made a mistake—and still thinks so today.

But Pollard Rodgers—Treviño's classmate and lifelong friend—has a different explanation. Treviño, says Rodgers, had a habit of whistling in class without realizing it when he was deep in thought. This habit so vexed Kidd that he gave Treviño the "E" grade. The incident was subsequently immortalized in poetry in a special engineering edition of the *Prospector*: "Confucius says, 'He who whistles high C, Cap gives low E.'"



Air quality analysis projects utilize UTEP's waste materials management laboratories.

They may have been tough in the classroom, but UTEP professors proved enormously helpful to the students when it came time for the daunting task of employment. Treviño and another depression-era Mexican student, Vicente Cisneros, both recall that John F. Graham, a mining and metallurgy professor and UTEP's first professor emeritus, was instrumental in landing them their first mining jobs.

After their years at UTEP, many Mexican mining engineers had distinguished careers in their chosen field, including Treviño, Cisneros and Morales. In addition to his UTEP honor in 1961, Treviño was awarded the National Mining Prize by the Association of Mexican Mining and Metallurgical Engineers in 1983 and was elected as one of the Distinguished Contemporary Men of the Mining Industry by the Mexican Mining Chamber in 1987.

Cisneros is a past president of the Mexican Association of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers and of the Mexico City chapter of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, and was awarded the National Mining Trophy by the Association of Mexican Mining Engineers in 1987. Morales is a Distinguished Member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, and is listed in "Two Thousand Notable Americans" and "Who's Who in the World."

(continues on page 22)

From left to right; Pollard Rodgers, '41, Salvador Treviño, '41, Manuel Lopez, '37 and Vicente Cisneros, '33 at the 1991 Homecoming.



HIGH LIGHTS

FENCING CAMP

The United States Fencing Association (USFA) chose UTEP as the site for the 1991 Cadet Winter Training Camp Dec. 27 - Jan. 4.

Marietta Towry, UTEP fencing coach, bid for the camp in July and her success resulted in the first national training camp in the Southwest Rocky Mountain area.

The USFA praised UTEP's hospitality. Aside from vigorous training, camp participants enjoyed a UTEP basketball game, a tour of Tranmountain, a visit to El Paso's sister city, Cd. Juárez, and a drive through Fort Bliss.

"They had a fun time and they trained really hard," Towry says.

The UTEP Continuing

Education Junior Fencing Squad competes against other nationally ranked teams in the United States, but its accomplishments are not widely known around campus.

"We're the best kept secret on campus," Towry says.

The presence of a national fencing association and the participation of exceptional UTEP fencing students in the camp may serve as an incentive for further recognition of the UTEP team, Towry says.

Five students from the UTEP team participated in the training camp; three of them are nationally ranked. David Madero, 16, was national champion in under-15 last year in the Men's Epee.

Michael Minuth, 16, is currently in fourth place in under-17 in the nation,

and James DeBoer, 17, placed first in the state in the Saber competition.

LATINOS IN HIGHER ED

Hispanics have been working since the 1960's to achieve access to higher education. The quest for Latino empowerment through education continues today.

A two-day symposium entitled "The Role of Higher Education and Latinos: Empowerment Strategies for the 1990's" was held Feb. 6-7 at UTEP and the Westin Paso del Norte Hotel.

Symposium participants included educators, politicians and community leaders who discussed the progress of Latinos in higher education.

"Part of the conference was to bring together key Latino scholars in the Southwest, particularly those who work in higher education, to stop and reflect on what progress we have made over the past 25 years and to begin to chart a strategy for the future," says Arturo Pacheco, UTEP vice president for student affairs.

The conference brought to UTEP a handful of Hispanic university

presidents including University of Arizona President Manuel Pacheco, the first Hispanic president of a major research university. These university presidents offered their thinking about the Latino niche in higher education based on years of research findings.

The symposium also addressed the problem of insufficient funding for higher education and opened discussion about how universities will survive the current financial crisis, and particularly how low-income people such as Hispanics will overcome this setback.

Arturo Pacheco believes that the crisis has come at a time when Hispanics, as well as other minorities, are just getting the wheels rolling in higher education.

More people are striving to gain greater access to higher education than was the case 25 years ago. However, there is a small percentage of Hispanics in higher education com-



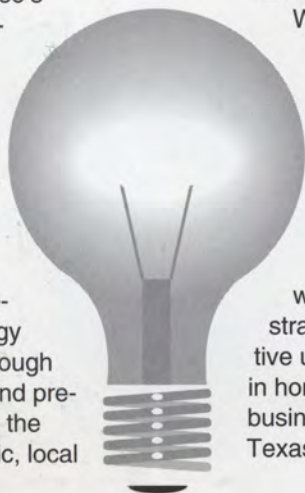
pared to the large growing U.S. Hispanic population. Although the number of Latinos seeking an education has not kept pace with its population growth, Latinos have made some significant progress in these last 25 years, Pacheco says.

A follow-up symposium is already in the planning stages for next year.

"We saw it (symposium) not as a single event in time but the beginning of a process dialogue that we see as continuous," Pacheco says.

ENERGY CENTER

One of El Paso's important energy resources is located right on the UTEP campus. The Energy Center promotes awareness of energy efficiency through workshops and presentations to the general public, local



businesses and El Paso area schools. Outreach programs administered by the center are designed to focus on energy and the environment.

One plan called Watt Watchers is part of the Energy Education Outreach Program and enlists the help of grade school students to reduce the amount of electricity used in the schools. Students wear badges and hats and are allowed to give tickets to teachers who carelessly leave classroom lights on.

"The greatest new source of energy is efficiency and that's what we're all about," says center director

Wesley Leonard.

Other outreach programs include the Energy Extension Service, which demonstrates cost effective use of energy in homes and small businesses in Texas; Appropriate



From left to right; David Flores, John Downey, Carole Barasch and Geronimo Garcia.

Technologies Program for Low-Income Populations, which provides energy information to low income Texas populations in the "colonias" who are in need of waste water services; the Satellite Energy Extension Service Offices, Home Energy Rating System Program, Passive Solar/Conservation Retrofit Project and El Paso Solar Pond Research Facility.

The center also addresses environmental problems such as waste management, air pollution and water contamination through the Center for Environmental Resource Management (CERM). University-based environmental expertise is transferred to business and industry in both the U.S. and Mexico.

PUBLICATIONS, VIDEO AWARDS

Six awards were presented to the News and Publications Office at the 1992 El Paso Advertising Federation Reception in January:

Gold

- de Wetter invitation
- UTEP phone directory cover illustration
- Theater Arts 30-second TV spot

Bronze

- Theater Arts Brochure
- Quincentenary promotional package
- Nova Quarterly.

The regional chapter of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education recognized UTEP's faculty and staff newsletter *Horizons* with the Award for Excellence for Best Improved Periodical.



Volunteers Key to UTEP Fund-raising

Hard economic times nationally and locally can strangle fund-raising efforts for any non-profit organization. While a good product or service is essential in leveraging financial support from individuals and businesses, the appeal is as important, if not more critical, to successful fund-raising—especially when dollars are scarce.

"Anyone who raises money will tell you that people don't give to causes as much as they give to people," says Jan Cavin, UTEP development director. "In a competitive situation, who carries your message out into the community makes the difference."

The difference for UTEP is a cadre of community leaders that devotes considerable time to the university's development activities. Despite the ailing economy, local fund-raising campaigns spearheaded by UTEP volunteers generate an increase of three to five per cent each year.

"Anyone who cares about the city and its citizens and who has any feelings towards young people will give time, talent and money to this university," says Bob Hoy, 1991 Corporate Campaign co-chairman.

Although Hoy is busy running one of El Paso's major car dealerships, his involvement with UTEP dates back to the early 1960s.

"It is necessary for a city to have a well-rounded university if the community is to grow and prosper," adds Hoy. "Obviously UTEP is a first-class learning center, and more than anything, it provides a chance for a college education to many young people who otherwise would not have the opportunity."

Ex-El Paso mayor Judson Williams, another longtime UTEP supporter, now chairs the university's Development Board, a group of prominent business people that assists the university in procuring financial resources from the region. Williams' latest project is stimulating support from Cd. Juárez. He has assisted with the recruitment of individuals like Freddie de la Vega, Jaime Bermudez, Memo Ochoa, and Federico Barrio.


State representative Rene Nuñez says his role at UTEP is an opportunity to give something back to
(continued on page 22)



From left to right; Bob Hoy, co-chairman of the 1991 Corporate Campaign, Olga "Cookie" Mapula, chairman of the 1991 Alumni Fund for Excellence, and Judson Williams, chairman of the 1991 Development Board.



From left to right; Rene Nuñez, president of the 1991 Alumni Association, Philip Stoner, chairman of the 1991 Matrix Society and Leonard "Nardo" Goodman, Jr., chairman of the 1991 President's Associates.



The Bear Dynasty continues to flourish this season with Don Haskin's 600th college basketball victory, making him the 12th most victorious coach in the history of college basketball.

But this record is just one more notch in a string of impressive stats over a thirty-one year career at UTEP. The man they call the "Bear" sports twenty-eight winning seasons, six WAC championships, seven consecutive trips to the NCAA tournament and a national championship.

Congratulations to Don Haskins and UTEP on 600 wins.

THE EYE OF

THE LATE MEXICAN PHOTOGRAPHER MANUEL CARRILLO WOULD SOMETIMES STAND FACING A BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE, BEND OVER HIS CAMERA, FRAME THE SCENE HE WANTED, ADJUST THE FOCUS, AND START CLICKING THE SHUTTER—CAPTURING STUNNING IMAGES, NOT OF THE LANDSCAPE BEFORE HIM, BUT OF A STOLID INDIAN WOMAN SELLING PRODUCE A FEW FEET TO HIS SIDE, HER WARES ARRAYED AROUND HER IN SMALL NEAT PILES ON STRAW MATS, OR OF AN OLD MAN PLODDING BY, GROANING UNDER THE WEIGHT OF AN OVERSIZED BUNDLE OF FIREWOOD.

MANUEL CARRILLO

by Joe Old



Enferma en la banca

(Ill woman on bench) San Miguel Allende, Guanajuato, 1960

“Manuel Carrillo captures poetically in all his photographs the decisive moment” is how Mexican novelist Luis Spota summed up Carrillo’s art.

During his 34 years on the other side of the lens, Carrillo took tens of thousands of photographs of his beloved Mexico. It was not the picturesque landscapes his eye sought. It was the people; in his words, “mi pueblo.” Indeed that became the title of one of his exhibitions and of a book of his art published in Mexico in 1980. Carrillo said that many of his subjects had never seen a camera or were wary of strangers, hence his preference for the silent shutter of the Rolleiflex and for the occasional deception of orienting himself one way toward a scene and pointing the eye of the camera at something else.

Carrillo died at 83 in January of 1989 after having established an international reputation as a man with an eye for a poignant picture. Twenty-three years earlier, *London’s Photography Yearbook* had dubbed him “Mexico’s top photographer,” and in January of the following year, he won the grand prize in the black-and-white division of *Saturday Review’s* international photo contest with a photo titled *Dog on His Master’s Grave*. His work, according to his own records, appeared in more than 300 exhibitions around the world.

A year after Carrillo’s death, UTEP paid his widow Consuelo \$50,000 for the award-winning photographer’s archives: thousands of prints and negatives, innumerable newspaper and magazine articles and hundreds of letters.



Pescador, envuelto en redes
(Fisherman, wrapped in nets) Veracruz, Veracruz



Isabel charro - mural
(Isabel cowboy - mural) Santa Rosa, Guanajuato, 1960



Viejita calleon sombras piramidales
(Old woman in alley with pyramidal shadows) Guanajuato, Guanajuato, 1960

Informally estimated to be worth \$250,000, the collection was a major acquisition for the library's Special Collections Department, said Bob Seal, UTEP librarian. The Carrillo collection is still being sorted, organized and put in acid-free storage containers by archivists.

"It adds a visual angle to our research materials," Seal said of the collection. "It also provides an insight into daily life in rural Mexico because Carrillo concentrated on peasants, animals, farms and things like that."

Seal said the Carrillo holdings also enhance the library's standing. And because UTEP is literally only a few hundred yards from the Mexican border, scholars from Mexico will have easy access to the collection once processing is complete. That could take up to two more years, Seal said.

The acquisition was not only a coup for UTEP; it solved one of Carrillo's most vexing problems: what would become of his work after his death. He spent much of the last decade of his life fretting about it. A year before he died, he wrote to friends in El Paso: "I always hoped that my work will go to some institution in the United States, because I know it will continue circulating."

Although he had already willed his collection to El Pasoan Bea Bragg, an accomplished photographer herself, Bragg returned all rights to it to Mrs. Carrillo.

Bragg was one of several El Pasoans who became important to Carrillo during the last decade of his life. He met her in 1980, when he was honored at an El Paso meeting of the Photographic Society of America, and returned to the Pass of the North many times before his death. El Pasoans loved this slight, balding photographer from Mexico, this gentle man with elegant manners, the nephew of Mexican president Adolfo Ruíz Cortines. They bought his poetic prints, took him in their homes, entertained him.

During his 1980 visit, Carrillo, wearing thick, square glasses that magnified his eyes, discussed his art with Dolores Lenko, KRWG TV program moderator. Lenko asked about the importance of the darkroom in the photographic process.

Carrillo hardly paused. "Not necessarily," he replied. "I think the hardest thing in photography is the eye—to see the photograph at the right moment. . . . The composition, I think, is the most personal thing that an artist has."

The final word on Carrillo's life and work has not been written—and won't be until the UTEP archives are opened

to researchers. His vision of Mexico has been styled romantic sentimentalism by some, street photography in the tradition of Henri Cartier-Bresson by others. Still others say he simply did folk art with a camera. Whatever the label, his work is an enduring legacy. ■



Manuel Carrillo



Cruz-Sombra humana
(Cross-Human shadow) Apam, Hidalgo, 1973



Rebozo al aire
(Shawl in the wind) Oaxaca, Oaxaca, 1958



Perro sobre tumba-Panteon-Dolores
(Dog on grave-Dolores Cemetery) Mexico City, D. F., 1966

ALUM NOTES

by Kay Peck

40s

John E. Krebs, COL (Ret) USA (B.A. '40), published a book entitled, *To Rome and Beyond*, an account of the experiences of the tank company he commanded during the North African and Italian Campaigns of World War II. **Virginia "Jigger" Olsen** (B.A. '43) has retired as a school counselor and is presently serving on several administrative boards including the one for the Gerald Champion Memorial Hospital in Alamogordo. She was the first woman to serve on the Alamogordo City Commission and was also Alamogordo's mayor for four years.

Arline Abbott (B.B.A. '47) and his wife, Shirley, have returned to El Paso from Lesotho, South Africa, where Shirley Abbott served as U.S. ambassador for seven years.

Raymond T. Odell (B.S. '48) is president of Compusirs, a San Francisco Peninsula computer group.

Jeanne Oltman Casteel (B.A. '49) and her husband, a retired judge, are living in Carthage, Missouri. She is active in the Fairview Christian Church.

50s

John Siqueiros (B.A. '51) has worked in the communications industry for 32 years after graduating from Texas Western College with a degree in mass communications. While at TWC he was named to the Men of Mines and elected as vice president of the Student Council in 1950.

Carl B. Norberg (B.S. '53) retired in 1990 from Emerson Power Transmission.

Fred Heise (B.S. '53) was elected secretary-treasurer of the utilities commission for New Smyrna Beach, Florida in December, 1991.

Lorenzo G. LaFarelle, Ph.D. (M.A. '56), is teaching in the Chicano Studies Program at UTEP. He was a teacher and counselor with the El Paso public schools.

Chester "Coy" Harrison (B.S. '57) retired last October from Southern Bell in Atlanta, Georgia after 34 years with the Bell System.

Arthur Najera, D.D.S. (B.A. '57), was named the Outstanding Ex-student by the Austin High School Alumni Association. He is an orthodontist in Santa Barbara, California.

Enrique H. Pena (B.B.A. '58) retired as State District Judge after 20 years on the bench and 28 years of public service including serving as County Attorney. He is presently president of the Texas Arbitration Mediation Services, Inc. and the law firm of Enrique H. Pena.

Rene M. Rosas, D.D.S. (B.A. '58), was installed in October as Fifteenth District Trustee of the 140,000-member American Dental Association.

Neil E. Weinbrenner (B.B.A. '58) was sworn in as president of the New Mexico State Bar Association on Sept. 27, 1991.

Don P. Martin (B.S. '59) has retired from the Internal Revenue Service after 31 years. He is opening an office in San Antonio, Texas where he will represent clients with delinquent tax problems.

60s

Richard H. Holt, CPT (Ret) USN (B.S. '61), retired on Aug. 1, 1991 after 30 years in the Navy. He has accepted a position with Bendix Field Engineering Corporation. He and his wife, **Susan Holt** (B.S. '61) are living in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

James M. McPhail (B.B.A. '62) has worked for Procter and Gamble Distributing Company for 28 years.

Frank Besnette (B.B.A. '62) is executive vice-president at

Northern Arizona University.

Catherine M. "Kay" Porter, Ph.D. (B.S. '62), is owner of Porter Performance Systems, a sport psychology and business consulting company, in Eugene, Oregon. She conducts team building, conflict resolution seminars, and is the author of two books on sport psychology.

William P. Coleman (B.A. '63), a veteran United Press International reporter, was named editor of the *Sanger Herald* in Sanger, California.

Evelyn Ruiz Calvillo (B.S.N. '64) has completed a doctorate in nursing from the University of California in Los Angeles. She is the first Hispanic in the state of California to receive a doctorate in nursing.

Bert Almon (B.A. '65) won second prize in the 1991 Cardiff International Poetry Competition. His sixth book, *Calling Texas*, was recently released by Thistledown Press.

Kaye Volking Barnett (B.A. '65; M.Ed. '71) is a reading and English teacher at Camden Middle School in Kingsland, Georgia. She recently completed the degree of education specialist in reading from Valdosta State.

Pat Evans Burdick (B.B.A. '65) and her husband, **Ken Burdick** (B.B.A. '65), are living in Denton, Texas where Ken is the vice president for economic development for the Denton Chamber of Commerce. Pat teaches high school accounting and economics in Mansfield, Texas.

Billy A. Carnes (B.S. '65; M.S. '66) was named to Who's Who of American Business Executives. He is the president and owner of Water and Waste Management Associates, Inc. of Dallas, Texas. He and his wife, **Patricia Maveety Carnes** (B.S. '64), have children attending The University of Texas at Austin and The University of Oklahoma.

Keith D. Murray (B.B.A. '65) is vice president for Financial/Computer Analysts-Asset Acquisitions at United Companies in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Beatriz Garcia Telles (B.A. '66; M.A. '69) works for Maccess, an agency specializing in personnel with Macintosh computer skills.

Robert S. Hodes (B.S. '67) lives in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia where he is manager of Westinghouse Electric Corporation programs with the Saudi Air Force. **Ernie Arriola** (B.S. '68) has been promoted to the position of operations superintendent at Phelps

Dodge Refining Corporation.

Yvonne Johnstone Lanelli (B.A. '68; M.A. '73) lives in Alto, New Mexico where she works as a free-lance writer. She recently appeared on two national game shows, "Wheel of Fortune" and "JEOPARDY!"

Yvonne Garcia Lyons (B.A. '68; M.A. '70) is a technical editor at Texas A&M University. She recently received national recognition from the USDA-Soil Conservation Service for documenting a rangeland management software program.

Armando Telles Jr. (B.S. '68) is geophysical manager for Mobil Oil in Denver, Colorado. Prior to his Colorado position, he was exploration advisor at Mobil's corporate headquarters in New York City.

Ruona Bertaccini (B.A. '69) is a senior speech pathologist at Rusk Institute of Rehabilitative Medicine with the New York University Medical Center.

Robert V. McKnight, LCDR USNR (B.A. '69), was duty watch officer aboard the USS Arizona Memorial during the 50th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

John "Jack" Myers (M.S. '69) has joined the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation in the Fort Myers District Office. He is employed as a licensed professional geologist.

70s

Gerald G. "Jerry" Barrett (B.S. '70) received his M.B.A. in management from the University of Texas at Austin in August. He received the Dean's Award for Academic Excellence and was selected for Phi Kappa Phi. He has worked for IBM in Austin since 1970.

Douglas Conwell (B.S. '70) is co-founder and director of Earth Walks, an environmental education program that offers seminars and guided trips throughout the Southwest.

Paula Olivares (B.A. '70; M.S. '74) was elected to the William S. Hart Union High School District Board of Trustees of Santa Clarita, California.

Ron McCluskey (B.A. '70) was confirmed as vice chairman on the National Americanism Council of The American Legion during the National Executive Committee meeting in Indianapolis in October. **Abe Ramirez** (B.S. '72; M.S. '78) is currently the principal of Bel Air High School in El Paso

from which he graduated in 1966.

His wife, **Loretta Young Ramirez** (B.S. '70), teaches at Eastpoint Elementary School.

Richard C. Robins, COL USAR (B.A. '70; M.Ed. '73), was promoted to the rank of colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Patty Lee St. Martin (B.A. '70) is a writer and also co-owner and president of Patty Lee Records, an independent record label based in Hollywood, California and New Orleans, Louisiana.

Carole Bram (B.A. '71) lives in New York where she is coordinator of health for the Comsewogue School District.

Steve F. Abeyta (B.B.A. '72) was promoted to senior manager of border relations in the Distribution Services-Mexico Group with the Southern Pacific Transportation Company in Houston, Texas.

Matthew Paek (B.B.A. '72) lives in Anaheim, California and works for the Department of Defense. His wife, **Chong Soon Paek** (M.S. '73) is employed at the University of California at Riverside.

Claude "Fletch" Fletcher Jr. (B.A. '73) is employed at the San Angelo State School in San Angelo, Texas as an active treatment provider. He is also working on a book of poems and quotations.

Robert LeRoy Giron (B.A. '73) received the Humanities and Social Sciences Special Faculty Recognition Award at Montgomery College in Takoma Park, Maryland.

Rita Holguin Salinas (B.A. '73) works with the Texas Department of Health long-term care unit in El Paso. She is a social services program consultant, nursing home surveyor and complaints investigator.

David Leibson (B.S. '74; M.A. '79) is an assistant program coordinator with the Austin-Travis County MHMR in Austin, Texas. He also plays bass in a popular Austin rock band called Tony and the Tigers.

Russell S. Autry (B.A. '75), former director of marketing for the El Paso Chamber of Commerce, is now the chief executive officer of the Odessa Chamber of Commerce.

J.A. "Skip" Baca (B.S. '75) is associated with Texas Uranium Operations at George West, Texas where he works as a reclamation engineer.

Peter C. Bordiga (B.S. '75) is lead engineer on the Space Station Freedom Program with Lockheed Missiles and Space Company in

the San Francisco Bay area.

Rich Downs (B.S. '75; M.Ed. '79) is a counselor at Bryan Elementary School in Plant City, Florida.

Judy Rollins Downs, Ph.D., (B.A. '75; M.A. '82) is assistant professor of English at the University of Tampa in Tampa, Florida and adjunct faculty of education for Nova University.

Kathy Volking Simpson (B.S. '75; M.Ed. '89) does contractual medical library work for Sierra Medical Center and Vista Hills Medical Center in El Paso in addition to serving as librarian for the Glen Cove Elementary School.

Daniel Cassalia (B.S. '76) is currently a hydrogeologist with Metcalf and Eddy, Inc. in Miami, Florida.

Ramon Gerardo Jr., SFC, USAR (B.A. '76), has returned from deployment to the Middle East in support of Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He served with the 383rd Quartermaster Battalion reserve unit out of El Paso. He is employed as a senior illustrator at Tri-State Wholesale Assoc. Grocers, Inc. in El Paso.

Steve Feoako, MAJ USA (B.A. '77) was selected as a resident student for command and general staff in the school at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Michael S. Schwartz, LCDR USN (B.S. '77), received the Bronze Star and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal for heroic achievement as liaison officer in Kuwait for Commander, Middle East Force. He was credited with having disregarded his own personal safety in a perilous environment while courageously escorting U.S. citizens to the safety of the American Embassy.

Robert S. Anchondo (B.A. '78) was recently elected president of the Mexican-American Bar Association of Texas.

William M. Leff, D.C., (attended '78-81) is currently vice president of the Five Points Development Association and has a chiropractic practice in central El Paso.

Perla Leticia Maldonado (B.A. '78), a 13-year marketing veteran, was named a vice president of de Bruyn-Rettig Advertising, Inc. in El Paso. The appointment made her the first woman and first Hispanic to achieve this position.

Robert G. Efaw (B.S. '79) was appointed to the newly created position of senior vice president for Nobles/Steiner, Inc. of El Paso.

Phil Martinez (B.A. '79) was

appointed by Governor Ann Richards as Judge of the 327th Judicial District Court in El Paso County.

Richard A. Mitchell (B.S. '79) received his Master's degree in counseling in December, 1990 from Sul Ross State University and was promoted to counselor at Mesa Vista Elementary School in El Paso.

80s

Brenda Denham (B.S.N. '81; M.S.N. '91) was appointed human resources director at Sierra Medical Center.

Mike Haney (M.Ed. '81) is in private practice counseling children and adolescents. He earned a Master's degree from the University of Kansas in 1985.

Barbara Beckage Klancher (B.B.A. '81) was named director of financial planning for Mercy Hospital in Bakersfield, California.

Froann Jones McLaughlin (B.S. '82; M.A. '84) returned to New England where she has a teaching and counseling position at Northern Essex Community College in northern Massachusetts.

Lydia Macias Molinar (B.S. '82) is a special education teacher at Hart Elementary School with the AIM Program.

Eugene C. Pease, CPT USA (B.S.N. '82), returned from deployment from Operation Desert Storm. He served with the 2nd Mobile Army Surgical Hospital of Ft. Benning, Georgia.

Karen Tucker, Ph.D. (B.A. '82), received her Ph.D. in counseling psychology in 1988 and currently has a private practice in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Claudia Wilke (B.S. '82) works in Dallas as an advisory systems engineer for IBM. She received her M.B.A. in management from the University of Dallas in 1984.

George Wooley (B.B.A. '82) is a producer and director in his own television production company. He recently produced a program concerning abortion that was included as part of an exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and was broadcast nationwide on the Deep Dish Network.

George M. "Mike" Lorenzo (B.B.A. '83) recently separated from the Air Force after seven and a half years of service. He is currently working as a pilot for United Airlines.

Rosa Loya Hernandez (B.S.

'84) received a Master of Arts in education from the University of New Mexico and has accepted a position at New Futures School, an alternative school for pregnant adolescents and adolescent parents.

Kitty Mills Kallemeyn (B.Ed. '84) and her husband have been commissioned as missionaries with the Southern Baptist Mission Service Corps.

Cecilia E. Castaneda (B.S. '85) has published her first book, *Juarenses*, a series of interviews about life in Juarez.

William C. Coppenbarger (B.S. '85) is currently officer in charge for the United States Department of Agriculture Port of Entry in Columbus, New Mexico.

Alejandrina Drew (M.A. '85), director of the City of El Paso Arts Resources Department, was appointed to the board of the Mid-America Arts Alliance.

Roberto A. Garza-Lopez, Ph.D. (M.S. '85), has completed his Ph.D. at the University of Georgia.

Hortencia Gutierrez (B.S. '85) is employed by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Ginger Holt LaRocco (B.B.A. '85) earned a certificate in legal assistantship from the University of California Irvine Extension. She is a bankruptcy litigation paralegal with the law firm of Burd and Marshack in Santa Ana, California.

Michael Apodaca, CPT USA (B.B.A. '86), took command of the 630rd MP Company in Bamberg, Germany on Nov. 27, 1991.

Diane Dunn (B.S.N. '86; M.S.N. '88) was selected for Who's Who in American Nursing for 1990-91. She teaches nursing at the University of Hawaii at the Manoa Campus.

Roger V. Gonzalez (B.S. '86) received his Master's degree in biomedical engineering in Dec., 1990. He is currently a GEM Ph.D. Fellow at The University of Texas at Austin.

Virginia Moreno Gregory (B.S. '86) is employed as a program analyst for research analysis and maintenance in corporations in El Paso. She worked on analysis of the Patriot Defense Missile Systems and TACCSF (Theater Air and Command Control Simulation Facility) located at Fort Bliss.

Timothy K. Stoner (M.B.A. '86) was appointed as commanding officer of Battery N 5th Battalion, 14th Marines at the Marine Corps Reserve Center in El Paso.

Adiel Tel-Oren, D.C. (B.M. '86), is a chiropractic physician with a private family practice in

Minneapolis, Minnesota. He serves as a consultant for a consumer health organization promoting natural health care.

Kathy Blalock (B.B.A. '87) was elected the 1991-92 president of the El Paso Chapter of the Texas Association of Business Brokers. She was also chosen as a member of the State Board of Directors for this non-profit trade association.

Teresa Garcia (B.B.A. '87) is a 1990 graduate of the University of Houston Law Center. She is currently assistant district attorney in the El Paso County District Attorney's Office.

Randy Lee Head (B.S. '87) is a systems programmer for ITT/Teves, a German automotive company. He works on programming for testing and development of anti-lock brakes.

Daniel J. Herman (B.A. '87) was promoted to operations supervisor in the Roswell, New Mexico Social Security District Office.

Claudia Bill (B.A. '89) is weekend news producer and weekday associate producer for KGTV Channel 10 in San Diego, California.

nia.

Melissa A. Carrillo (B.A. '89) completed two years of intensive study in commercial photography at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California. She is currently living in Paris, France where she is working as a free-lance photographer while studying under fashion photographer Pierre-Yves Mahe.

Shiela R. Rulison (B.S. '89) received her Master's degree in behavioral science from Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma in May, 1991. She currently resides in Kaiserslautern, Germany where she teaches English at the American high school.

90s

Maria Ervin (B.A. '90) received a full fellowship to Georgetown University where she's working on a Master's degree in teaching English as a second language.

Ricardo A. Espino (B.B.A. '90) was appointed assistant vice

president with Jardine Insurance Brokers Hawaii, Inc.

Aline Herrera (B.A. '90) is planning technician for the City of Socorro. Her responsibilities include implementing grants dealing with water, and street and road improvements.

Eric Carcerano (B.A. '90) was elected national secretary of the Hispanic National Bar during the Bar Association's National Convention held in September at San Antonio.

Debra L. Apodaca (B.A. '91) was admitted into the Drew University Graduate School in Madison, New Jersey.

Marie Ellayna Ryan (M.S.N. '91) is assistant director of the ACU/PACU and Endoscopy room of the Guadalupe Medical Center in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Edward Salas (B.S. '91) and **Leticia Monarrez** (B.S. '89) were married June 22. He is a metallurgical engineer at Alcoa in Austin, Texas, and she is a sixth-grade teacher with the Austin Independent School District.

and six children.

Baxter Polk (former UTEP Librarian) November 30, in Aurora, Colorado. Polk was the executive librarian at Texas Western College from 1936 until his retirement in 1975. Survivors include a sister.

Mary Ellen Casner Heathcote (B.A. '40) December 3. Survivors include a son.

Harold M. Womack (attended) December 4. He had lived in El Paso since 1929. Survivors include his wife, Evelyn, and a daughter.

Elaine Hanna Koisch (B.A. '61) December 15, in Huntsville, Alabama after a brief illness.

Howard James Hally Marshall, M.D. (B.A. '38), December 21. He practiced medicine in El Paso for 45 years, including serving as chief of staff at Southwestern General Hospital. Survivors include his wife, Mary Ann, three sons, three daughters and seven grandchildren.

Marjorie Bernice Williams Krutilek (B.A. '37; M.Ed. '69) December 25. She was a retired teacher who taught at Hillside School for 20 years, and a long-time supporter of UTEP. Survivors include a son and a daughter.

Elois Romney Cardon (B.S. '61) January 13. She had retired from the El Paso Independent School District. She taught for 26 years prior to her retirement. Survivors include her husband, L. Lavon Cardon, four children, a sister and two brothers.

Anna M. Alcalá (M.Ed. '89) January 17. She was a bilingual education teacher with the Ysleta Independent School District and was to have received her Ph.D. from New Mexico State University in December, 1992. She is survived by her companion, Arturo Acosta, her mother, a daughter and eight siblings.

Mildred Gertrude Boyer Callison (B.A. '39) January 17. She was a resident of El Paso for 60 years. Survivors include her husband, Jarrett W. Callison, a daughter and a sister.

Herbert Anderson Smith Jr., COL (Ret) USA (M.Ed. '71), January 27. He was a resident of El Paso since 1969, and was a former professor of military science at UTEP. Survivors include his wife, Jeanne, a son and a daughter.

Rita Russell McNutt (B.A. '48) January 30. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joe M. McNutt, and a son. Survivors include two daughters, four brothers and two sisters.

OBITUARIES

Michael Stephen Scruggs (B.S. '65) October 25, 1990.

Patricia Angela Loya (B.S. '90) May 9, 1991 in El Paso. She was a teacher at Lamar Elementary School. She is survived by her mother, Ana L. Loya, a sister and grandparents.

Virginia Copenhaver Van Brocklin (B.A. '33) February 25, 1991 in Syracuse, New York after a short illness. She taught in El Paso for several years. Survivors include two sons and a sister.

Bruce Wallace Reynolds (B.A. '59) June 23. He is survived by his wife, Pat Young Reynolds (B.S. '59), two daughters and a son.

Katie Mae McCarty McKay (B.A. '35) August 31. She was a resident of San Francisco, California.

Polly Ann Morrow (UTEP supporter) September 25. Survivors include three sons, three daughters, a brother and a sister.

John W. Harshbarger (B.S. '42) October 10. Harshbarger was the founder of the University of Arizona's Department of Hydrology and Water Resources. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, two daughters, a son and several grandchildren.

Nadine Zacour (B.B.A. '82)

October 12. She was a life-long resident of El Paso. Survivors include her parents and a brother.

Ortella "Art" Ruebush (B.A. '39) October 23. She had been a resident of Las Cruces, New Mexico since 1955. Survivors include her husband, Dr. Joseph T. Ruebush, and a daughter.

William "Bill" Collins (B.B.A. '53) October 3. He was a longtime resident of El Paso. Survivors include his wife, Aida, two daughters, and three grandchildren.

Lottie J. Coulehan (former UTEP registrar) October 30. She lived in El Paso for 45 years and retired from UTEP in 1978. Survivors include two daughters.

Charles E. French (attended) November 17. French received the Meritorious Civilian Service Award for his contributions to the development of new radar technology while working at White Sands Missile Range and Fort Bliss. Survivors include his wife, Dorothy, and three daughters.

Ferdinando Lincoln Gerig, LTC (Ret.) USA (attended), November 18. He served in the Army for 25 years and was a veteran of World War II and Korea. Survivors include his wife, June, and a daughter.

John E. Chancellor (B.A.

'57) November 19. Survivors include his wife, Gail, three daughters, a son, a stepdaughter, a stepson and his mother.

Louis J. Pepin, CWO (Ret) USA (B.A. '73), November 19. Survivors include his wife, Ruth, two sons and two daughters.

Leland R. Gaston (B.A. '79; M.A. '86) November 21. Survivors include his wife, Mary Lou, two stepsons, a stepdaughter and his mother.

Phillip M. Prieto, M.D., (B.A. '39) November 21. Prieto was honored in 1980 as the Bowie High School Outstanding Ex-Student. Survivors include his wife, Irene, six sons and a daughter.

Elias "Mickey" Acosta Jr. (B.B.A. '78) November 23, in Montebello, California. He was a resident of West Covina, California. Survivors include two brothers and two sisters.

Ambelton M. Ahrens (B.B.A. '66) November 27. He was retired as an officer in the Army. Survivors include a daughter.

Frank "Bill" Morrow II (UTEP supporter) November 29. He was the owner of Western Services, a company he started in El Paso as Western Vending Co. in 1950. Survivors include a sister



Center for Lifelong Learning rekindles learning Spirit

by Linda Ethridge

Harriet Miller sits in her wheelchair and waits. If she's lucky, the lift service will get her to class on time. She doesn't like to miss any of the hour-long discussion on great works in literature. Even though arrangements for transportation have to be made two weeks in advance and the trips to and from her Eastside apartment often take longer than the class itself, she tries to attend the weekly session.

"I enjoy the reading, the discussions, the exchange of ideas—it's stimulating for your mind," says the retired school teacher. Health problems prevent her taking more than one class.

Connie White plans the week around her three classes. An avid tennis player and swimmer, the 74-year-old widow feels the courses have improved her mental ability.

*Martha Jo Rice, CLL student and
Elderhostel volunteer*



“There’s not
a person who
comes here who
doesn’t say,
‘This is so
much better
than I thought
it was going
to be,’
and they are
so enthused,
and they go
and tell
their friends.
... These people
don’t want to just vegetate.
If you don’t
use your brain,
you lose it.”

—Ruth Taber

“I didn’t realize how my brain was going to sleep. I had gotten out of the habit of reading for any length of time. Now I feel as if I’ve just awakened, as if I’m coming alive.”

Both women are members of the Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL), an educational program that offers courses to students over age 50.

Sponsored by the University of Texas at El Paso, CLL is a member of Elderhostel Institute Network, a program initiative created by the national educational organization Elderhostel to promote learning-in-retirement centers across the country.

Located on the second floor of Miners’ Hall, the center’s lounge is the meeting place for students who come early to socialize with fellow classmates. The room is cozy and inviting, its focal point three plush sofas that form a U around the large oak coffee table. Most afternoons are marked by the aroma of freshly brewed coffee, the sounds of laughter and lively conversation. Discussions carry over from classrooms—references to Spanish lessons, operatic arias, computer programs—in typical student-like fashion.

Scenes like this are becoming more and more common in universities across the nation. Literally millions of older people are returning to college every year “either

to obtain a degree or just for fun,” reports a recent issue of *Modern Maturity Magazine*.

“UTEP is way ahead of that particular wave,” says Robert Stakes, director of Professional and Continuing Education. “We are more open to these types of non-traditional programs because we deal with a non-traditional student body.”

When CLL first offered classes in the fall semester of 1990, there were only 15 to 20 similar programs across the country, he says. That number has grown to 150.

“CLL has become a model for other institutions planning to organize their own learning-in-retirement facilities,” says Stakes.

Inquiries come from universities and colleges around the country, some as far away as North Carolina and Florida.

The idea of establishing a center at UTEP originated with President Diana Natalicio, who recognized “the growing interest among retirees in continuing their intellectual exploration.

“UTEP tries to be a resource for the whole community,” Dr. Natalicio says.

“The center far outpaced my expectations,” she continues. “It was wonderful to see it take off like a rocket. It was a right idea, at the right time, and with the right people.”



Albert Rosenberg, retired professor of sociology, volunteered to organize the effort. He and Stakes attended an international conference on learning-in-retirement centers that was held in Edmonton, Alberta.

"I knew they had really bought into the idea when they went to Canada in November," says Dr. Natalicio. "That was not exactly a holiday setting for a meeting, but they came back all fired-up and got the whole thing organized."

"Although administratively housed in continuing education," says Stakes, "the program is unique because its committee members set up their own membership criteria, their own programs and times. We provide the space, volunteers do all the work."

He, as well as Dr. Natalicio, attributes much of the success of the program to the administrative skills of Herbert Schwartz, retired president of The Popular department stores.

As chairman of the center's executive committee, Schwartz is still very much the CEO. Beneath the sophisticated charm and soft-spoken manner lies a shrewd intellect and forceful presence.

With the exception of Wednesdays when he plays golf, Schwartz goes to the center almost every day. Apart from his managerial duties, he is enrolled in seven classes.

"It's fun," he says with a quick smile.

Although the curriculum committee makes arrangements with professors and sets the times and days, the courses offered are democratically chosen by the students themselves, explains Schwartz.

The spring semester's schedule reveals a great diversity in course topics. Offerings such as "Mexico: Yesterday and Today," "John Wayne is Marion Morrison," "The Real Cowboys, Indians and Miners," and "Native American Indians of the Southwest in Modern Society" indicate the range of student interests. Other selections include computer instruction and opera, as well as American and European politics.

Instructors for the center agree that the

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as if I'm
coming alive."

—Connie White

teaching situation is ideal, a rewarding and satisfying experience where the older students bring a wealth of experience to the classes.

At present, instructors are paid, but initially volunteered their services.

Dr. Natalicio was one of the first professors invited by the members of CLL to teach a class.

"Teaching is wonderful in any circumstances," she says, "but it's particularly wonderful when people are there because they are hungry to know what it is that you're talking about, and they're eager participants in the process."

Says Dr. Anthony Kruszewski, professor of political science: "These students ask questions constantly, they want answers immediately, they are interesting and interested."

That interest is reflected in an ever-increasing enrollment. In its fourth full semester, the center has 267 students registered in 30 classes. The center's first semester had only 30 students enrolled. The cost of membership is a one-time \$25 application fee, and \$50 semi-annually for courses.

Schwartz believes there are four reasons for the increased enrollment: "The students sincerely want to learn; they want to make better use of their time; they want

to make new friends; they think it's fun.

"Any one of those reasons is sufficient," he says. "And to a great extent, they can all be put together—which is why we have so many people complimenting us. They're happy with the program," he adds proudly.

"It's through word-of-mouth that the program grows," agrees Ruth Taber, who coordinates the public relations and advertising for the center, and who, along with her husband, Dr. Ben Taber, teaches bridge classes. Vivacious and witty, her enthusiasm for the program makes her a natural choice to promote the center within the community.

"There's not a person who comes here who doesn't say, 'This is so much better than I thought it was going to be,' and they are so enthused, and they go and tell their friends," she says. "These people don't want to just vegetate."

"If you don't use your brain, you lose it," she adds.

Researchers from Pennsylvania State University would agree. Dr. Sherry Willis and Dr. Warner Schaie found that mental faculties are improved through use. A longitudinal study conducted with persons ages 64-95 who were experiencing a decline in mental function, revealed measurable improvement following new stimulation and training.

"You get goose-pimples sometimes when you hear students say the classes have changed their whole lives," says Rosenberg, who feels the center has "filled a need in the community."

He originally promised Dr. Natalicio a year to get the center organized, and now devotes his time to other interests. But he still takes pride in the center's successes.

That sense of pride and accomplishment is shared among others involved in the center's development—from Dr. Natalicio who "had an idea it might work"; from committee members who laid the groundwork; from Mr. Stakes who gave it the space to grow; from Mr. Schwartz and Mrs. Ward who manage the day-to-day routine.

Ruth Taber proudly sums it up, "The center is UTEP's gift to the community of El Paso." ■

Opposite page:
Political science professor Z. A. Kruszewski teaches one of the most popular classes at the center: "The Changing World." Here, Kruszewski spends time after class with Herbert Schwartz, Zigmund Weiser and Ann Hollander.

Linda Ethridge is a freelance writer and is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies at UTEP.

All three credit UTEP for its part in pointing them toward success.

"The Texas College of Mines was instrumental in the progress of Mexican mining," Morales says.

Today, UTEP continues its tradition of offering a helping hand to Mexican students. Maria Chee, the top graduate in the College of Engineering in the fall of 1991, wanted to come to UTEP not only because of its high-quality academic programs but also because of its support services for international students.

Concerned about how she'd pay for her schooling, Chee applied for—and won—a presidential scholarship that allowed her to attend UTEP. Chee, one in a family of eight children, says the scholarship made it possible to deal with the financial burden of pursuing a college degree.

Many of UTEP's Mexican students are faculty members at universities and technological institutes who come for advanced degree programs not available closer to home. Some of these students are supported by scholarships from the Agency for International Development (AID). Mexican students have earned master's degrees under the auspices of the AID program and have returned to Mexico to assist in their country's economic

development. Since the fall of 1986, AID has supported a total of 108 students in science, engineering and business fields.

A concern that UTEP's Mexican students of today share with their counterparts 50 years ago is finding a job after graduation. UTEP's "Lazos" ("Ties") program assists Mexican employers in finding Mexican students who not only speak English and Spanish but also know how to get along in an international business environment.

Connecting people with good jobs is also a key issue for UTEP's Institute for Manufacturing and Materials Management.

"Mexico needs to create one million jobs a year to keep up with its growing labor force," explains Don Michie, IM³ director. "There's double-digit unemployment in El Paso. . . We need to have our industrial base expand dramatically and bring in better quality, higher-paying jobs. And I'm not just talking about El Paso, I'm talking about Paso del Norte, the whole region."

Creating new jobs is also an important goal behind the "materials corridor" initiative. UTEP is now working with Mexican institutions to exchange ideas on how the U.S. and Mexico can help one another.

For example, the use of foundries to

make metal parts is rare in the United States but still common in Mexico, says Larry Murr, UTEP engineering professor and a leader in the "materials corridor" effort. Just because foundry technology has fallen out of favor in the U.S. doesn't mean it's no longer useful, Murr says. In fact, he believes it's possible to modernize foundries to make them environmentally safe—and a promising form of employment.

"Why can you have foundries employing 400-500 people in Juárez and you can't have them here?" Murr asks. "Maybe people wouldn't want to do that here. But maybe they would if we cleaned them up."

Murr has found inspiration at a technological institute in Saltillo, Mexico, which has a large foundry used both as a classroom and as a job shop to make metal parts for Allis-Chalmers and other area companies.

Overall, UTEP's involvement with Mexico shows every sign of growing even more, as does Mexico's interest in UTEP. Perhaps one reason for this is the friendly face the university offers to its southern visitors.

At UTEP, says Maria Chee, "You're in another country, but you're very close to your own country. You don't feel like you're in a foreign environment." ■

(Volunteers... from page 8)

the university that awarded him a degree. In his capacity as president of the Alumni Association, Nuñez saw an opportunity to market the positive aspects of the university:

"You have to realize that corporate El Paso and corporate Texas will be hiring our students, so it's in their best interest for UTEP to continue putting out an outstanding product. And we do."

Fund-raising volunteers have more than lengthy histories of involvement with UTEP development activities. Phil Stoner, retired CPA, graduated from Texas Western College in 1950.

"My daughter graduated from UTEP in 1982 and my son received his master's here in 1986, so we've been a committed UTEP family," says Stoner, 1991 Matrix chairman and 18-year fund-raising veteran for UTEP.

Cookie Mapula, another UTEP graduate and devoted Matrix supporter, chaired the 1991 Alumni Fund for Excellence.

Mapula returned to help UTEP after a short hiatus setting up her communications consulting firm.

"I came back when Diana Natalicio became president because I saw UTEP taking new positive directions," recalls Mapula. "We are capitalizing on our unique position on the border and our expertise in minority education."

President's Associates chairman Nardo Goodman echoes Mapula's enthusiasm regarding UTEP's special marketing position. Asked how UTEP continues to increase local business and community participation, Goodman says:

"It's the idea that UTEP is a focal point in the community. People want to be associated with something that has an impact and that brings the spotlight to the city."

In addition to their high praise for the university, these community leaders cite their personal satisfaction as one of the main reasons for their continued participation in development projects. Rediscovering the university and connecting with old

friends and classmates are part of their reward.

These days the development office also has integrated many appreciation activities—parties, picnics and dinner theater performances—as important components of the university's volunteer program.

But Cavin is quick to say, "I feel regardless of how we treat our volunteers, they always care about the university and will always be there. We've tried to introduce some fun into the campaigns."

No doubt the strong synergy between the development volunteers and the university generates positive financial, as well as, personal rewards. This relationship is most assuredly one of UTEP's

most valuable community resources.



Steve Degroat, co-chairman of the 1991 Corporate Campaign

MESSAGES from the HEART

UTEP is proud to be selected as the vehicle through which many individuals choose to pay tribute to those close to their hearts. In 1991, the university received 437 such gifts, for a total of \$119,988.15.



The donors of these testimonial gifts have contributed immensely to our university and its students. We are deeply grateful for their dollars and for the honor of being selected to carry their "messages from the heart."

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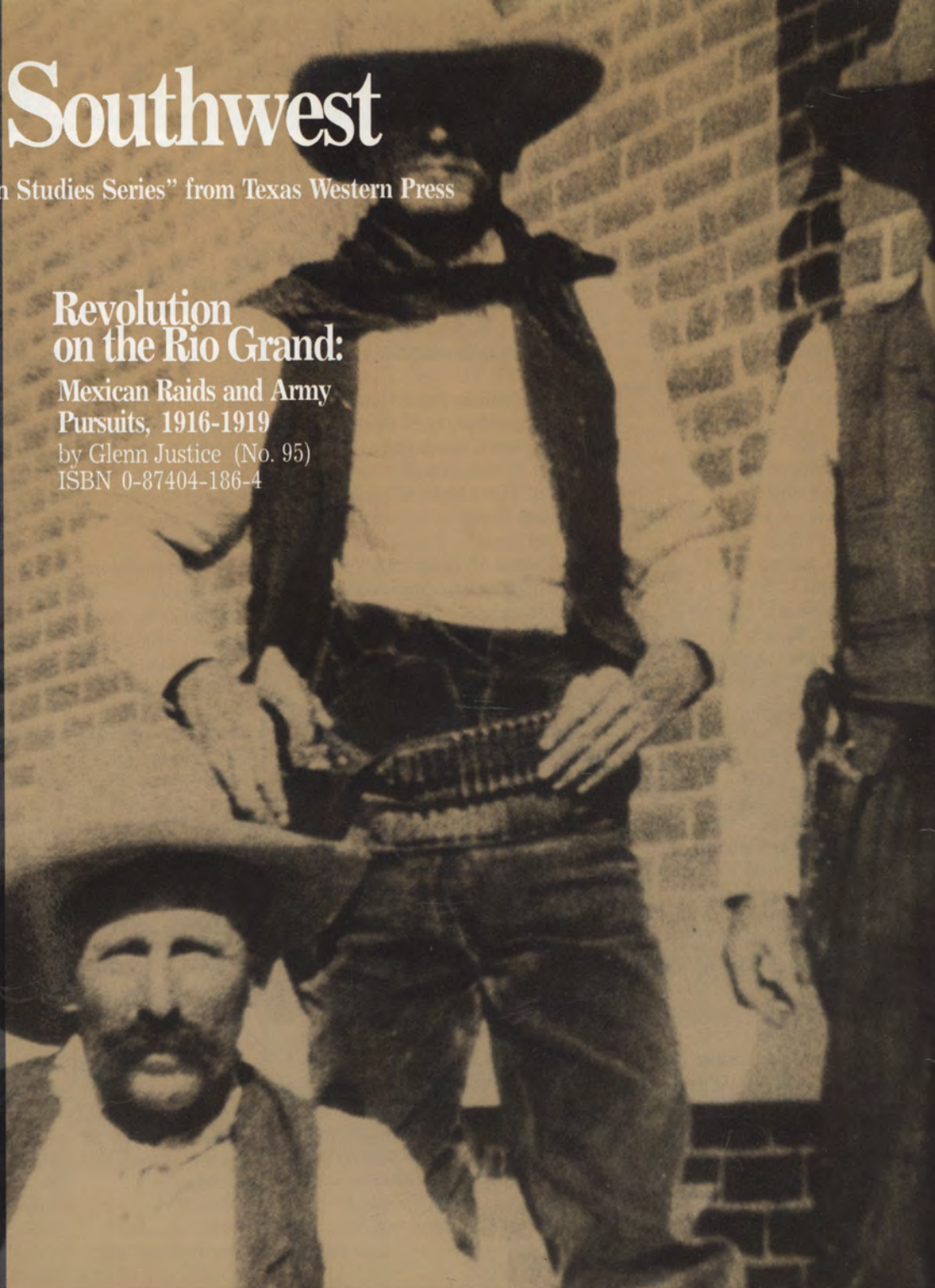
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