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The Prospector, November 29, 2016

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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE PROSPECTOR

WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM

VOL. 102, NO. 14

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

NOVEMBER 29, 2016

THE GRADUATION ISSUE

*"All our dreams can come true...
if we have the courage to pursue them."
- Walt Disney*

Prospector seniors say
goodbye

A look back at the best
photos of 2016

Spotlight on where Min-
ers are headed out
after graduation

What graduates will miss
most about UTEP

DESIGN BY ADRIAN BROADDUS AND MICHAELA ROMÁN/ THE PROSPECTOR



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NOVEMBER 29, 2016

OPINION

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
MICHAELA ROMÁN, 747-7477

The Prospector Fall 2016 staff wishes you good luck on your finals!



THE PROSPECTOR STAFF

(Back Row) Adrian Broaddus, Vania Castillo, Rene Delgadillo, Eric Vasquez, Jason Green, Laura Chaidez, Christian Vasquez, Marcela Luna (Front Row) Kathleen Flores, Michaela Román, Gaby Velasquez, Grecia Sanchez, Claudia Hernandez, Mike Flores, Andres Martinez, Lydia Santosocy, Veronica Gonzalez, Isabel Castillo Not Shown: Agnipravo Banerjee, Nina Titovets, Gloria Heredia, Stephanie Hinojosa, Andres Gallegos, Jason Urrutia, Monica Valdez, Jacobo De La Rosa, Vanessa Guevara, Estefania Rivera

Farewell to UTEP From the bottom of a plastic cup

BY SHERICKA LAWRENCE
The Prospector



I didn't know what my life would turn out to be when I moved to El Paso back in 2012. But what I did know was that I was making a change in my life that was most definitely needed. I came here in the summer of 2012 and the rest is history.

I first landed in El Paso in June. I moved with my older brother for a year, and then found my own place, but life happens and I ended up living on campus. While living on campus I met a lot of people who gave me life, as well as took life from me. But that's what life is about—a growing process of becoming mentally tough and spiritually stronger.

I came to UTEP to finish up my degree, which honestly I didn't

know what I wanted to do at the time. I registered, but I knew I wanted to get a college degree. I started majoring in multimedia journalism in spring 2014. I wanted to become bilingual my last semester of my degree, but since I wanted to learn another language, my graduation date got pushed back to the fall of 2016.

I was hesitant at first to take on a minor being so close to my graduation day, but I wanted to be the first in my family to learn another language. I signed up for my minor classes, but I wanted to learn the authentic Spanish language so I signed up for the Miners Going Global program, which coincided with the study abroad program. I applied for the 12-week program to study at the Salamanca University, located in Salamanca, Spain. I got accepted and spent the summer of 2015 in Spain. I enjoyed every single minute of that experience, along with that being my first time out of the country.

see FAREWELL on page A3

BY ERIC VASQUEZ
The Prospector



Remember senior year in high school when every one of your uncles, aunts or general adults asked you what you were going to

do in college? Remember how you had a smidge of an idea, but gave them a detailed plan and said it with confidence? The same thing happens when you are graduating from college. When the topic comes up, the conversation goes one way: what am I going to do after I graduate?

The question comes as if there's a single answer to that. If I were answering them honestly, I would tell them that for the first month or so I'm going to be laying on my carpet late at night staring at my ceiling, paralyzed from the possibilities before me and the one decision I

get. Unfortunately, people don't like too much honesty, so I tell them something different every time. I'm going to graduate school in New Orleans. I'm writing plays for small time theaters in New York. I'm apprenticing as a medicine man in India. I'm becoming a custodian for a school up in Washington to gain access to their library.

I tell them this because the question is ridiculous. What will you do? As if my life up to this point was planned. Nowhere in my high school graduate mind would I have thought that I would be a journalist for the school paper, president of a fraternity, a weekend poker dealer, a boxer or a published writer. High school graduate Eric Vasquez was telling uncles and friends of parents that I wanted to be lawyer, because at that time all there was to be was a lawyer or a doctor.

I feel like if you know what you want to do, you are either a sure shot of destiny or not thinking big enough. There isn't enough time to see all that is great in this world, all

that there is to know. A trip through one aisle of the library will tell you that we don't know anything yet. There is no way the world is just incomes and Netflix and weddings and children.

But to answer the question, the question I am still getting and will get through the holidays and on through January, what I will be doing is not slipping into the machine and falling into the mindset that American life is one of tweets and bars and new seasons of old shows and religion only when it can quote nicely in an Instagram post. What I will be doing is just keeping my eyes open and hope I don't end up thinking the world ends at the bottom of a plastic cup. What I will be doing, friends, at least every once and while, is looking up.

Eric Vasquez may NOT be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

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Table with 7 columns: TUES, WED, THUR, FRI, SAT, SUN, MON. Each column contains weather icons, high/low temperatures, and chance of rain.

FAREWELL from page A2
I learned Spanish and learned the culture by immersing myself in the actual culture.
I have appreciated everything that El Paso as well as UTEP has taught me.

The Prospector. I was so honored and blessed when I received this opportunity. But quickly understood that the industry I want to work in may not accept women or respect women to be on an equal playing field as men.

Four years and a lifetime of memories made

BY AMANDA GUILLEN
The Prospector



There are moments in our lives that can change the course of your life forever. The beauty of life is that you never know when these moments will occur.

I can say without a doubt in my mind that when I decided to work at The Prospector, little did I know that I was about to embark on a journey that would enrich my life and give me the tools I needed to not only survive college, but to thrive during this transitional period in my life.

Four years ago, I would visit The Prospector office almost every day checking in on my application status.

Working at The Prospector for me was a goal that I had set for myself as soon as I applied at UTEP and it was something that I was going to make a reality.

After what seemed like forever, I was called in for an interview and hired in the summer of 2013.

Soon after I realized I had made one of the best decisions, and every day I would go into work perfecting a craft that I would fall more and more in love with.

Throughout my Prospector career I have served in a multitude of roles, I was a staff reporter, multimedia editor, managing editor and editor-in-chief.

All jobs were equally rewarding and challenging in their own unique way.

I owe a lot to this publication and to the people behind it. I was given the chance to meet some of my closest friends, advisors, role models and even the love of my life.

Because of my work at The Prospector, I was able to embark on a four-month journey to Washington DC. I was selected as the fall 2015 intern for the Scripps Howard Foundation wire service, and while there I was able to cover White House events, the Supreme Court, the Pope's U.S. visit and, most importantly, told the stories of the people who I encountered on an everyday basis.

Along the way I traveled up the street to intern at KVIA, El Paso's ABC affiliate, and also was selected as the local-programming intern at KTNV, Las Vegas' ABC affiliate.

The internships, awards and recognition were all appreciated, but what I will never forget are the people who made this often times stressful journey worth the ride.

To the wonderful staff at Student Publications, Marcie, thank you for always complimenting my outfits; Isabel, thank you for always having the answer to all my crazy questions; Vero, thank you for always giving me the best advice; and Kathy, thank you for always providing me with your tough love.

My staff during the centennial issue of the paper, Andrea Acosta, Lorain Watters-Ambrocio, Jasmine Aguilera, Jacobo De la Rosa, Diego Burciaga, Javier Cortez and Michaela Roman, I don't know how I would have survived all of those 18-hour shifts without you.

Andrea, thank you for helping me get my foot in the door—from high school until now we have built a friendship I know will last a lifetime.

A few of the people that I can't forget to single out are Javier Cortez, thank you for providing my biggest fashion critiques

and for hating my hugs—you're the best.

Michaela Roman, this journey would not have been what it was without you. Throughout these years you have been my confidant, my lunch buddy and the person I laughed with when all I wanted to do was cry.

Lastly, to my boyfriend, who I met while working at the Prospector, thank you for being so persistent and for never taking no for an answer. Thank you for staying with me while I stayed at work alone until 6 a.m., and thank you for seeing the best in me even when I can't see it myself. Luis Gonzalez, if you would have asked me two years if I would have seen this coming I would have said no, but just as you always do, you proved me wrong in the best possible way. ¡Te amo!

Lastly, I want to thank my family and friends outside of The Prospector for always being so supportive during my time at the paper, from sharing my articles to always asking about my next story. There will never be a big enough way to say thank you!

Where do I go from here? After graduation, I will continue to work at KTSM, the NBC affiliate here in El Paso as an associate producer.

Amanda Guillen may NOT be reached at theprospector.daily.news@gmail.com.

Way more than just a job

BY LUIS GONZALEZ
The Prospector



I can't even imagine the number of hours I have spent in room 105 Union East throughout the past two-and-a-half years. Oh the stories I could tell. There's a lot, but I'll stick to the very first one.

I was all dressed up—slacks, buttoned-up shirt and shined shoes. I had just made the decision to bail on an engineering degree a semester and a half before graduating to pursue journalism. My first move after switching majors was applying to The Prospector.

The application went without response for months. I was losing hope when I got the call. That's why I was all dressed up—I had an interview with Mr. Cortez.

I was nervous as hell.

I showed up to the meeting with my palms sweating, legs shaking and feeling like my whole future depended on this interview, only to realize Mr. Cortez—to whom I had only spoken to on the phone—was this short, skinny student five years younger than me.

I was still nervous.

So nervous I don't remember meeting the two girls who were in the office the day of my interview—two girls who apparently vetoed my hire when Mr. Cortez told them he was thinking about it.

In the two years after that meeting, Mr. Cortez became Javi, the guy I would spend countless hours with covering,

arguing and geeking-out about sports. Not to mention pranking each other, continuously beating him at beer pong and making up games like paper dodge ball.

I also got to know the two girls I don't recall meeting. The ones that didn't want me to get hired. One became my wing-woman, drinking buddy and one of my best friends, the other I fell in love with.

I was scared, nervous, a little excited, but during that first visit to The Prospector, I could have never imagined the things I would learn, the people I'd meet, the places I'd visit and the experiences I would live.

I turned to The Prospector with the hope of finding out if I had any shot of becoming a journalist. I am leaving with more than a handful of friends, life-changing experiences, a world of knowledge, and the confidence that I have a shot at making it out there.

Thanks Kathy, Vero, Isabel, Marcie, Michaela (my wing-woman), Jacobo (my other wing-man), Diego, Andrea, Loraine, Jasmine, Jose, Anna, Adrian, Eric, Jason, Javi, Andres, Chris, Maria, Rene and everybody else that made room 105 Union East my second home.

Amanda, if I would've known this was going to happen I would've joined The Prospector a lot sooner. I love you.

Luis Aguilar may NOT be reached at theprospector.daily.news@gmail.com.

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OUR VIEW

Best of The Prospector's 2016 election coverage



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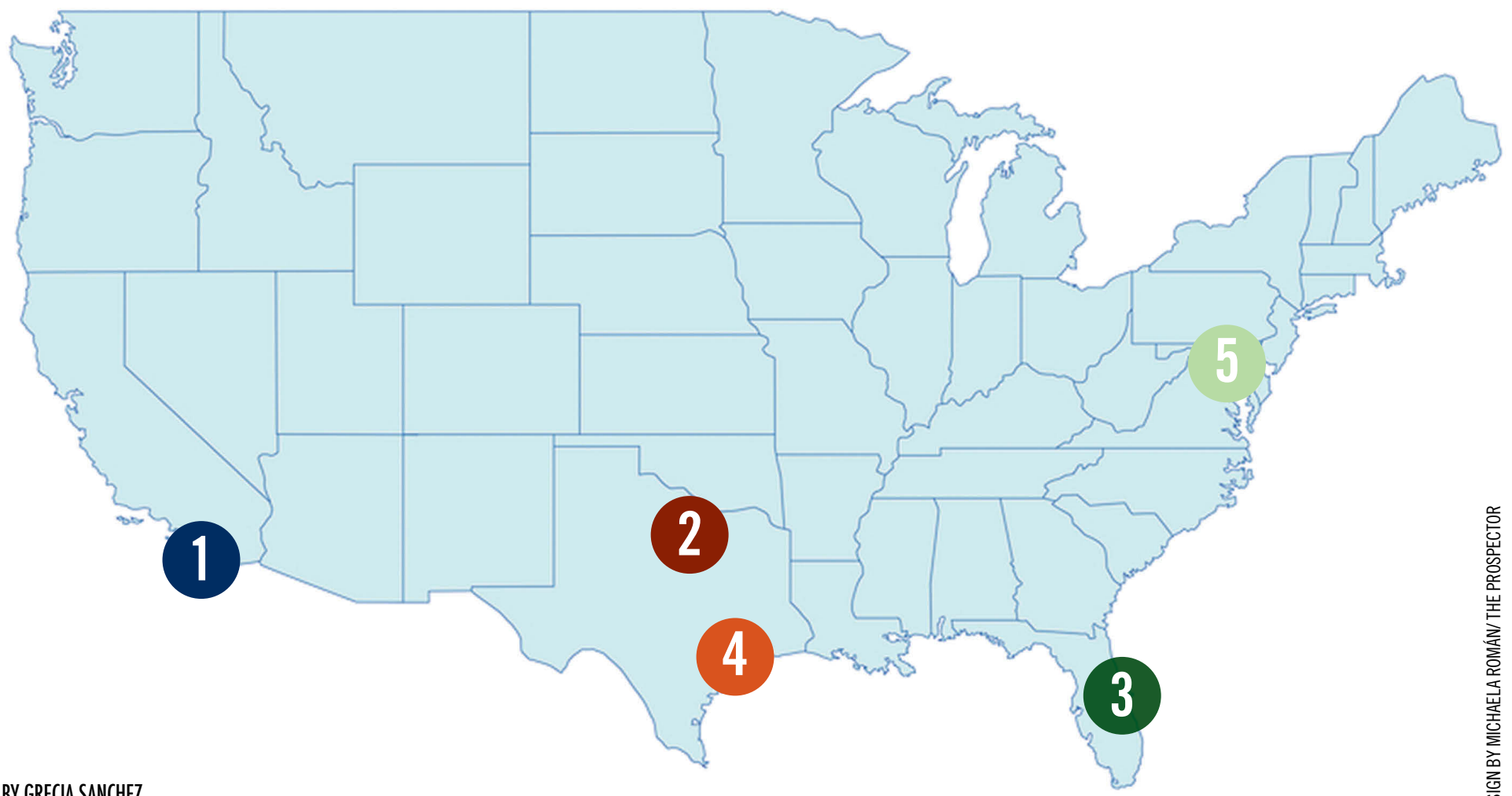
► 6

JAVIER CORTEZ, MICHAELA ROMÁN, GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

1. Two UTEP students react to the results on election night, Nov 8. 2. Green Party 2016 presidential candidate Jill Stein campaigned and met El Paso supporters at Café Mayapan on Oct. 14. 3. Sophomore pre-nursing major Raneem Karboji expresses herself at a peaceful protest held after the election at the Centennial Plaza. 4. Donald Trump holds a rally in Albuquerque, New Mexico on May 24. 5. Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders speaks at a rally on May 21, at Vado Elementary School in Vado, New Mexico. 6. Members of the UTEP College Republicans cheer after hearing CNN projections of Trump being ahead in the polls.

See more photos and read these stories at theprospectordaily.com

Miners make their way to new frontiers post-graduation



BY GRECIA SANCHEZ
The Prospector

DESIGN BY MICHAELA ROMÁN/ THE PROSPECTOR

1 Jairus Muller

Jairus Muller, a senior graduating with a bachelor's degree in digital media production, plans on returning to San Diego, California, after graduation, where he's originally from.

"Hopefully I'm going to get a position in radio," Muller said. "I'm interning at KTEP, and I'm going to start applying for jobs and open positions back home in California."

Muller said a CBS radio station would be his ideal workplace.

"I really want to be in radio, people are always telling me 'oh you're so good at talking' and I have the voice for it and I have the personality for it, so I guess you can consider it a dream," Muller said.

Muller also dreams of being a musician, a hobby which he first started before coming to El Paso two years ago.

"I think being a musician might give me a leg up depending on what I'm going to be working. My major also incorporates film, so I'd like to do films as well, I've done documentaries too," Muller said. "My dream would be something related to all of these."

2 Kimberly Gonzalez

Kimberly Gonzalez, a forensics science major, plans to apply to the biomedical science graduate school at the University of North Texas Health Science Center.

"I want to do a master's in forensic genetics," Gonzalez said. "It is the only school that I found that is science-based program. They don't focus so much on the criminal justice aspect, but more on the science part, which I am interested in."

Gonzalez said her master's degree focuses on DNA analysis along with some regular classes in biology and genetics, and thinks her field is one of the many demands of society nowadays.

"With my master's, I want to be able to join the FBI to work on DNA analysis in their lab because, with this career, you are taking care of not just yourself, but everybody involved and also, indirectly, you are taking care of all the little animals, which is mainly why I do things," Gonzalez said. "That is my drive."

3 Eduardo Miranda

Eduardo Miranda, a mechanical engineering major, plans to work in his field after graduation.

"I got a job offer as an assistance engineer with Lockheed Martin Corp., and I will be moving to Orlando, Florida, in January," Miranda said. "I want to be able to see what is out there, get out of my comfort zone. Lockheed Martin is one of the companies known for their innovation, so I am really glad to be part of that."

Miranda is from Mexico, and said that one of his early dreams was to finish college in the U.S. He never thought about getting a government job after UTEP.

"One of my dreams is to contribute to society, finding new innovative ways to power cars, trucks or any kind of vehicle because we usually use a lot of petroleum and in massive amounts," Miranda said. "I want to also change the environment by powering cars without cutting the emissions of any vehicle."

4 Roxana Rodriguez

Roxana Rodriguez, majoring in biology with a biomedical concentration, plans to continue her education by pursuing a master's degree in biology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. Her reason for going for her master's first and then to medical school is because she wants to make sure she's ready.

"I want to be more prepared and be a more competitive candidate for Mexico. In the mean time, I want to do research on thyroid cancer," Rodriguez said.

She also said that UT Health Science Center is one of the institutes working with thyroid cancer under the watch of two professors. According to Rodriguez, having these advisors increases the chance to beat cancer.

"I don't want to go into an area that's already pretty well covered, I want to go into another research in cancer that hasn't been discovered yet," Rodriguez said.

5 Jaqlyn Alderete

Jaqlyn Alderete, senior organizational and corporate communication major, has just applied to Hispanics Association of Colleges and Universities internship in Washington D.C.

"I am graduating one semester early and to be honest, I don't know if I am fully ready to be put in a full-time position. So I am looking for some kind of program post-graduation that is a good link of just being at school to be a professional full-time job," Alderete said.

Alderete says this internship will give her the opportunity to be a mentor to someone and it will also add to her professional development. She said she chose Washington due to her previous visit in spring 2015 for the Archer Fellowship.

"I was interning at the White House Office of Legislative Affairs and I absolutely fell in love with the work that they did there and I needed to go back," Alderete said. "Right now I am determined to go over there because I think it's crucial more than ever to have people from a bi-national region to go and represent their perspectives and also to put that Democratic perspective there with such a large Republican majority coming in."

Winter Commencement 2016 schedule of events

SATURDAY, DEC. 10 AT THE
DON HASKINS CENTER

COLLEGE CEREMONIES

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Starts at 9 a.m.
Check in for graduates is from 7:30-8:30 a.m.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL OF NURSING

Starts at 2 p.m.
Check in for graduates is from 12:30-1:30 p.m.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES, COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Starts at 7 p.m.
Check in for graduates is from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

College of Business Administration
Hooding and Certificate Ceremony
Master and Ph.D. Graduates
Tuesday, Dec. 6.
Doors open at 5 p.m.
Event Begins at 6 p.m.
The Plaza Theatre in Downtown El Paso

College of Education
College Ceremony
Friday, Dec. 9.
Starts at 6 p.m.
Magoffin Auditorium

College of Engineering
Order of the Engineer Ceremony
Saturday, Dec. 10.
Starts at 11 a.m.
Magoffin Auditorium

College of Health Sciences
Graduation Celebration and Hooding Ceremony
Saturday, Dec. 10
Check in starts at 2:30 p.m.
Starts at 3:30 p.m.
Magoffin Auditorium

College of Liberal Arts
Awards and Hooding Ceremony
Thursday, Dec. 8.
Starts at 7 p.m.
Magoffin Auditorium

School of Nursing
Graduate Recognition Ceremony
Friday, Dec. 9.
1-3 p.m.
El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center

Undergraduate Pinning Ceremony
Wednesday, Dec. 7.
Starts at 6 p.m.
Magoffin Auditorium

College of Science Ceremony
Tuesday, Dec. 6
Check in starts at 5 p.m.
Ceremony starts at 6 p.m.
Magoffin Auditorium

UTEP Graduation Ring Ceremony
Ceremony is open to those who have purchased UTEP rings
Wednesday, Nov. 30.
6-8 p.m.
Tomás Rivera Conference Center, Union East

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APPLICATION DEADLINES

Dec. 1, 2016 for degree-seeking applicants who wish to be considered for new scholarships for the fall 2017 deadline; **Mar. 1, 2017**, for all degree-seeking applicants for the fall of 2017; **Oct. 1, 2017** for all degree-seeking applicants who wish to be considered for spring 2018 admissions.



The University of Texas at El Paso

Class of 2016

GRADUATE SUMMER 2016

Graduate College of Engineering

Doctor of Philosophy
Md Shariful Islam
Hasanul Karim

*Master of Science in
Environmental Engineering*
Cesar Alberto Alvarez
Mackayla Janae Thyfault

Master of Science
Saiful Abu
Peter Aguilar
Amel Mohamed Almejaresh
Francisco Alvarado
Gabriel Reynaldo Arellano
Ruben Barrientos Jr
Jorge Alberto Beltran
Rene Alfredo Brito
Arih Alejandro Carrera
Carlos Alberto Catzin
William Phillip Curl
Eduardo Dragone
Victor Manuel Garcia Jr
Alejandra Garibaldi
Arzhang Ghassemi Pashakalaei
Andrea Gutierrez
Flores Abigail Larsen
Saul Mejia
Sheikh Motahar Naim
Elvijs Ostrovskis
Ana Cecilia Rios Ibanez
Paola Rivera
Carlos Rodriguez Jr
Carlos Gerardo Romero
Debakar Shamanta
Nancy Judith Tepezano Cabral
Karina Terrazas
John A. Vasquez
Omar Daniel Vidana

College of Liberal Arts

Master of Arts in Teaching
Frانيا Pahola Cabrera
Sara Dyan Kiesel-Fowler
Theresa Ann Marquez

*Master in
Public Administration*
Keziah Reyna Hernandez
Jorge Alonso Rodriguez

Master of Arts
Olga Alexander
Paola Nayeli Balcazar Soto
Andrea Phiana Borunda
Jose Miguel Chavez Leyva
Patrick Frank Feild
Marshall Thomas Harris III
Alejandra Maldonado
Izabela Marta McCage
Ricardo Alejandro Romero
Chanah Nasi Schwartz
Chavah Inez Schwartz
Emily Elena Slape
Daniel Patrick Stankus
Steven Franklin Trowbridge
Philip Richard Ward

*Master of Defense &
Strategic Studies*
Genoveva Fuentes-Cuellar
Shawn Mass
Mark Philip Soldo

Master of Fine Arts
Rachel Anna Neff

Master of Science
Kitsia Marlyn Villa

College of Science

Master of Arts in Teaching
Tiffany Ann Ammons

Master of Science
Faisal Abedin
Gissel Pryscilla Aranda

Ausmita Barman
Surendra Bhatta
Efrain Maximiliano Castillo
Martin Christopher Chacon
Matthew Robert Fox
Matthew Steven Harder
Md Mahmudul Hasan
Md Mahmudulla Hassan
Kevin Hatch
Mohamed Illafe
Govinda Bahadur KC
Desmond Koomson
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Jonathan Mickey Merguerian
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Andrew Martin Pownuk
Mohammad Arifur Rahman
Emmanuel Joseph Sequeira
Mohammad Tauhiduzzaman
Jesus A. Valdez
Miguel Angel Valles Morales

College of Education
Master of Education
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Zulema Acosta
Anais Celene Cadet
Nancy Calderon
Patricia Griselda Castano
Norma Denning
Janette Raquel Fuentes
Patrick Jon Gailey Jr
Crystal Vanessa Guerrero
Elise Yvonne Hernandez
Colleen Anne Hohman
Jeffrey Arnold Hollamon
Salvador Jauregui
Stephanie Laize
Samantha Nichole Lee
Beverly Gale Liberato
Veronica G. Martinez
Sarah Patricia Mireles
Karina Quinonez
Maria Eugenia Raposo
Casandra Lorena Reyes
Omar Sifuentes
Bertha Alicia Sillas
Saul Antonio Soto Jr
Josh Tarango
Samuel Vargas
Deana Rose White

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Administration**
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Christina Delgado
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Arel Enciso
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Jose David Burgos
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Mehrmooosh Darj
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Brisa Liliana Garcia
Martha Alicia Gomez
Luis Gutierrez Marquez
Rogelio Hernandez
Zachary Tyler Jackson
Henry Beakly Ligon
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Mauricio Mar Quintana
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Andryck Antonio Patterson
Rene Pedroza

Carlos Picot
Rafael Luiz Jose Pinto
Adeline Laverne Reeves
Francisco Rincon Jr
Galaxie Alexa Rodriguez
Alejandro Salazar
Emmanuel Silva
Kenneth Alfred Stice III
Christopher Allen Thomas
Miguel Angel Torres

College of Health Sciences

Master of Public Health
Juan Antonio Aguilera
Juan Jose Ramirez Burciaga
Silvia Salinas Lopez

*Master of
Rehabilitation Counseling*
Tanya Amelia Rico

Master of Science
Maria Rosa Meza
Callie Sarai Ortega
Yesenia Pagan

Master of Social Work
Erica Renee Balderrama
Karen Rodriguez

School of Nursing

*Master of
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Christina Lucero Aguilar
Lourdes Guadalupe Alvarez
Stephanie Alvarez
Tanya Louise Alvarez
Vanessa Avelar Lezama
Stephanie Lynn Baldwin Ms
Evelyn Danielle Belmontes
Sylvia Belmontes
Laurie Lynn Blanch
Erica Dianna Bostic
Desaree Fowler Buckman
Jessica Hernandez Canales
Dolores Imelda Cereceres-Tarango
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Christina Garcia
Elisa Liliana Garcia
Karen Melina Garcia
Vanessa Lynn Garza
Latecia Gillespie
Amber Hammer
Cathaline Lilian Hermosillo
Maria Rosa Elena Hernandez
Amanda Rae Herrera
Sarah Anne Hinojosa
Lori Ann Hixson
Michelle Holguin
Paulette Holt
Jeffery Randel Howard
Jennifer Ketchum-Odum
Cathy May Lewis
Lisa Diane Loya
Rita Rena Mack
Sherrylyne M. Martinez
Charity Monroe Mendenhall
Carla Lizette Mora
Brandy Christina Star Natividad
Sandra Hernandez Nungaray
Jennifer Olivas
Sandra Olivas
Marco Antonio Ollervides
Anabel Perez
Katrina Dawn Perez
Ineshia Nicole Potts
Kara Danielle Raful
George A. Rodriguez
Beatrice Chepkorir Ruto
Monica Yvette Saenz
Jenelle Johnson Sheasby
Hailey Marie Sinclair
Brittany Hicks Stalica
Jennifer Yvette Vargas
Olga Villegas
Allison Walton

Doctoral

College of Engineering
Doctor of Philosophy
Satya Aditya V. V. N. Akundi
Fernando Cervantes
Bhanukiran Gurijala
Sundeep Inti
Omar Ochoa
Jose Alberto Valdez Jr

College of Liberal Arts

Doctor of Philosophy
Daliborka Crnkovic Padon
Julia Rose LaBianca
Sara Bartlett Large
Paul Jay Vierra
Skye Alani Woestehoff

College of Science

Doctor of Philosophy
Eric James Kappus
Ezer Patlan
Gloria Polanco

College of Education
Doctor of Education
Dino Mario Coronado

College of Business Administration

Doctor of Philosophy
Zhenning Xu

*Interdisciplinary
Doctor of Philosophy*
Victor L. Correa Rodriguez Sr

UNDERGRADUATE SUMMER 2016

Undergraduate

College of Engineering

*Bachelor of Science
in Computer Science*
Raul Alan Alvarez
Lorna Abril Bustillos
Luis Alberto Calvo
Daniel Coronel Jr
Jordan Phillip Cox
Pedro M. Garcia-Jurado
Christian Lee Hughes
Matthew Jude Melendez
Angel Uriel Ortega-Castillo
Dushaun Mikel Williams

*Bachelor of Science in
Industrial Engineering*
Ana Lucia Deharo
Georgina Ivette Dominguez Camrora
Sandra Lilian Minjares
Marina Alejandra Vazquez

*Bachelor of Science in
Mechanical Engineering*
Miguel Angel Castillo
Hector Dominguez II
Bryan Uwe Gruber
Julio C. Hidalgo
José Antonio Manriquez López
Jorge Alberto Ramirez
Israel Alfonso Segura

*Bachelor of Science in
Metallurgy & Materials
Engineering*
Alejandro Cuaron
Jorge Alberto Ramirez

Bacheor of Science in
Civil Engineering
Nereida Aguilar
Maritza Alexandra Almada
Carlos Anguiano
Henry Benitez
Eduardo Carrasco Dominguez
Nagib Dajjala Molina
Jennifer De Haro
Monica Fernandez

Raul G. Irigoyen Saenz
Antonio Loya Rodriguez
Marc Andrew Martinez
Marco Antonio Meza
Zuheyr Araceli Monge
Bryan Ramos
Herman Serrato
Rafael Silva

*Bachelor of Science in
Electrical Engineering*
Cesar Antonio Alvarez
Arturo Contreras
Antonio Gavin Delgado Polanco
Jose Daniel Dominguez
Cesar O. Esquivel
Michael Andrew Estremera Jr
Florenio Ramos Farinas
Andrew Stephen Hapgood
Ramon Alfonso Lopez-Cueto
Ariadna Estefania Mendoza
Miguel A. Montoya Maldonado
Sergio L. Pinedo
Jose Carlos Sandoval
Gregorio William Simmons
Salvador Velez

Bachelor of Science
Raul Carrillo
Cesar David Mendoza De Stefano

College of Liberal Arts

Bachelor of Arts
Ismael A. Acosta
Lizet Acuna
Jesus Aguilera
Hannan A. Alkhalifa
Steven Joseph Alonzo
Julian Ivan Alvarado
Tatiana Lanelle Anchondo
Gilbert Barajas
Yoselin Bustamante
Camila Cabral
Ilse Aimee Carrillo
Tania Cedillo
Krystal Priscilla Cenicerros
Alyssa Nicole Colacion
Sarah Cumby
Carmen Argelia Dávila
Cristina G. Del Castillo
Jessica Del Rio
Alicia Diaz
Sofia Margarita Diaz Garza
Alejandra E. Dominguez
Marisol Dominguez
Lucero A. Duran
Jorge I. Escobar
Victor Escobar
Amber Renee Escobedo
Jeannett Fierro
Trenton Anthony Filley
Leslie Alexis Flores
Cole Thomas Freytag
Maribel Garcia
Alexis M. Garza
Nury Garza
Omar Alejandro Gaytan
Ashley Jacqueline Gonzalez
Brenda A. Gonzalez
Enrique Gonzalez Jr
Irma Elizabeth Gonzalez
Jasmine Sade Heard
Lawrence Michael Henderson Jr.
Rosa Elena Hernandez
Adriana Melissa Hernandez-Nunez
Leanne M. Herrera
Taylor Christopher Hines
Diana Irene Holguin
José Manuel Jáquez
Vanessa Julie Jaquez
Fredrik Karlsson
Eida Mitre LaBombarbe
Daffne Daniela Lopez
Dominique Lopez
Evan Adolfo Lopez
Miguel Angel López
Andre Luengo
Jorge A. Lujan
Crystal Marie Macias
Celina Madrid
Karina Marquez
Adriana Martinez
Lillian M. Mata
Jessica Medellin
Vianey Meza
Elizabeth Miranda
Norma S. Mitchell
Jasmine Molina
Raul U. Molina
Arianna Jazmin Montoya
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Elijah Janae Muniz
Allison Elaine Munoz
Joseph Aaron Munoz
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Samuel A. Odunsi
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Elizabeth Susan Phinney
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Lucero Porras

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Da'Carlos Jaquan Renfro
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Diana Rivera Macias
Jonathan Israel Rocha
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Roger G. Rodriguez
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Clarissa Iliana Romero
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Mayra Ivonne Ruiz Vargas
Michael Allen Ruxer
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Jorge David Salas
Salvador R. Salcido
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Jesus Sanchez Jr
Paulina Sanchez
Zachary Santoscoy
Emory Saucedo
Mary Elizabeth Shaner
Alicia Christine Sherwood
Jasmine Jessica Silvas
Decker Patrick Smith
Emma Marie Sustaita
Jennifer Terrazas
Raymundo Torres
Federico Valdez
Heather Rae Valenzuela
Arianna Christine Vasquez
Lynda Elvira Villa
Angel Zuniga

Bachelor of Fine Arts
Daniela Elizalde
Eva Victoria Lopez Avila
Miriam Elizabeth Mendoza
Kimberly J. Morris
Norma Y. Ortiz
Anna Karen Perales

*Bachelor of
Multidisciplinary Studies*
Victoria Danielle Aguilar
Amanda Aguirre
Maschera Amia Aguirre
Javier C. Alcaide
Teresa Almanza
Magda Vedenice Alvarado
Marissa Andrea Alvidrez
Lee Audrey Armistad
Lydia Bailey
Butch Martin Ballez
Gabriel Borunda Jr
Donald Brown
Jannet Bustillos
Joanna Lynn Caban
Teresa N. Cumming
Nicolas Duran
Nikki Jesselyn Duran
Rudiane Eduardo
Victoria Fierro
Claudia Gomez
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Cynthia Neomi Hernandez
Jaseth G. Homan
Miles Jacques
Adria Margarita Jimenez
Kelly Marie Lambeth
Paulina Lopez-Gonzalez
Herlinda Martinez
Janine E. Mergil
Crystal Nicole Orozco
Selina Marie Pena
Karen Ramirez
Ray Christa Rettig Jr
Devante Montario Richardson
Ruben Ulises Rodriguez
Myra Ruacho
Albert Manuel Ruiz
Felix Sanchez Jr.
Marcos G. Sanchez
Abrondon L. Spears
Elizabeth Victoria Sprague
Rebecca Kelly Sullivan
Amber Terrell
Ruby Tregerman
Mariah Chenise Vargas
Joanna Velasco
Susana A. Viramontes

Bachelor of Music
Matthew Allen Hernandez
Diana Osiris Ortiz Galarza

Bachelor of Science
Claribel Bermejillo
Zachary Aaron Carrasco
Victoria Edwards
Adriana Gallegos
Gabriela Gonzalez
Priscilla Richard
Jonathan Andrew Smith

College of Science
Bachelor of Arts
Laura A. Hernandez

Bachelor of Science
Luis Manuel Aguirre Quintana
Daniel Alejandro Armendariz
Sarah Nicole Bone
Denise Ariana Borja
Josue Cardoza
Airon Casas

Jorge Adrian Dayer Carrillo
Lillian Ellis
Melissa Annette Escobar
José Ali Espitia
Andrea Flores
Homero Rene Garcia Jr
Roberto Jose Garcia
Daniel M. Gonzales
Arturo Vicente Gonzalez-Lopez
Alberto Gutierrez Jr
Lion Antonio Hoffman
Kevin M. Honsaker
Cynthia Yvonne Jimenez
Steffanie Lattner
Andres Alberto Leos
Ivon Nicole Lopez
Eli Montero
Lauren Estelle Moreno
Natalia Moreno
Ezequiel Arturo Moreno Flores
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Jose Adan Ramirez
Diego Armando Reyes
Sergio Rodriguez
Victoria Ann Rodriguez
Kathleen Alyce Roman
Viridiana Saenz
Jong Saunders (Baek)
Jonathan Andrew Smith
David Soto
Mariel Soto
Luis R. Suarez Salas
Barbra Valdivieso
Brooke Meranda Wildenstein

College of Education

*Bachelor of
Interdisciplinary Studies*
Abigail F. Garcia
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Karla Lorena Martinez
Magdalena Miranda
Lucila April Pineira
Maribel Pinela
Stephanie Rodriguez
Leticia Soltero

College of Business Administration

*Bachelor of
Business Administration.*
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Daniella C. Anchondo
Dante E. Avalos
Emery R. Ayoub
Tarek Moatasem Azzam
Andrea Barragan Villanueva
Michelle Alexis Barraza
Ana Karen Barraza-Diaz
Cynthia Berenis Barrera
Jeannie Lee Bernal
Diego Berrios
Joaquin Blanco
Karla Buenrostro
Roxanna Cabral
Jacqueline Cano
Mario Antonio Cardenas
Adrianna Nicole Carrillo
Alan Garcia
Dulce Carolina Cazares
Martin Chavarria
Gregorio Contreras
Antonio Corral
Daniel Correa
Tijuna Danielle Cutcher
Ronald Jerome Daniels
Ulysses De Nova
Christian Alexis Diaz
Luisa F. Diaz De Leon
Abigail Elias
Hector Manuel Enriquez
Thomas James Escarcega
Veronica Escobedo
Perla Netzyn Frayre
Jesus E. Frias
Monica Deanna Galindo
Alan Garcia
Luisa Fernanda Garcia
Melissa Garcia
Ricardo Garcia
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Alba Maria Gomez Chavez
Nathaly Gonzalez Renteria
Peter Anthony Graell
Hector Grimaldo
Adrian Hernandez
Vincent Daniel Hernandez
Stephanie Olivia Herrera
David Rodrigo Horcasitas
Tory Jean Johannsen
Talia Nicole Jones
Gustavo Alonso Jurado Cano
Efren Licon
Tanya Linares
Carolina Loya
Magdalena Tina Luna
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Miguel Angel Martinez
Reneé Regina Mateos
Paul Anthony Miranda
Ricky Rey Montañez
Alejandra Moreno
Luisa Fernanda Muela
Natalie Munoz
Guillermo Horacio Novaro
Rodrigo Horacio Nunez
Carlos Adrian Ontiveros
Octavio Orozco
Marco Antonio Ortega
Luis Alberto Ortega Monzon
Iliana Ortiz
Joshua Paul Ortiz
Gilberto Dario Padilla
Luis Alberto Pantoja
Daniella M. Parada
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Pedro Arturo Perez
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Jonathan Borgonha Pollmann
Paola Anahi Prieto
Michael Puente-Davila
Jessica Puentes
Jose Carlos Quinonez Hernandez
Herman Salvador Quintana
Ivana Ramirez
Maria Teresa Ramirez
Eduardo Rascon Lujan
Oscar Reyes
Matthew Dean Reza
Anthony Richard Rivera
Lupita Rodriguez
Megan Irene Rojas
Pedro Abraham Salas
Bronson Garcia Scott
Sandra Scott
Wolfgang Edward Siqueiros
Amanda Nichole Talamantes
Ann Marie Titovets
Miriam Denise Tovar
Alfredo Trillo
Paloma C. Ulloa
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Leopoldo Valencia
Brenda Valenzuela
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Elizabeth Vargas
Michelle Lizette Vazquez
Cristina Vazquez Guerrero
Diego A. Villa
Timothy Joseph Wehrfritz
David John Wilbanks

College of Health Sciences

Bachelor of Science
Francisco J. Acevedo
Jesse Abraham Aguilar
Tomiwa Michael Akinbayo
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Richard E. Burns
Jorge Abel Calderon
Christina Elizabeth Carrera
Javier Casanova
Kassandra Lee Casanova
Pedro Manny Chavez
Cory Robert Falvey
Haylee Christa Fierro
Christopher Lawrence Garcia
Esteban Gutierrez
Edgar Ivan Loera
Lesley Elyssa Lopez
Carlos Alan Lopez Martinez
Arturo Guadalupe Lugo
Elphas Kipkurgat Maiyo
Alexis Gabriela Maldonado
Steven Ray Medina
Cesar Arturo Meza
Celia K. Morado
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Nicole A. Ortega
Melissa Perez
Jonathan Porras
Sylvia Judith Porras
Andrew Ramirez
Adrian Daniel Sanchez
Brandon L. Thomas
Yvette Villanueva

Monica Christina Zuniga

Graduate
Fall 2016
School of Nursing

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Karla P. Acevedo
Nicole Dawn Aguilar
Paola Ivette Aguirre
Alejandra Arredondo
Edgar Omar Arriola Tafoya
Yvonne Aubel-Mazza
Elizabeth Avila
Crystal Marie Banegas
Daniela Burrola Reyes
Alma R. Calderon
Carlos David Calvillo
Michael A. Campos
Angelica Cano
Perla Joanna Chavez
Jessica Marie Chavis
Kathy B. Corey
Linda Dawn Dao
Dee Dee J. Edwards
Briana Esparza
Ivonne Andrea Espinosa
Crystal Rose Estrada
Gerardo Estrada
Mayra Alejandra Flores
Stephanie Galvan
Crystal M. Garcia
Thelma Karelly Garcia
Joanna Marie Gardea
Heather C. Gilmore
Amber Angelica Gonzalez
Elizabeth Alvidrez Gonzalez
Autumn Marie Graham
Laura A. Guereque
Raul Mendez Guevara
Micaela Magdalena Hanks
Alexandria Jatón Hardy
Sonya Marie Heimbecker
Jamie Lynn Heredia
Carolina A. Hernandez
Natalie Marie Hudgins
Alison Lynne Kennedy
Lacy Ann Kirkes
Cassandra Licon
Kaitlynn Alysse Licon
Alexis Alonso Lopez
Joshua E. Lopez
Jenell D. Lower
Paul Christian Macias
Vanessa Maldonado
Loretta Manriquez
Clarissa Martinez
Natisha A. Martinez
Rocio Martinez
Kassandra Krystal Massey
Allison Cora Maysonet
Abelina Mendoza
Adriana Y. Mendoza
Tanya Mingura
Michaela A. Miramon
Amanda Renee Miranda
Patricia Monge
Beatrice Irene Monteith
Lisa J. Muller
Mario A. Murillo Jr.
Jazmin A. Ortiz
Amparo Pedroza
Arelí Perez
Stefanie Perez
Megan Lorene Polite
Gabriela Porras
Alexandria Iris Ramirez
Lisa Amanda Ramos
Jennifer D. Raya Salazar
Miguel Angel Reveles
Jessica A. Reyes
Lidia Jannete Ruvalcaba
Laura Cecilia Sanchez
Neri P. Sanchez
Alejandra C. Sandoval
Nicholas Damon Schultz
Natalie Ann Serna
Denise Kay Servo
Jovanna Maria Sifuentes
Verna Simmons Robinson
Ana Laura Snow
Michelle Solis
Maria Elisa Soto
Dahena Spivey
Joanne Tinoco
Laura Alyssa Trevizo
Hector E. Trillo
Emanuel Trujillo
Jackie Marie Urbina

Sonia Ramos Urueta
Marco A. Valtierra
Illiana Rose Varela
Andrea Marie Velasquez
Zanna Vorobjova
Prokeysha Elaine Walker
Lillian Aspen Wayne
Christopher A. Winters
George Dewey Wood
Rebekah R. Woods
Norma Alicia Yee
Hector A. Zaragoza

College of Engineering

Doctor of Philosophy
Arturo Acosta-Zamora
Esmaeil Balal Varnosfaderani Sr
Eric Berry
Diane N. De Hoyos
Martin Alejandro De la Torre Gonzalez
Armando Delgado Jr
Alfonso Andres Garcia
Rena Francine Hale
Manuel Johannes Hernandez
Ricardo Martinez Hernandez
Juan Alejandro Saavedra
Juan Carlos Salcido
Luis Eduardo Sanchez
Md Rashedul Hasan Sarker
Prajwol Tamrakar
Marketa Vavrova

Master of Science in Environmental Engineering
Oscar Daniel Ramirez
Mark Alberto Torres

Master of Science in Information Technology
Claudia Barraza Guillen
Somya Joshi

Master of Science
Jad Gerges Aboud
Erick Magno Acosta Jr.
Efrain Aguilera Jr.
Adan David Anchondo
Miguel Agustín Armenta
Uriel Brian Arteaga
Pamela Baca
Callum Peter Bailey
Anjon Basak
Marianna Borrego
Vanessa Yadira Castaneda
Indira Mario Corral
Mariana Chaidez
Walter A. Copenhaver
Julio Mario Corral
Cesar Duarte Saenz
Alan Alberto Esparza Hernandez
Roberto Ernesto Fierro
Roman Flores Rivero
Claire Regmac Friedman
Claudia Elena Galarza Fourzan
Gerardo Garcia
Samuel Garcia Burciaga
Jesus Homero Gomez Chavez
Adalberto Gonzalez
Sergio Adrian Guerrero II
Sandra Nichole Gutierrez
David Guillermo Guzman
Aaron Johnson
Hima Kalagara
Bryan David Kern
Brian Matthew Lovich
Edgar Omar Lozano
Mohammad Omar Masoud Sr
Betty Elizabeth McKenzie
Jaclyn Mona Mejia
Alejandra Gabriela Melendez
Alejandro Mora III
Karla Muro
Alonso Orea
Eduardo Ornelas
Victor Manuel Ornelas Jr
Babajide Adegoke Oyelade
Gilbert Paquian Jr
Maria De los Angeles Perez
David Pruitt
Upama Rahman
Smriti Rajkarnikar Tamrakar
David Reyes
Ana Karen Rodriguez Damian
Jorge Arturo Rosero
Erik Samaniego
Mark Brian Smith
Juan Alonzo Soto
Emilio Tarango Valles
Larissa Tarango Valles

Griselda Terrazas
Jose Armando Terrazas
Bhriannon Ines Tiscareno
Jesus Eduardo Trillo
Jose Angel Valencia
Cynthia A. Vargas
Vamsi Vemoori
David Venzor
Michele Carolynn Williams
Yin Yin

College of Liberal Arts

Doctor of Philosophy
Frank Vasquez DeLaO Mr
Judith Ann Fourzan
Joanne Tortoreto Kropp
Lina Maria Murillo
Joseph Allan Pipkin
Dilata Ranadive

Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies
Ariadne Willis

Master of Arts in Teaching
Rebecca Nicole Guerrero
Dana Skerry Proctor
James Alexander Ziolkowski

Master in Public Administration
Astrid Bunner
Shaun Jermaine Coward
Tshering Eudon
Cheyenne Christine Garcia
Valerie Marie Herrera
Maria Guadalupe Llamas
Paulina Lopez Campoy
Gabriela Alejandra Lopez Reynoso
Abiola Temi-Tope Onakoya
Fabian Duke Sustaita
Mark Christopher Weber

Master of Arts
Vanessa Beatrice Barrientos
Thomas Bentley
Gustavo Isaac Bermudez
Joseph C. Beu
Luis Campos Jr
Abigail Genevieve Carter
Linda Berenice Caudillo
Anthony Gus Cohen
Abigail Patricia Constantino
Cecilia Corpus
Dewayne Deener
Rufino Farias Jr
Blanca Gabriela Frazier
Gabriel Andrew Fietze
Alejandra Garcia
Paul Brian Guerrero
Alfonso Jose Gustave
Armida Carmen Hernandez
Elizabeth Hidalgo
Brett Koniarz
Eric Justin Lange
Joshua Kenneth Marion
Aeisha Anne McDavid
Luis Mendez
Sharon Murillo
Christopher Omar Nail
Jenzel Marie Nash
Jonathan Pasley
Paul Perez
Shintell Popp
Laura Ivonne Ramirez
Jose L. Ramos Ruiz
Traun Antrell Roberson
Jecoa Lee Ross
Silvia Estela Royval De Villa
Sam Wilner Simon
Hercilia Simons
Lisa Marie Stephenson
Vanessa Nicole Tena
Eric R. Terwilliger
Fabiola Tortajada
Laura Margarita Uribarri
Keith Joseph Wagner Jr
David Woods

Master of Defense & Strategic Studies
Terry Lee Henderson
Michael George Montano
Jorge G. Rubio

Master of Fine Arts
Susana Beatriz Camacho Vivar
Missael Duarte Sr
Gavin Stephen Lambert III

Alice McAfee
Kristopher Andrew Paul
Matthew Robert Phillips

Master of Music
Gabriel Balderas Duron
Mario Monteros

Master of Science
Paige Costanzi
Julio Andres Escalon
Hector Jesus Escobar III
Eric Martinez
Juriana Vianey Villalpando Galeano

College of Science

Doctor of Philosophy
Yousf Abushalah
Gerardo Alberto Cardenas
Joe Dan Collins
Maowei Dou
Paulina Elena Gonzalez Navarro
Castulo Sotelo Molina
Marisol Serrano

Master of Arts in Teaching
Yesica Isabel Barraza
Sandra Jessica Cuevas
Ruben Alejandro Hernandez
Alberto Isassi
Angelina Juanita Moncivais
Rosalba Rodriguez
Blanca Abril Rubio
Jesus Jacob Villa
Edward Whatley Jr

Master of Science
Sara Ebrahim Baqla
Duer Bolotaulo
Ruben Israel Calderon
Carlos Manuel Diaz
Andres Jose Encerrado Manriquez
Andrea Lee Everett
Jihui Li
Alma Lili Loya Posada
Naomi Robin Luna
Suhail Mahmud
Loren Ochoa
Rosalia Ortega
Gabriela Tarin
Jose Luis Varela
Jose Miguel Velela
Pema Wangchuk

College of Education

Doctor of Education
Carlos Castanon Sr
Robin Lynne Dankovich
Tomas Sigala Jr

Master of Education
Violeta Quintero Alderete
Albert Anguiano
Denisse Bustillos
Selina Cabrales
Cindy Canales
Lizeth Marie Cardoza
Alejandra Carranza
Blanca Carrasco
Marissa Carla Cervantes
Cristina Cuellar
Alejandra Duarte Larriva
Tanya Durbin
Victor Hugo Escobedo
Helena Espinoza
Griselda Fernandez
Lorena Flores
Stephanie Nicole Flores
Delia Fragoso
Federika Oceana Franco
Francisco Antonio Galindo
Amanda Alicia Garay
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Linda Annette Gonzalez
Stephanie R. Griffin
Alethia Berenice Hernandez
Heather Brittany Holmes
Melissa Ibarra
Omar Insurriaga
Yolanda Lazcano
Heather Nicole Lewis
Ana Belen Lopez
Maria G. Lopez
Guillermo Lopez Tajonar
Alejandra Lozano
Maria del Carmen Luevano
Juan Jose Madrigal
Yvette Marquez

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Omar Javier Munoz
Casandra Noriega
Elizabeth Ochoa
Johanna Dalila Parada
Amanda Erica Patrick
Angie Pena
Rosa Isela Perez
Courtney Nicole Perry
Erika Prieto
Daniel Cristino Quinonez
Zoraida Rivas
Gabriel Rocha
Hugo Salazar
Danai Sanchez
Frank Romero Sanchez
Melissa Ashley Sanon-Dixon
Alejandra Santillanes
Denise Adrianna Silva
Francisco Soto
Kassandra E. Tirres
Ivan Noe Torres
Sandra Melissa Trujillo
Guadalupe Vela
Diane Arlene Zaragoza
Irasema Zaragoza

College of Business Administration

Doctor of Philosophy
Nora Alaniz-Bouqayes
Hong Kim Duong

Master of Accountancy
Yoshika Yamilet Amamori
Cinthya Lizzet Armendariz
Kathryn Eileen Bohle
Keith Jeremy Camacho
Sofia Chavez
Joshua David Diaz
Rosa Gabriela Diaz
Enrique Espino III
Marina Aurora Gutierrez
Omar A. Jarquin
Marco Antonio Lugo
Jonathan Renteria
Laura Hortensia Robles
David Rodriguez
Michael Anthony Saucedo
Aldo Raul Villegas Jr

Master of Business Administration
Leonardo Fidel Alvarado Jr
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Alfredo Jose Austin
Marlene Barrera
Anthony Roger Beltran
George Franz Brunner III
Leonardo Camargo Jr
Rocio Laura Castruita
Carolina del Pilar Cerda Solis
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Miguel A. Cortez
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Andres Gilberto Franco
Namuna Ghimire
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Ivan Gonzalez
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Alejandro Hernandez
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Peter Lan Lin
Michael Fernando Maldonado
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Cora Martinez
Ivan Arnulfo Montes
Gabriel Moreno
April Lynn Ofeciar
Lilia Olivas
Carlos Esteban Osuna
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Rick Ramos
Anna Karen Rey Loya
Marina Ivette Rivera
Ana Paola Rodriguez Camargo
Corey Anthony Saenz
Victor Manuel Salas
Edith Argelia Solorzano
Miguel Angel Torres
Martha Lilia Vargas
Natalie Vidales
Omar Yanez

Master of Science
Dipanwita Barai

College of Health Sciences

Doctor of Philosophy
Bibiana Marie Mancera

Doctor of Physical Therapy
Ninfa Abigail Aguinaga
Stephen Anthony Ainsa
Kennen James Bitton
Allen Zachary Brooks
Jeremy Andrew Cole
Alyssa Ronnie Cottman
Linda Marie De La Torre-Alva
Amber LeighAnne Flores
Elise Marie Garcia
Tess Marie Garcia
Kiersten Irwin Garrand
Wesley Jack Hall
Christina Marie Lee
Kersti Ann Marusich
Marine Isabelle Menez
John Christopher Moreno
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Giovanna Luisa Nuanes
Sanjuanita Prado
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Kevin Rodriguez
John-Justin Soy
Greg Nicholas Tynan
Justin Benjamin Valdez
Victoria Marie Valencia
Adam Joseph Vargas
Shyh-Chang Joshua Vong
Darryl Blake Withrow
Thomas Wayne Woo

Master of Occupational Therapy
Austi Marie Alvarez
Sylvia Ruth Alvarez
Brandy Lynn Anderson
Jane McGregor Bongiorno
Lauren Wigginton Bryant
Nancy Castaneda
Stephanie Kristine Esparza
Matthew Ryan Gutierrez
Miriam Guzman
Christina Nalin Haynes
Jyhshang Lin
Aaron Anthony Lopez
Victoria Leigh Martyn
Stacey Montes
Jennifer Anne Navarro
Arelí Oros
Laura D. Ramirez
Randy Thomas Roepke
Giselle Armida Rooney
Elsa Lynn Santillano
Keldi Ranae Walker
Lori G. Welter

Master of Public Health
Andrea Aguila
Joseph Shane Garcia
Priscilla Guevara
David Torres

Master of Rehabilitation Counseling
John S. Cantrell
Roxanne Garcia
Lorenzo Alan Lovejoy
Krystal Michelle Teran Sr
Andre L. Thomas

Master of Science
Micah Kentrez Baisden
Simon Patrick Bejarano
Patrick Anthony Cereceres
Edson F. Estrada
Nathan Lee Garrido
Maria Cristal Sanchez

Master of Social Work
Marina Ramirez

School of Nursing

Master of Science in Nursing
Ifeoma F. Akunne
Nathea Corrina Anderson
Don Randall Bostick
Yadira Ivonne Cabrera
Arlene Casas
Noami Cavett
Shauna Antoinette Chisley
Deana Marie Foster

Special Congratulations from:



Rosemary Gathogo
Lina Marie Gomez
Laura E. Gonzalez
Nirmala Joseph
John Dominic Kplorfia
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Interdisciplinary

Doctor of Philosophy
Jessica Lynn Buckner
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2016 DEGREE
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Bachelor of Science in
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College of Science

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Bachelor of Music

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Bachelor of Bussiness

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Jorge Fernando Fong
Bobbi R. Foster
Jonathan R. Frederick
Carla Karina Garces
Alejandra Garcia
Rosario Elizabeth Garcia
Cecilia Garcia Chavez
Viviana Garcia Marinelarena
Alec Saul Garcia-Alvarez
German Andres Gerena
Chris Gil
Carolina Lilian Gomez
Diana Gomez
Alan David Gonzalez
Genesis Elizabeth Gonzalez
Omar Alexandro Gonzalez
Miriam Gordillo
Luke A. Graham
Jaime Guerra Jr
Alan Eduardo Guevara
Edward James Gunderson
Jorge L. Gutierrez
Karina A. Gutierrez
Yvette Gutierrez
Everette Martin Harris V
Eric Daniel Hastings
Daniel Hernandez
Jaime Eduardo Hernandez
Jesse Hernandez
Jesus Roberto Hernandez Garcia
Arisbet Hernandez
Silvia Herrera
Vanesa Janeth Herrera
Julia Nicole Hettiger
Sylvia Horta
Uade S. Ilaboya
Valeria Jimenez
Shaka A. King
Dorian Cruz Leyva
Ricardo Licerio
Christian Lizbeth Lopez
Daniel Isaac Lopez
Francisco Javier Lopez
Josue Oliver Lopez

Pablo Felipe Lopez
Paloma Lopez
Tracy Elizabeth Lopez
Yettli Yutzill Lopez
Andres Rafael Loya
Samantha M. Lozano
Veronica Haide Maldonado
Jacqueline Marquez
Diego Marroquin
Alan Martinez
Edgardo Martinez
Christian Martinez-Valladolid
Obeth Mata
Amanda Susan McLeod
Marcelo Emmanuel Medina Nevarez
Mayra Medrano
Stephanie Mendez
Carlos Mendoza
Maria Fernanda Mendoza
Ricardo Mendoza
Alexis Mesta
Ever Humberto Meza
Manal Mohammed Moazam Ali
Christopher A. Molina
Cristian Molina
Bryan Antho Monje
Estefania Monroy
Mariel Mora
Kristine M. Morales
Lizabeth Morales
Lourdes Aimee Morales
Jaime R. Moran
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Max Wilfred Moreland
Crystal Janette Moreno
Brandon Joshu Moss
Jaime Muniz
Andria Lianne Navar
Celia Navarro
Claudia Michelle Navarro
Melissa Navarro
Joshua Ryan Nelson
Dereck D. Neyland
David A. Nunez
Denisse Nunez
Travis Dakota O'Leary
Magda Ocampo
Ramon Ontiveros
Luis Carlos Ordenez Valverde
Rodrigo Ortega
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Karina Andrea Otero
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Luis Carlos Pacheco
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Karina Parolari-Carranza
Pedro Alex Partida
Gerardo Gabriel Pena III
Alejandro Peralta
Erick Perez
Isaac Hector Perez
Myrthala Plicas-Perrin
Rebecca Salome Portillo
Zarita Eugenia Prieto
Juan Puebla
Noah V. Quinn
Charles Quiroz
Jorge Quiroz
Adan Ramirez
Forrest Edward Ray
Kimberly Carol Rayos
Roxanne Regalado
Denisse Melina Renteria
Bryan Timothy Reyes
Ignacio Humberto Reyes Jr
Jane Rios Landeros
Erika Rivera
Mario Alejandro Rivera
Vanessa Rivera
Estefania Patricia Rivera Aguirre
Natalia Rodarte
Adrian Gilberto Rodriguez
Laura Rodriguez
Lizabeth E. Rodriguez
Luis A. Rodriguez
Michelle Kristine Rodriguez
Claudia Rojas
Lorenzo Antonio Rojas
Eduardo Romero
Iliana Romero
Rodolfo Romero Jr
Vivian Romero
Carla Lorena Rosete
Christian Alejandro Rubio
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Antonio Ruvalcaba Jr
Laura Denisse Ruvalcaba
Jodi Reyes Salazar
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Juan Carlos Santiago
Maria Isela Santos
Lydia Renee Santoscoy
Erik Salomon Saucedo
Chrystian Schmitt
John Maurice Scott
Ashley Taylor Seale
Alan Robert Segura
Melissa Smith
Alejandra Solis
Michael Sosa Jr
Nohely J. Telles

Abigail Tellez
Brenda Citlallic Teran Gonzalez
Carlo Terrazas
Frank Torres
Mariana Torres
Michael Aaron Torres
Alexander Tovar
David Omar Trejo
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Skye Kaitlyn Ugarte
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Patricia Valdez
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Gabriela Vasquez
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Sheryl Wong
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Jesus Emanuel Zamarripa
Maria G. Zuniga

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Melissa Alexandria Andrade
Angela Arce
Mauricio S. Armendariz
Dominique Elizabeth Arroyos
Taylor E. Balkwill Kidd
Brenna Michele Bandstra
Carolina Betancourt
Jacqueline Betancourt
Michelle Bitar
Wendy Gabriela Black
Diana Yvette Bonilla
Luis E. Canizales
Josue Cardenas
Brenda Cervantes
Rachel Chavez
Vienna Cong
Danielle Lin Cortez
Angela L. Cutaia
Cinthia Denisse Delfin-Aguilar
Destinee Ijeoma Eke
Carlos Michael Figueroa
Janet Flores
Jorge Galan
Jerry A. Garcia
Selena Gomez
Amanda Michelle Gonzalez
Diana Gonzalez
Erick Michael Gonzalez
Andrea Guerrero
Amber Marie Gutierrez
Carla Maria Gutierrez
Zachary Nathaniel Henry
Gabriela Hernandez
Mathew Hernandez
Rebekah Danielle Herriot
Brittany J. Huerta
Jasmin Renee Jenkins
Amber J. Jipson
Laura Marie Kost
Jose Javier Landeros
Bryan A. Legarretta
Adrian Leon
April J. Lopez
Christian P. Lopez
Ruby Alejandra Lozano
Giselle Rebecca Marin
Andres Martinez
Cristina Martinez
Jesus David Medina
Francisco Antonio Mendez
Giselle Mendoza
Jesus Amador A. Mendoza Vega
Stephanie Marie Misquez
Cristina Munoz
Areli Nevarez Cano
Sophia Marie Ornelas
Ariel M. Ortega
Christian A. Padilla
Joshua I. Padilla
Bianca Perez
Rebeca Alejandra Perez
Elijahm Posada
Anissa Reynaud
Adrian Rivera
David Rodriguez
Jade J. Rodriguez
Joe Anthony Rodriguez
Jose Armando Rodriguez
Kenia Idaly Rodriguez
Arturo Samuel Romero
Ashlie Suzanne Ruiz
Deida Darlene Sanchez
Francisco Aaron Sapien
Norma J. Serna Ruiz
Andres Silva

Brenda Angelica Sosa
Jacqueline N. Soto
Desiree Jenise Strong
Angela L. Torres
Krishanna Chanea Turner
Kristen Alyssa Valle
Ruby Esmeralda Villagrana Moreno
Jessica Danielle Villanueva
Evelyn Villarreal
Margarita Alejandra Watkins
Nickevea Tamara Wilson
Linh Song Xiong

School of Nursing

Bachelor of Science in

Nursing

Marianna Victo Acosta
Nancy Aguirre
Priscilla Vanessa Aguirre
Wynisha Roshawn Alcorn
Kelsey Elizabeth Anderson
Josue I. Arriola
Daniel Polk Baker
Evelyn Amanda Barrios
Luisana Bernal
Nina Yvette Bryant
Cassandra Nicole Calvillo
Araceli Leon Curi
Christina Carrasco
Kevin Michael Carrera
Alexia Celaya
Sabrina B. Cervantez
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Nidian Hernandez Munoz
Ricardo Eduardo Munoz
James Nathan New
Azia Rianna Nicholson
Sara Mayela Ornelas
Sarah Danielle Paz
Lourdes R. Perez
Brenda L. Pinon
Gustavo Adrian Ramirez
Rose Marie Ramirez
Stephanie Ramos
Ana Maria Reyes
Stacy Lynette Rivers
Rene C. Robles
Sarah Jane Mesina Rodriguez
Amanda Michelle Russell
Isabel Veronica Sanchez
Rosanna Scialdone
Lynn Elise Scott
Jessica Ambrose Sebastian
Adrienne N. Sepulbeda
Ally Junghwa Shin
Danyelle Kathryn Sly
Stacy Ann Tagle
Luisa Maria Torres
Stephanie Marie Torres
Melinda Vaquera Valenzuela
Ursula Tomika White
Melissa Nicole Wilson
William Charles Winslett
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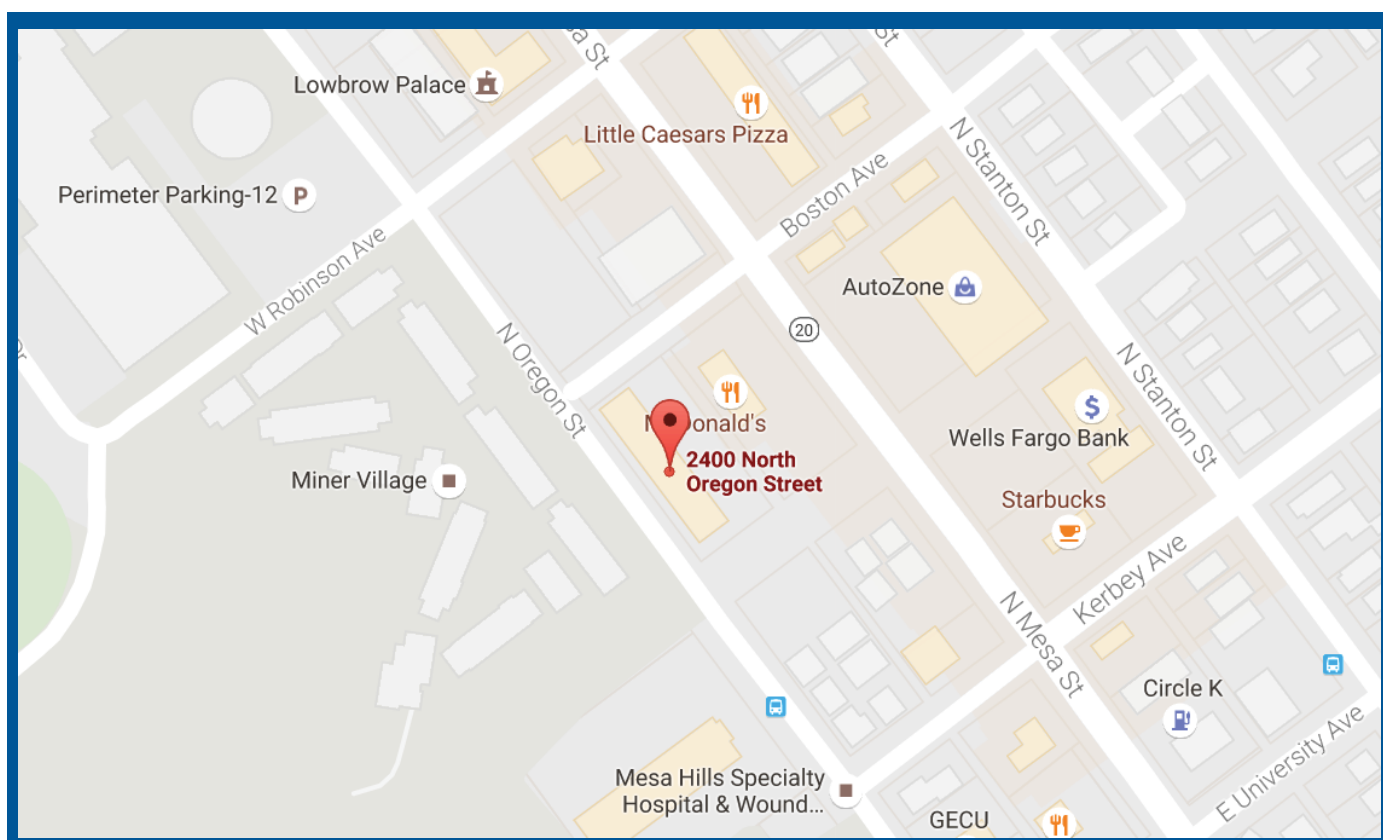
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Student advocate graduates this fall with honors



CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ/ THE PROSPECTOR
Jane Aman is graduating this December with an English and American literature degree.

BY MARIANA RODRIGUEZ
The Prospector

There are students who leave an impact on UTEP, and Jane Aman, an English and American literature major, graduates this December with a slew of accomplishments under her belt. Since transferring from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, Aman has been an active member in UTEP organizations that connect students with social issues. She has used her minor in women's and gender studies to educate students on campus and advocate for women's rights.

"I loved my time here. I've been able to be involved, to be engaged. It's been amazing," Aman said. Aman holds an officer position in Triota, the women's studies' honor society, where she helps bridge the conversation on hard-pressed topics by creating safe spaces for students to discuss and learn. She is a part of Triota Treats, a monthly series held in Prospect Hall, where different topics were discussed this semester ranging from transgender rights to the sexualization of Halloween costumes. As an advocate, she is also a secretary for the sexual and reproductive rights group Unite for

Reproductive and Gender Equality (URGE). Last summer, she traveled to Washington D.C. along with other chapter leaders to celebrate the organization's achievements on Capitol Hill. She also had the opportunity to speak with Texas Congressman Beto O'Rourke's staff for the Real Education for Healthy Youth Act, an act that would bring sex education to American schools. Although her time at UTEP is coming to an end, she is still preparing events for next semester to make the transition of power for new officers in her organization less strenuous by organizing the Women's History Month Conference. Aman said being involved was an easy task for her because UTEP creates opportunities that are readily available for students. Along with being involved in extracurricular activities, Aman also excelled as a student in her department. She was awarded one of UTEP's oldest honors, the Men and Women of Mines Award in May of 2016, where she expressed her pride in being a part of the Miner community. "I really love this university and getting involved in any way I can," Aman said in a press release. "It's an honor to be recognized for that." Aman's community service and academic track record made her eligible to be among the 14 stu-

dents who were recognized out of the 1,600 applicants. She worked as a research assistant for the Center for Environmental Resource Management from August 2015 to May 2016, transcribing data and did an independent study with the English department. Her biggest accomplishment allowed her to become a voice for the College of Liberal Arts student body.

“
I really love this university and getting involved in any way I can.

”
- Jane Aman, senior American and English literature studies

In the spring of 2016, she became the Liberal Arts Collegiate Senator in the Student Government Association, where she has been working on several projects at once. She was involved in bringing more accessible designs to the building environment of UTEP in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act,

as well as setting up the framework for a liberal arts conference. "I'm proud to be a part of the leadership community. Working with SGA and seeing what all of the presidents and members are doing has been great," Aman says. Holding two leadership positions and being an active member of the SGA does not deter her from having a night job or being a volunteer for the Center Against Sexual and Family Violence. Aman is planning to receive training in order to accompany sexual assault victims to hospitals to receive medical examinations. As for after graduation, Aman is considering extending her research in women's studies and has applied to several internships and graduate schools. Although she has been involved on campus in changing the conversation involving women's rights and has volunteered in shelters for victims of domestic violence, Aman said her work is not done yet. "I want to be a teacher, or get a job in political advocacy, pursue my research and make things more inclusive," Aman said. Aman will graduate magna cum laude in this upcoming graduation ceremony. Her efforts on campus and her dedication to change the conversation in politics will remain alive in the university long after she graduates. Mariana Rodriguez may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

Rates of employment after graduation unknown at UTEP



FILE PHOTO/ THE PROSPECTOR

BY CHRISTIAN VASQUEZ
The Prospector

Many publications reported that 2016 was one of the best years for college graduates looking for a job. On a national scale, most graduates found some type of work, and having a degree still far outweighed not having one in terms of employment and salary. On the local level, however, that hard data just is not available. At every commencement, staff from the University Career Center asks graduates at the Don Haskins Center what their career looks like in the

near future. But the surveys are incomplete, meaning that students can choose whether they want to answer, the information is also completely dependent on who happens to be at the Don Haskins Center at the time. Betsy Castro Duarte, the director of University Career Center, explains why this is so. "It's just students' self-reported information so it's not a true picture of what the jobs are that students get," said Castro Duarte. "So we do capture some of that information, but to tell you that it's complete would be untrue." The data also does not tell the whole story, and questions can

imply one thing, but when taken in context can mean something else. In spring of 2016, Career Services surveyed 2,017 students and asked graduates if they are accepting a job and if their job is relating to their field of study, and 77 percent of those students said yes to both. But, that does not mean that 23 percent of students failed to find a job or that they wasted time on a degree they're not going to use immediately. Some jobs don't require a specific degree, instead they just require that one has a degree, and some students who are in the military

are going to school because it's free, not necessarily because they need it for their careers. "So maybe right now it's not something that 'Ok I need to have this college degree,' but it's something like 'Down the line I might need it,'" Castro Duarte said. Other jobs are not readily available for employment right out of graduation, and a degree may not be the only prerequisite needed for a job. Careers such as teaching and nursing require certificates before they can start applying, so if asked during commencement those majors would have to say that they don't have any jobs lined up yet. "They haven't taken their certification—they can't start working. But the placement rate for nursing is like 99.9 percent all of those folks get jobs," Castro Duarte said. "It's just the timing, the timing of right after you graduate. 'Do you have a job? 'no, because I haven't taken my board,' but once they take their boards and pass them they're all going to get jobs because the demand is so great." Another obstacle to obtaining accurate data is the fact that UTEP is a commuter school. There is a similar problem when counting the graduation rates at UTEP. Not everyone is counted because not everyone

stays. This further muddles the information because Career Services can't count those who are not there. Another factor is that the Career Services is not a research facility. The department focuses on providing resources for students such as help with resumes, internships and other services. At UTEP there is the Center for Institutional Evaluation Research and Planning, which according to their website is "responsible for all state—and federally—mandated reports, ad hoc data requests, and national-level external surveys." CIERP collects data on graduation rates, demographics, conducts surveys on student satisfaction and similar data. However, CIERP does not collect data on employment after graduation. They do have information on what graduates' plan on doing after graduation, 60 percent reported they plan on working, but that data does not indicate whether students are looking for a job, or if they already have one. The Prospector reached out to CIERP, but did not receive a response. Follow Christian Vasquez on Twitter @chrismvasq

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What will you miss about UTEP when you graduate?

CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ, NINA TITOVETS, GABY VELASQUEZ/ THE PROSPECTOR



ANDREA HERNANDEZ
Senior cellular and molecular bio-chemistry major
“I am going to miss the friendly community here in El Paso, as well as the friends I have made here on campus.”



ANDREW YURACHEK
Senior economics major
“I am going to miss my professors because they’ve taught me so many things.”



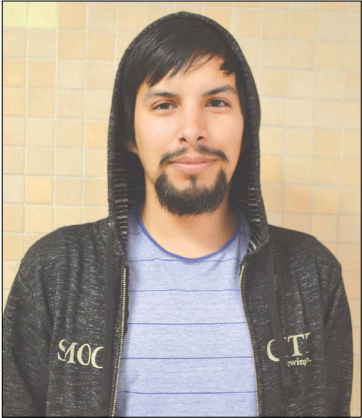
ANTONIO BACA
Senior mathematics major
“Pokemon Go, because it’s fun and you meet a lot of new people.”



CRISTIAN GONZALEZ
Senior, multimedia journalism major
“I am going to miss dancing for the UTEP Goldiggers, I really love performing for the UTEP crowd and fans.”



DANIEL NAJERA
Senior chemistry major
“I am going to miss the El Paso culture; people are always kind and helpful and I am very thankful for all the great friends I’ve made while here at UTEP.”



ISAAC YEPEZ
Senior American literature major
“Some of the professors in the Liberal Arts College, they know how to entertain a discussion with students and allow people to voice their opinions. I hope that these kinds of discussions will be possible outside of UTEP as well.”



JAMES AHUMADA
Senior art history major
“Honestly a lot of the professors, they’re really cool and get really personable, a lot of them get to know you from a personal stand point, a lot of my friends, and just getting to see all the people I know.”



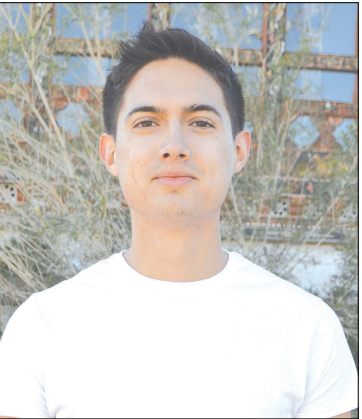
JESSICA LABRUZZO
Senior graphic design major
“The studios because we can work there, and the teachers because I really had a good relationship with them.”



KEVIN GODINA
Senior electrical engineering major
“Friends, my classmates because of all the adventures that we’ve had together.”



MARIE FUENTES
Senior cellular molecular biochemistry major
“I am going to miss how accessible UTEP is for students, in a way that you can have so many opportunities here.”



MATTHEW DURAN
Senior criminal justice major
“I am going to miss walking around the UTEP campus, the landscaping and architecture are really unique and are going to be hard to find anywhere else.”



PRISCILLA RODRIGUEZ
Senior electrical engineering major
“The resources, because UTEP offers a lot of resources that help me in my research and in my projects.”



ROXANNA ROCHA
Senior nursing major
“I am going to miss my sorority, they are a sisterhood and family that I won’t be able to replace, as well as the experiences I have had here that have enabled me to grow in my field and as a person.”



SOFIA HUBBARD
Senior multidisciplinary studies major
“Actually, everything. We waited so long for the Centennial Plaza to be finished. I am going to miss the environment, the free yoga classes on Tuesdays, and all of the services UTEP students can enjoy here.”



YAZMINE HUICAR
Senior psychology and biology major
“What I’m going to miss the most about UTEP is being surrounded by people and friends that think like me and support me.”



RAPHAEL BENERO
Senior sculpture major
“The level of intellectual conversation that is implemented throughout the courses, because it enhances the train of thought that’s for higher education and for educational purposes.”



MANDY TWOMEY
Senior music education major
“I’m going to miss the campus the most because they’ve cleaned it up over the time that I’ve been here. I really love walking around campus.”



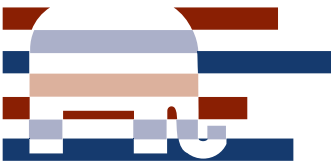
DONNA DELGADO
Senior electrical engineering major
“I think it’s mostly my friends and studying with them, it’s like that kind of companionship that you don’t get anywhere else, especially in companies.”



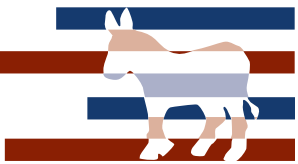
LUISA GARCIA
Senior linguistics major
“I’m going to miss the classes, my professors and the university, because I really like the environment that the university has.”



ALFREDO LIGGINS
Senior mechanical engineering major
“Probably marching band because it’s my last year. It’s a lot of fun and I made great friends.”



YOUR PRESIDENT



Voting for the presidential office, not the president

BY CHRISTIAN VASQUEZ
The Prospector

When voting for a president, you are not only voting for one person, but for the entire executive office that stands behind them. There are nearly 4,000 positions that a new president-elect must appoint

to fill the positions left by the previous administration. When the incoming president is of the same party as the previous administration, there are fewer seats to fill as the same people will usually keep their jobs. But when there is a new party coming in to fill the executive

seat there are a lot of seats to fill, and the sooner you fill them, the sooner the administration can get to work. And while there are many positions to fill there are four seats that can easily change the direction of the country: secretary of state,

secretary of the treasury, secretary of defense and attorney general.

Secretary of State

In simple terms, the secretary of state executes the president's foreign policy. The office has a wide range of work, from accepting passports to brokering peace treaties between two countries. Besides the president, the secretary of state is the face of the nation to other countries.

John Kerry, the current secretary of state, played a vital role with the success of the Iran nuclear deal, but has largely been criticized for his inability to accomplish any major steps forward in the Middle East. While focusing so much on the Middle East, Kerry has all but ignored parts of Asia such as China

and North Korea. Because of this, some say that China will play a bigger role in competition with the United States, and that North Korea will be a bigger danger in the near future.

President-elect Trump has yet to pick a secretary of state, but whomever he picks will have a lasting effect on the nation and the world.

Secretary of the Treasury

The secretary of the treasury is responsible for domestic and international monetary policy, as well as advising the president on regulating industry. It is also in charge of the production of money and collecting from as well as paying U.S. citizens.

The secretary of the treasury will play the main role in negotiating or dealing with Trump's economic policies, especially getting rid of or renegotiating trade deals.

Secretary of Defense

The secretary of defense is going to be the keystone in the continued fight against ISIS and other radical extremists. Whomever President-elect Trump picks must coordinate the entire Department of Defense, manage the pressures and different opinions that come from within the Department of Defense that will put both American and foreign lives in danger.

Paul Hammond, a professor from the University of Pennsylvania, in his book "Organizing for Defense" argues that the secretary of defense should also have business experience as the office requires many aspects similar to business administration.

The secretary must walk a fine line between aggression and negotiation. If the agenda abuses the United States military might it can lead to a military-first foreign policy. This is shown in Obama's policy with drone use, which has drawn outcries of human rights abuse. If, on the other hand, the agenda is too timid with force, then other countries can take advantage of the United States. For example, some claim that the Russian invasion of Ukraine was caused due to Obama's unwillingness to engage in direct conflict with Russia.

Attorney General

The attorney general has been called the highest law official in the nation. The office represents the United States in lawsuits and other legal matters and advises and carries out the agenda of the president.

In the Obama administration, the office investigated patterns of abuse of civil rights, advised against piling charges on low-level drug offenders, started to phase out the use of private, for-profit prisons and directed the Department of Homeland Security to focus on immigrants with criminal records.

The new attorney general, alongside President-elect Trump through executive orders, could reverse all the Obama's administration's directives.

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Student receives a full paid semester thanks to tacos

BY MICHAELA ROMÁN
The Prospector

Defending the importance of diversity in the U.S in a time when ethnicity is under the spotlight played a key role in the winner of this year’s El Taco Tote Taculture Scholarship.

On the borderland, El Taco Tote has several locations that aim to serve authentic Mexican food. To help alleviate a student’s financial stress for a semester, Taco Tote created a scholarship, where applicants submit an essay about the impact of Mexican culture and tacos in the United States as well as writing about their personal aspirations.

This year, Ariel Alvarado, a sophomore psychology major, was the recipient of this semester’s scholarship.

“I applied to this scholarship because I am trying to save money to be able to attend med school. The money I was going to spend next semester can now be saved for my future education,” Alvarado said. “This was the first scholarship I have applied for and it encouraged me to apply to many more in the future.”

Political statements and disparaging comments against Mexicans used during the presidential election were at the heart of Alvarado’s essay for the scholarship.

At the start of September, when the presidential election season was in high gear and controversies were raging more than ever, Marco Gutierrez—founder of Latinos for Trump—went live on an MS-

NBC debate panel saying, “My culture is a very dominant culture, and it’s imposing and it’s causing problems. If you don’t do something about it, you’re going to have taco trucks on every corner.”

Gonzalez’s statement caused a frenzy of reactions on social media and the hashtag #Tacos OnEveryCorner began trending in support of taco trucks.

Alvarado, who was born in El Paso and raised in Ciudad Juárez, crosses the Santa Fe Bridge, or El Puente de las Americas, to get to UTEP during the week. Although it can be tedious at times, Alvarado said he enjoys living in Juárez and coming to El Paso every day. He said it’s like having two homes and benefits him in the

long run to finish his education in the US.

“Mexican culture is one of the richest cultures in the world,” Alvarado said. “We can share that with other countries and learn from each other to have a better understanding of the world.”

In his 1,400-word essay submission, Alvarado wrote, “The key for the great success of this country resides in its diversity, having people from all over the world interacting, and sharing their ideas and working together to contribute to its success economically and socially.”

“I was confident that the ideas I used to develop the essay explained in detail how immigration, the Mexican cuisine and Mexico’s rich culture

have a positive impact in the United States,” Alvarado said. “I learn from both cultures and living in the border allows me to share what I know about the American culture with my Mexican friends and vice versa. I am always trying to get the best of each culture and combine them to share all the positive aspects of each.”

After graduating from UTEP with a bachelor’s degree in psychology, Alvarado plans to go to medical school, get his doctorate and then specialize in psychiatry to try to understand and help people with some of the worst mental illnesses.

Michaela Román may be reached at michaelairoman@gmail.com.

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The eight majors that will make you the most cash

BY RENE DELGADILLO
The Prospector

These are the top eight paying majors during the first five years out of college that come from the top 50 list by Glassdoor, a job and recruiting website with a database of salary reports, company and internet reviews.

Glassdoor's report of the highest-paying majors was done after an analysis of thousands of resumes and corresponding salary reports. The Pew Research Center reported on the financial disparity among millennials from the ages 25 to 32, who are working full-time jobs in 2012 and found out that those with a bachelor's degree or more earn a median salary of \$45,500, and those with a two-year degree or some college time earn a median salary of \$30,000. Millennials who received just a high school diploma earn a median salary of \$28,000.



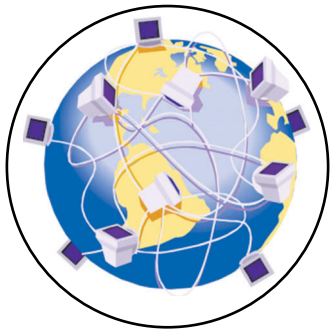
8. Statistics

Median Base Salary: \$60,000
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Data Analyst, Statistician, Data Scientist



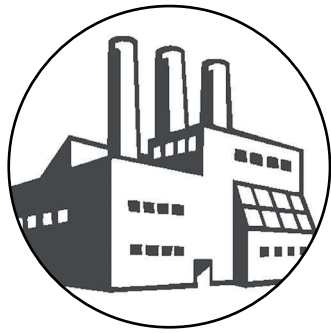
7. Civil Engineering

Median Base Salary: \$61,500
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Civil Engineer, Structural Engineer, Field Engineer



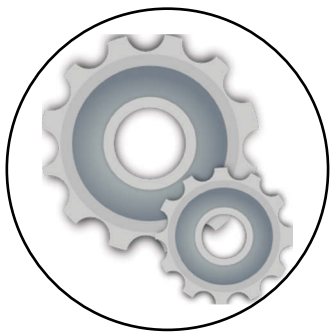
6. Information Technology

Median Base Salary: \$64,008
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Programmer Analyst, Technical Support, Systems Engineer



5. Industrial Engineering

Median Base Salary: \$64,381
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Industrial Engineer, Quality Engineer, Production Planner



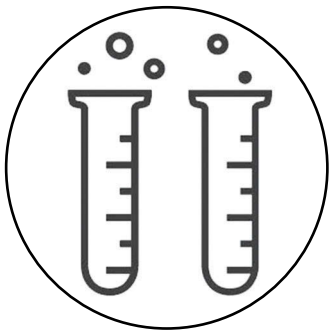
3. Mechanical Engineering

Median Base Salary: \$68,000
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Mechanical Engineer, Design Engineer, Project Engineer



2. Electrical Engineering

Median Base Salary: \$68,438
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Electrical Engineer, Systems Engineer, Software Developer



4. Chemical Engineering

Median Base Salary: \$65,000
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Chemical Engineer, Process Engineer, Project Engineer



1. Computer Science

Median Base Salary: \$70,000
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Software Engineer, Systems Engineer, Web Developer

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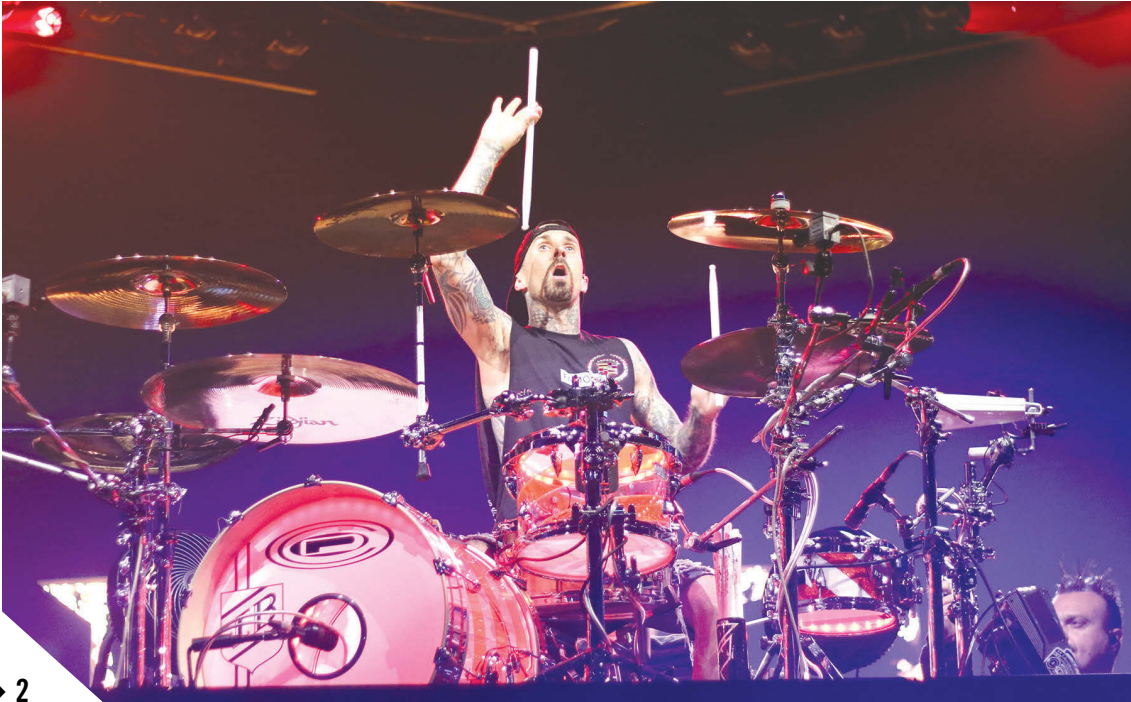
EDITOR
ERIC VASQUEZ, 747-7477

OUR VIEW

The Don Haskins' most anticipated 2016 headliners



► 1



► 2



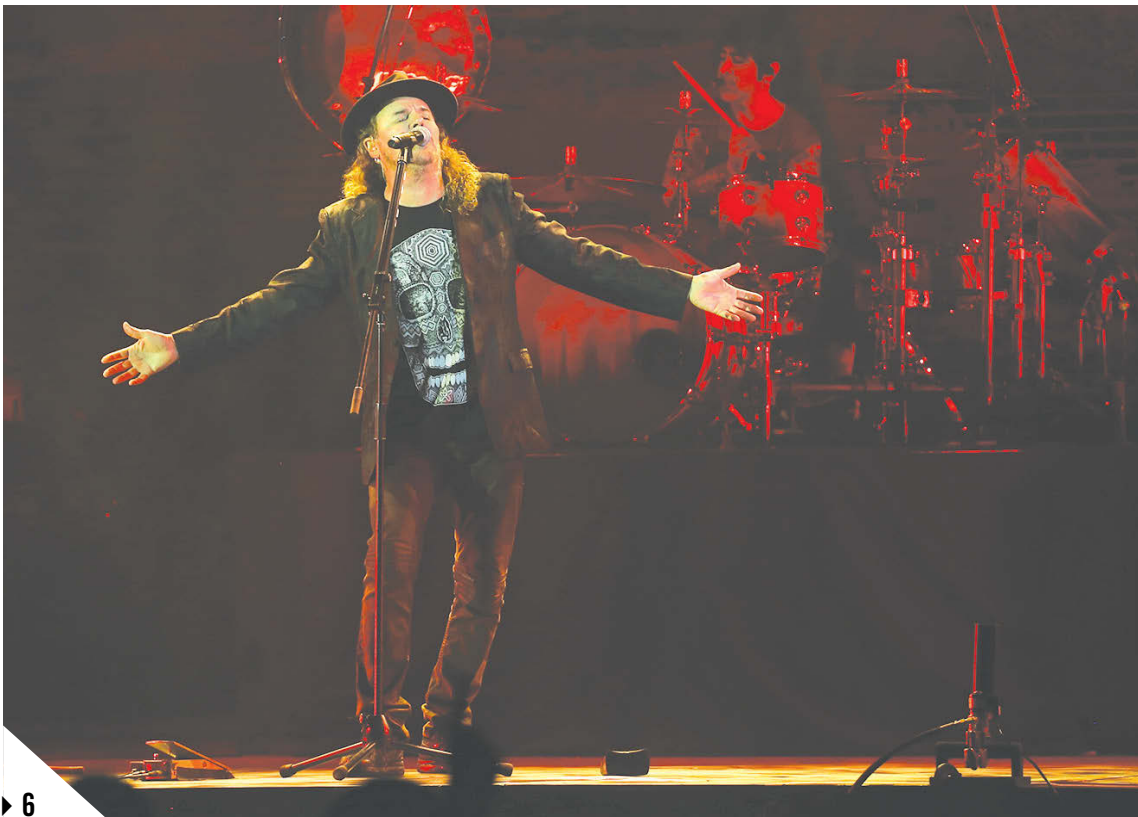
► 3



► 4



► 5



► 6

MICHAELA ROMÁN, GABY VELASQUEZ, ANGEL ULLOA / THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP's Special Events department works to bring big-time artists to the Don Haskins Center. Here are some of the artists that played this year. 1. Lead singer Klaus Meine and The Scorpions took the stage on May 24. 2. Blink-182 performs in El Paso for the first time on July 26. 3. The Cure headlined for '80s fans on May 17. 4. Pitbull brought the party to the Haskins Center on July 21. 5. Punk band Cage the Elephant takes the Spring Fling on March 17. 6. Latin-rock band Maná packed the house with fans and Latin rhythms.

Las Artistas juried art show exhibits handmade crafts



Professional, emerging and student artists display their handcrafted jewelry available for sale.

NINA TITOVETS / THE PROSPECTOR

BY MIKE FLORES
The Prospector

The 46th-annual Las Artistas Arts and Fine Craft show took place on Nov. 19 and 20 at the EPIC Railyard Event Center, where over 90 artists and craft makers from all over the nation come to show off their work to the community.

The event has been going on since the '70s and featured many works of art to purchase such as jewelry, ceramics, fiber art, paintings, frames, cards, decorations and clothing. All the art is handmade and an opportunity to turn the artists' hard work into money.

When you first walk in, there was a table promising an opportunity to win a raffle for \$50, all they needed is your name, number and email address. After passing the sign-in process, multiple food trucks at your service greeted you. It included snacks such as popcorn and cokes for the stay, alongside grub to appease any hunger. To top all the goodies off, there was a wine-tasting section for the older crowd. This granted many the freedom to drink something tasty and be in awe of the work in front of them at the same time.

Emerging artists have the chance to learn and catch some techniques from crafters who

make artwork for a living. There is a place for the aspiring designers that included UTEP students, where more than 40 metalsmithing students participated in the event.

“We have 25 to 30 pieces on display, and the others here that do it for a living have around thousands of pieces to show.”

- Jessica Rodriguez,
junior studio art major

Las Artistas made the effort to emphasize the school's talent and offered scholarships for art education and to share their gifted teachers with the students. The professors showed these students how to reach their potential by teaching them in workshops and with their very own demonstrations.

Every UTEP artist, who had their art for display, exhibited see ARTISTAS on page B3



TACULTURE

We would like to announce the winner of our first ever *Taculture Scholarship*

ARIEL ALVARADO

Ariel is a student from UTEP who received a full paid Spring 2017 semester tuition for his excellent demonstration of the impact that Mexican cuisine in the form of tacos has in the U.S. through his winning essay.

We look forward to more Taculture initiatives to better show what we represent. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram to stay updated on future Taculture events and opportunities.



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Celebrating Christmas in a time of worldwide crisis

BY ERIC VASQUEZ
The Prospector



Just like that—Thanksgiving is over. The week before dragged itself to Thursday, and now it's the Tuesday after. Leftovers from Thanksgiving can hardly suffice for a snack, new work-out plans have been established to fight off the extra pudge and the orange-and-brown decorations have been packed up and replaced with the green, red and silver that can only mean one thing: Christmas.

Radio stations switch over to their 30-song loop, celebrities who don't even have a decent regular season album are announcing their Christmas albums as if they were Michael Bublé, and no one else is Michael Bublé than Michael Bublé during Christmas.

Even social media starts bursting with proclamations of Christmas being the favorite holiday of the year.

It all starts with Black Friday—Thanksgiving deals are just the beginning. Once the game of “what brand of pumpkin pie to buy” is over, once we've all said grace for the immeasurable blessings we have as American citizens, Black Friday descends and we claw and gut-punch our neighbors to buy another TV, fridge or Xbox. It's the beginning of an ingrained ideology of the holidays that Christmas time is the time of spending, of empty wallets come January and materialism.

But what exactly is so special about Christmas anyway? Is it the time of family, cinnamon scented everything, of generos-

ity and good will among men? It used to be. But since the advent of credit cards, Christmas has become a whole other animal.

The Christmas we have come to love—at least the Christmas our friends on social media talk about—was born from consumerism, literally.

As one example, the glowing image of Santa Claus was not how Saint Nick looked like, but was an image brought to the American imagination by Coca-Cola in the 1930s. This is not a conspiracy theory, it's proudly proclaimed on the Coca-Cola website.

If you wanted to celebrate Christmas the way Saint Nicholas began it, everyone would receive oranges in their stocking. But we don't do that, because you can't Snapchat on an orange.

I guess I would be more at peace with the holiday if it meant more than an increase in spending. Not just presents, but in electricity. Houses are trimmed with lights and the tree lit up just the same, meanwhile, families in India burn piles of cow poop to heat their stoves (never thought I'd use the word poop in a newspaper column).

As it is, one American uses as much energy as 30 Indians, six Mexicans, and, according to nationmaster.com, 128 Bangladeshis, 307 Ethiopians, 370 Tanzanians, and, as a huge shock to me, two Japanese. Do you know how much energy Japan uses? A lot. One American uses more energy than a Japanese. It isn't because we need it. It's because we believe we need to check our social media feeds every 30 seconds to see how many likes and shares we got on our most recent post.

There are some attempts to purge the holiday from its materialism, but even then the

logic is a misfire. I wouldn't be complaining if the “keep Christ in Christmas” movement was working beyond getting more crosses around necks. It may be that the Lord's love is overpowering and soul quenching, but I'm pretty sure, for most starving folks, a sandwich would better suit them.

With this attitude, I am, by definition, a scrooge. But I don't hate Christmas intrinsically, I just don't think we should be celebrating it when the air and ocean are becoming toxic, the Native Americans are getting screwed out of land (again), and dying of hunger is still a thing, despite the fact I could throw a rock in any direction and hit an opportunity for food. We have a lot to be thankful for, and I mean a lot.

Even now, as we continue to digest the massive meal we ate probably in a heated home and surrounded by people we love, a community of Native Americans out in North Dakota are camped in tents, taking rubber bullets and concussion grenades in order to stand for something they believe in.

Meanwhile, Christmas trees are going up, lights are strung and Santa lists are being made as if there is no greater worry in the world than buying the right jacket in which to stay warm.

Follow Eric Vasquez on Twitter @ericbaskets

ARTISTAS from page B2

different forms of their work. The students created something from a specific place of their picking, which was their assignment from their professor. For example, junior studio art major Jessica Rodriguez picked dark sightings to design and explained what others put out for the crowd.

“I used wood and charring, and I made earrings to match the darkness. Some others picked a road they were driving on, so she used asphalt for her artwork. This other student used his house as his place, he found comfort from his cat, so he used some of his cat's hair to design his work,” Rodriguez said. “We have 25 to 30 pieces on display, and the others here that do it for a living have around thousands of pieces to show. Twenty for us is stressful, I can only imagine the others.”

Kids still in elementary school were also able to participate. Their drawings were pasted on a wall and awarded first, second or third place.

Surrounding the up-and-comers were professional and independent artisans. They had the luxury to mark their own pricings; and prices varied from \$15 to the thousands.

Some of the unique designs for presentation were a mixture of humans and animals, such as the Mona Lisa crafted into a fox, and magicians with their rabbits as a part of them. It had a different twist to it, but the artists made their work worth the pretty pennies being spent. A lot of designer plates and household decorations were being sold, and some of the creators added pets in the back-

ground, they would feature animals, such as cat-themed lamps and forest animal plates.

There were also photographic images that would be turned into art. The photographers would take pictures of distinctive landmarks and mimic them realistically in their drawings. For every style of art, there was a piece for the taking.

Painters were allowed to show their skills with a paintbrush in front of the crowd and showed their progress as Las Artistas went on. The artists that wanted to share their insights could sign up for “Meet the Makers,” which was held off to the side of the art displays and was an hour-long session to meet the person behind the fantastic crafts. The audience sat on comfy couches and were informed by the professionals themselves. It went on all day, and new designers would come out every 60 minutes. This was the first year that Las Artistas brought this feature to its fans.

Every year, Las Artistas brings a platform for artists to display their work while earning some extra money and build a reputation for themselves. This event is also an opportunity for UTEP students to become emerging artists. The show hosts some of the most well-known artists, along with El Paso's local talent.

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Creative writing professor publishes book of poetry

BY ANDRES GALLEGOS
The Prospector

On Nov. 18, creative writing professor Jeff Sirkin read from his latest collection of poetry, “Travelers Aid Society,” to a packed room of students, faculty and fans of his work. In his book, Sirkin questions the meaning of freedom and the complexity of home. Through research and various trips to his hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio, Sirkin took the “answers” and turned them into poetry.

Sirkin received his master’s degree from Miami University and his doctorate in literature from the University of Buffalo. Besides poetry, his focus of research has been 20th-century literature and culture.

“Travelers Aid Society” is divided into four chapters: Real Estate, Politics of the Mix Tape, The Ledger and Theories of Improvisation. This is not Sirkin’s latest work, some poems were written 10 years ago, but they were not ready to see the light of day. There are other poems that he wrote specifically for this collection about home, travel and freedom.

“(The book) is about a lot of things, on a basic level it is me thinking about my home and what home is,” Sirkin said. “Some poems in the book are inspired by my childhood home, but also by different travels: my trip to Europe, Mexico and different places in the United States, and through



AGNIPRAVO BANERJEE/ THE PROSPECTOR
Dr. Jeff Sirkin has written more than poetry, he has written on a range of subjects like the poetry of Bob Dylan, Kurt Cobain and various punk rock artists.

that thinking about what holds us in place and what freedom might mean.”

Sirkin wanted to know what are the things that hold us in place and what defines us and our way of thinking. His poems show how frail the concept of home is and how it stacks on top of reality. There are frames that at times matter so little.

“I don’t see home as imprisoning us, but I see home as being something that sort of defines a sense of the world to us. For instance, the way we divide land up into real estate, into little squares of property determines the way we understand land and determines, therefore, our relationship to that land,” Sirkin said. “We look at the mountain and we see the mountain. I look at the yard where I live now and I see my yard, but I have a hard time seeing it as the other things that it actually is which is part of this larger ecosystem, part of this geological history that I can’t even comprehend, part of a world that’s hard to comprehend.”

It is through poetry that Sirkin finds answers. Rather than write an essay or another thesis, he chooses to write poetry.

“I always tell my students that writing is a process of thinking and no idea that you have won’t get worse by writing through it,” Sirkin said.

“In poetry, I allow myself the freedom of not thinking; I allow myself the freedom of imagination.”

- Dr. Jeff Sirkin,
creative writing professor

As a young poet, Sirkin wrote about concepts in a conventional manner. It wasn’t until he started to mature that both his poetry and his process changed. He allowed poems to emerge on their own, he focused on the language and began to listen.

Sirkin said that “poetry is a process of listening.” His process morphed from the conventional way of notebook scribbling to looking at the world through newspaper clips, or what was on the radio and TV, and looking inside himself.

“A lot of my writing is built by collage. I’ll just think of little phrases and lines, or I’ll hear little bits of language and I’ll write those things down, and I don’t know what it is or how it connects,” Sirkin said. “Or I’ll be doing research and reading and something in it will strike me as interesting, and I’ll put it all on a page and none of it has anything to do with one another. And I start thinking of different ways that

the phrases might combine or the ways I might construct a sentence. And I start seeing new formations. The poem sort of emerges from there.”

Sirkin’s poem “Orangutan Short-Circuits Wires, Builds Ladder to Flee Zoo in Adelaide Australia” is an actual story of an orangutan that made a brief disappearance from her enclosure.

“Our hero the orangutan/sits on the precipice asking herself no doubt/what freedom means/when the other side of the wall/as always is a parking lot.”

“Travelers Aid Society” helps not only to question our reality, but also to appreciate it. Some poems are funny, some are fun to read, some are about Cincinnati and Mexico, some poems even deal with economics. There is a wide array of exploration in this book. It’s a journey. And through all aspects, Sirkin wishes to reach many things.

“I would love for my poetry to be something around which communities could form. That’s kind of a self-centered way to think about it,” Sirkin said. “I want it to be part of a community.”

This way of writing poetry may seem scientific, theoretical instead of expressive, but there is a sense to it. Through research and reflection, Sirkin finds his voice. His poems are comfortable with the way in which they are conceived.

“In poetry, I allow myself the freedom of not thinking; I allow myself the freedom of imagination,” Sirkin said.

Despite the popular belief, new poetry transcends outdated language, and Jeff Sirkin, here at UTEP, is helping to prove that.

Andres Gallegos may be reached at theprospectordaily. ent@gmail.com.

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‘Ghost in the Shell’ borders between cheap blockbuster and honorable franchise



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

BY CHRISTIAN VASQUEZ

The Prospector

A few weeks ago, we printed a story on Hollywood’s addiction to anything not creative. Remakes and reboots are the name of the game now, resurrecting every last bit of culture of yesteryear before moving on to today. It is no different with the Japanese media franchise “Ghost in the Shell.” As always with reboots and remakes, audiences divide into two major categories: fans praying the film will adhere to the original’s elements and

those who just want to see a good movie. Paramount has since dropped a trailer for the movie coming out in 2017, and although it’s hard to judge a movie by the trailer alone as a movie based off previous work should appeal to the fan base and bring in new viewers at the same time, it is my duty as a dedicated fan to be strict about a franchise resurrection. The first thing I noticed about the “Ghost in the Shell” trailer is the multiple nods to the series, the geishas at the beginning are straight from the TV series “Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex.” Motoko “Major” Kusanagi standing on top of the building is almost an exact copy of the introduction in the 1995 film, and other various scenes sprinkled throughout the trailer show that the director seemed to have watched a decent chunk of the various series and films. What worries me is not the look, that’s easy enough to copy, but the philosophy that plays an essential role into what makes the series so interesting. There are a lot of different ideas so I’ll quickly explain, in my view, the biggest ideas relating directly with the Major. Keep in mind “Ghost in the Shell” has contradict-

ing ideas and portrayals, so I’ll be basing most of this on the 1995 film and the “Stand Alone Complex” TV series, which is what the upcoming movie seems to be using as its main inspiration. One of the main ideas “Ghost in the Shell” explores is the existential tension between what it means to be human and what it means to be a machine—the “ghost” or spirit, in the “shell” or body. In a purely material sense, the Major is more machine than an organism, with her brain being the only organic material in her, and in some cases she even forgoes that entirely. So what makes her human? The ghost in her appears to be the only connection between her humanity and her desire to move beyond the limits of a physical shell. The series also explored sexuality and gender identity. The Major seems to be naked in the trailer, and if I never heard of the series I would feel that it’s typical hyper-sexualization that happens when a woman plays the lead role, and a perfect example of patriarchy through Hollywood using and abusing female sexuality to make money. But it’s not entirely accurate; the Major doesn’t seem to see her body in a sexual way, but instead as a

tool that is convenient at that moment. It can be used against men who are distracted by her femininity or nudity and underestimate her. But that idea is in direct conflict with other parts of the series where she acts as a sexual being. The Major goes through different ideas about her identity depending on the series. Sometimes she has a past she’s nostalgic about, while in others her memories are just a tool that can be traded if they become too inconvenient. The series explores a dialectical tension between human and post-human. It’s not a matter of what makes something human, but when is humanity present. Is it present when a machine takes its own life to save a human, or is a machine a machine no matter what they do? Does it even matter, or is the label of humanity and the spirit slowly changing to encompass more than the organic? All of this is something the trailer completely fails to bring up. Instead we get a basic question of “who was I?” The series didn’t explore who the Major was, that was changed from series to series and ultimately it never really mattered who she was, but who she was becoming. It’s a look forward, not a

nostalgic gaze into the past. Is the gender identity motif going to be explored or is the Major’s sexuality going to be a vehicle to exploit Scarlett Johansson’s body for money? In the trailer, the Major says that “everyone around me feels connected to something, connected to something I’m not,” which sound like the lyrics to a Korn song that I would have enjoyed when I was going through teenage angst. The movie seems to be taking the Major in the opposite direction that she has been headed in throughout the series. Trying to make her more human by reaching for a past that may or may not exist to find her identity, whereas in other films the past was a distraction from the future. The Major may have lamented the past, but was not driven by it. However, each series does take a slightly different approach to exploring these existential themes and it may be that the two-minute trailer was simply not enough to express the director’s aim. It’s possible that she searches for her past to only be dissatisfied with it. Who knows. I plan on watching it, but in the meantime I’m going to be cautiously pessimistic.

Follow Christian Vasquez on Twitter @chrismvasq

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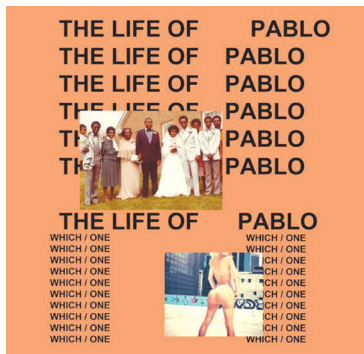


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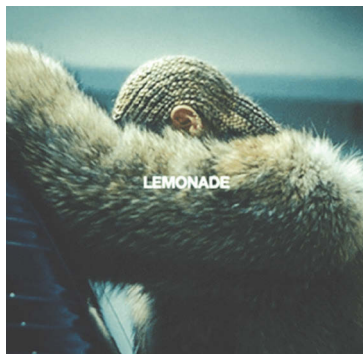
The year in review: the best five albums of popular music



5. Kanye West “The Life of Pablo”

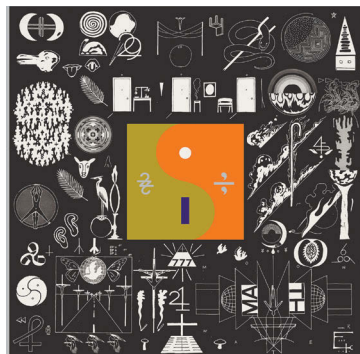
You have to give the loud mouth, outspoken Chicago rapper credit for his sixth studio album, “The Life of Pablo.” The album experiments with 19 completely unique tracks, each sounding different from the last. “Ultralight Beam” opens the album in a harmonic, gospel-like tone, but completely shifts sounds on the trap-based track “Father Stretch My Hands Pt. 1 & 2.” Although the album’s songs are unique, the transitions between songs are smooth and that makes it easy to listen to from start to finish. He showcases his extreme knowledge of beat production on “Waves” and “Freestyle 4.”

West displays his strength to still rap both lyrically and dynamically on the album, and, as a whole, is complete and could be regarded as one of his bests.



4. Beyoncé “Lemonade”

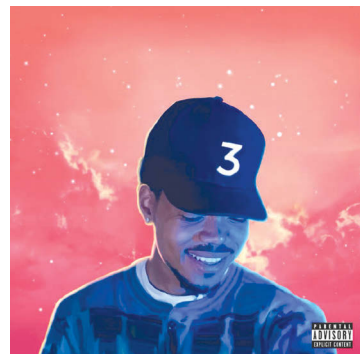
“You can taste the dishonesty, it’s all over your breath, as you pass it off so carefully”—these are the first words gracefully chimed over a soulful piano on “Pray You Catch Me,” which kicks off “Lemonade.” On Tidal, Beyoncé released a visual version of her album, which sparked a lot of positive critical responses for her creativity. The album is hard-hitting, like many other Beyoncé albums, and adds a dose of twists, like an indie-delivery on “Forward” with indie-electronic artist James Blake. Her soulful tone she brings on “Pray You Catch Me” is revisited on “Sandcastles,” which is yet another stunning showcase of Beyoncé’s full, defiant voice.



3. Bon Iver “22 A Million”

Justin Vernon, known by his stage name, Bon Iver, spent time away from the recording studio to fully reveal himself in his third studio project, “22, A Million.” Third time was definitely the charm for the 35-year-old indie artist as he put out by far his best work yet.

Vernon abandons his indie-folk sound on “22, A Million” and divulges into the indie-electronic spotlight. His first track, “22, Over Soon,” has a harmonic hook contemplating the concept of endings or the possibilities of new beginnings—“It might be over soon.” The same expressive lyrics transfer from song-to-song, which touch base on love, religion, society and nature. The album’s entirety is superb and possibly among the best indie albums of the 2010s.

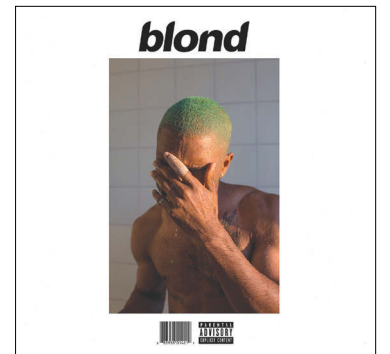


2. Chance the Rapper “Coloring Book”

The artist banked off his single “Sunday Candy,” and hyped his third record beyond measure.

All of this excitement brought forth huge anticipation for his third project, “Coloring Book.” Chance opened the album with three words that capture the listeners and his die-hard fans instantly, “and we back.”

The most meaningful songs on the album are “Summer Friends,” “Blessings (Reprise)” and “Same Drugs.” On “Summer Friends,” Chance injects his political commentary of the horrid violence displayed in his hometown of Chicago and calls attention to the wrongful killings and gang violence. Throughout his sending-forth hymn, “Blessings (Reprise),” Chance reflects on his career and how blessed he is by his fans who have stuck by him.



1. Frank Ocean “Blond”

The world had not heard from Frank since his freshman studio album, “Channel Orange” dropped in 2012. It was four years that fans were left in despair and did not get any hint of new work.

Then, abruptly in August, Frank dropped a visual album titled “Endless” on Apple Music. The visual album was something out of the blue, but he was not done.

Only days later, Frank released “Blonde.” In this album, he ponders life from the perspective of an adolescent boy.

The work is an experience to be enjoyed in its full. Let it play as background music and wait until a track catches your attention. It will soon be an addiction.

Follow Adrian Broadus on Twitter @adrian_broadus

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The University of Texas at El Paso Class of 2016

Thank you
to everyone who
has helped me
in my journey through
undergrad! I
Love you mom, Dad,
Adam and Alyssa.
You are my heart
- Amanda
Quillen

FAMILY & Friends
Thank you for
all the support!
Undergrads, but
that matters!!
Belén Lopez

Thank You
Mom & Dad!
Could have never
done it without
you. Thank you
Grandma who's been
watching me from
up above!
Cecilia
Escobedo

Gracias
mama y papa
por todo! Por
mi educación!
Esto es para
ustedes con mucho
carino Valerie M.
Armendariz

Para mi
papa y hermanos
y mis abuelitos: y chris
Gracias por el apoyo
y por haberme encompañado
esto es por y para ustedes
Para todos mis amigos
compañeros que comparten
esta etapa a la vez
que esta etapa
LEVA

Thank you
to my mom, dad,
brothers, boyfriend,
family, & friends
always supporting me
and giving me the
strength to keep
going!
- Jem
Silva

A mi Familia,
muchísimas gracias por
su apoyo y amor!!
I couldn't have done
it without you!!
I love you
and can't wait to
see what this new
chapter brings!!
Kiki Rico

Thank you
Mom, Dad, Carlos,
and Dora for always
being there for me and
helping me get through this.
I love you guys
Love
John

To
my family
and friends
who have all
helped me
get through this
I love you
Love
John

Thank
you, Peter,
Roger & Scott.
Finally!
Michelle
W

Thank You
mom and dad
(Sylvia & Mario), my
boyfriend Alvaro, and my
all my friends for always
supporting me, and for
believing in me!
I finally made it.
Always and forever
will love you.
Veronica H.
Maldonado

Thank you to my
mom and my grandparents.
I could have never
done it without you!
I hope I made you
proud. Love Jorge
Rosero

Gracias mom y dad
y toda mi familia!
Thanks to all my
friends and teachers
for helping me move
forward I am so
glad to finally
graduate! YAY!
EARTH
- Marylor G

Mom,
Dad and
Troy, thank
you for all the
support you all have
given me. I wouldn't
be able to do it without
you all!! - Arie Moreno

Thank
you
America!!!
- Your future
President

Thank you to my parents,
husband, and friends
for always being
there for me and supporting
me all the way. Without
you I wouldn't be where
I am.
- Monica C

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my Saviour Jesus
Christ for allowing me
this opportunity. Thanks
to my family & friends
for pushing me!
Thank you Mom & Dad
for your support &
encouragement throughout
this journey.
Love
Guillermo E.

Thank you
to my mom and
my dad for motivating
me and allowing me to
believe that I can do anything
I set my mind to. My main
reason for becoming a nurse
goal. I love you
guys!!
Jiselle M.

It's been
a long 5 years
but it is finally
over! Thank you
all for all the
love & support
God Bless!
Jonathan
Nieto

Thank
you mom,
dad & husband
for your support
and helping me
achieve my dream
I made it!
- Alejandra
P.C

Thank you
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through this
big step in my
life. Love
Yohana
Larcan

Thank you Mom, Dad,
& Marley for your
unending support &
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not have done this
without you.
Love you all,
Patrick

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for being with me
through the
happiest & toughest
years of my life.
Thank you Jesus!
Thank you, Family!
Estrella Fernandez

Thank you
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Hernandez
family for
supporting me
in furthering
my education.
Love
Erika

These four years were
the hardest and sometimes
stressful. Thank you everyone
who pushed me to reach
my best potential & who
believed in me. Love you
mom, dad, Kiki, Pete, Dad & Momma
me.

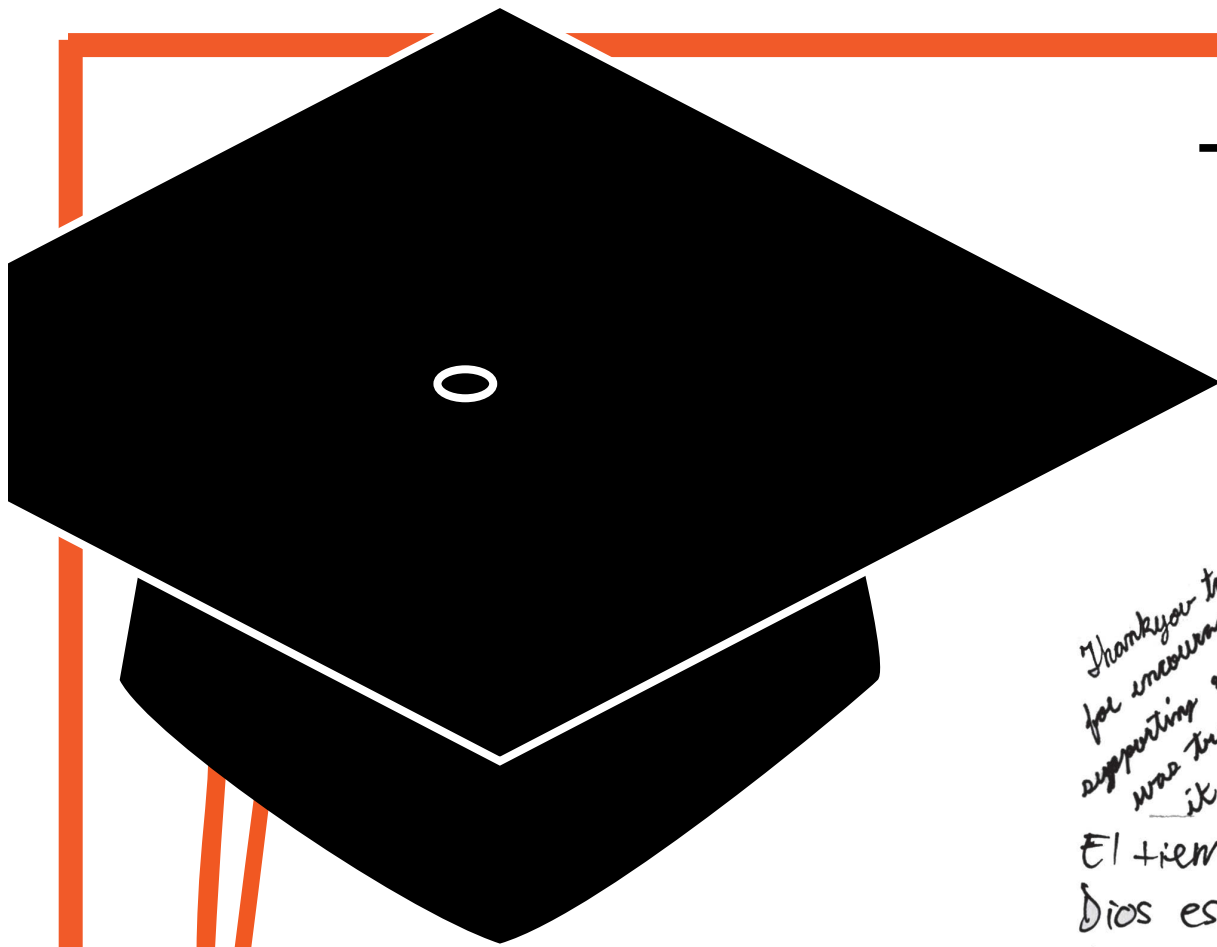
TO HILDA
LIFE IS GOOD!
GO MINERS
Fabiola
Tortajada

Sin ti yo no hubiera
llegado tan lejos. Te
amo y te agradezco
por lo que has hecho
por mí
Gracias
Mami, Papá

Thank you to all my
family and friends
who helped me get both
my degrees!
Love, Julie C

The Future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of
their dreams.

-Eleanor Roosevelt



The University

Gracias Mama y Papa
por apoyarme siempre,
sin ustedes esto no seria
posible, los quiero y
que Dios los bendiga
- Ivan C.

Thank you mom for your
unending support of my
education, I could not have
done this without you!
Adnan, thanks for always
being my rock and supporting
my dreams! Love you all
i. thank you -
Darius

Thank
you mom &
Dad for your
support. Nayeli
& Eli this is for
you!! I love you!
Gracias Familia
y Amigos!
Adrian
Rodriguez
Fernandez

Gracias a Dios y
a mi familia el
dia finalmente llego.
I thought I
would give up a
lot of times but
thanks to you all that
gave me the strength
to continue.
Love you all! Vero

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apoyo Ma!
Diego, Nicole y
Jorgito esta va por
ustedes!! Los quiero
mucho y gracias
por aguantar este
sacrificio. A toda mi
famili! Gracias!
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like to thank
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for all their support all
through my college
experience. I love
them so much.
- Adrian D.

Gracias
mama y
papa!
- Sebastian
Beltran

Many thanks to my
family who have done
so much for me to
be able to be at the
position I'm in now.
I am so grateful for
this life the heavens
cant wait to bring it
around to everyone
else. - Mariela

Gracias
Laquinta Statton

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supporting me when I
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all out. Love
- El
Para mi
familia y esposo.
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apoyo incondicional.
Los Amo!
Cynthia
Armstrong

El tiempo de
Dios es perfecto. Gracias
Familia por apoyarme
y amigos por
el apoyo.
- Hermel
Bojorquez V.

I want to just
take the time to thank
you for all your
support. Thank you
mom, my kids,
my husband for being
my emotional
roller coaster. I love
you all. -
Angela Abney

Gracias por
apoyarme en todo
siempre... sin
ustedes no lo
hubiera logrado..
LOS AMO. -
J.B.

Thank you
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Dad for all their
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Thank you to my
tag team partner in
life Eddie we
did it!
Janette

Thank
to my friends
and family!!
Juan Garcia

Thank You
Dad, Mom, Audrey,
and Ellie for pushing
me and helping me
reach this point!
Love,
Brendon
Westcott

To my parents
Dr. Ross, Terri
and all of my
thank you! I
not have made
with out ya!

Finalmente!
Gracias a mi her
a mis papas y a
tia, finalmente
mi prometido. L
amo a todos
hicimos!! - Is

Thanks
to my family
for supporti
me and helpi
me all the
years!
Annel

Gracias
por todas las
personas que me
acompañaron en
el camino a lo
ahora se van
futuro
Darius

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To my parents
for always support
me in my dream
for always believe
in me and my crea
passions to help out
people. I dedicate
diploma to my
Grandpa &
Grandma

I will always
remember my
time at UTEP.
It will always
be apart of
me.

Thank
you to my family
and friends that have
helped me get to this point!
Desi, my love, without you
would not be here. Xavi &
Heather, this is for
For my Grand
F.S.H. I
F.W.

Thank you
to my family!
I would not have
been able to do it
with out your support!
Thank you John for all
that you do!
I love you all
- Rachel
Artesaga

Thank
you Mom and
God for all
the support you
have given me
throughout these
years. Couldn't
have done it
without you!
- Nicole
Reade

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none of this would of
been possible without you!
I love you guys and hope
to make you proud! Also
to both Steph, Sofia
Zoe and Levi! Love
you guys Third Generation
Miner! Go UTEP!

Thanks,
To my mom
for always supporting
me, and my loving husband
for pushing me to do my best!
Layna my baby girl!!
This is all for you!
- Junny
Luna.

Miamor,
mi tiempo y
mi pasion es
el mejor modo que
tengo para agradecer
su apoyo mis amados
hijos Karla, Omar,
Alex, Mateo and
Jose. A
Desi, my love, without you
would not be here. Xavi &
Heather, this is for
For my Grand
F.S.H. I
F.W.

University of Texas at El Paso Class of 2016

"It's been 99 years,"
but I made it! Thank
you family, friends, and
teachers! -Tanner Galt

Thank you, to everyone
that made this
possible Especially
to my husband Beau!
Love you lots
Margarita Watkins

I finally
did it! Gracias
a Dios por permitirme
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mi amado esposo y
quandos hijos por ayudarme a
realizar este sueno.
Claudia Jellery

After a long
extremely long
time I'm glad
to say I got it
accomplished!
Thank you all for
the support.
Luis Cangas

Thank you
family for your
love & support!
We made it!
Grenda
Hinojosa

Thank
you to my
friends and
family for all your
love and support!
Cynthia M.
Estela

May
all grads
encounter success
in their
lives!
-Bryon M.

Gracias
Papá y mamá
por todo sus esfuerzos
y apoyo!!! Y Gracias
UTEP por todo especial
mente porque
encuentra mi
esposa aquí!!

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in all situations
ESMAIL

Thanks
everyone
for the support
Sadler

Gracias a
mi familia!!
PARA ATRAS
NI PARA ATRAS
VVELO!!!
Thank you All!!
-Duffy

Chris
Gil #TailgateSEN

Thanks
for All the
good time and
The good people that
I met here It was
an amazing journey
monstru

Thank You
Mom and Dad
for all your
help and support.
Adriana Avila

Thank you Mom for
acknowledging my
hard work & thank you
to my little brother for
slipping snacks under my
door during long nights
of study Love you Fam!
-Vetia

Gracias
Por todo
Sin apoyo!! - Los
Sria esto no
mama posible!
Salvador, Papá,
Jm!

Thank You
For Always
Being By
My Side!
Love You!
RGR

Thank
you for
all your help
and believing
me to my family
and partner Jimmy
Love you all
over

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wonderful husband Carlos
for all the love
and support. You
helped me get to
my nursing dream.
Jash

Thanks to
my mom who is
my inspiration and
motivation through this
whole journey
Cristina
Class of 2016

Desde aqui hasta
el cielo papá
Siempre Juntos
Gracias por todo &
por siempre Hani.
Gracias LOS AMO!
- Carla Rosete

Thank you
to my parents
that never
questioned my
academic
decision!

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my parents and family
for supporting me
all the way through
Also my girlfriend
Celeste for pushing me
to success You were
all my inspiration!

Gracias papá &
mama por
su apoyo & los
Amo con todo
mi corazón
-Stephanie D.

good to
be a UTEP
student -
Maura Acosta

To David, Dominic,
Jaydon, & Elijah --
Thanks for all of
your support. I could
not have done any of
this without you.
Love you so much,
Rose Marie

Thank you
to all my
family for
all the support
I love you guys
Michelle
Acosta-Parron

Solo tengo
en mi corazón
palabras que
"Mil Gracias!" por todo
su apoyo y por estar
conmigo en todo
momento y hacer
este sueño
realidad
Los Amo

THANK YOU!
FAMILY & FRIENDS!
LOVE YOU ALL TO
THE MOON & BACK
HARRIS

Gracias
por todo su
apoyo! los quiero
mucho!
Para mi familia y
amigos,
Ale Melendez
si se pudo!

Thank
you Family
& friends for
all your support
to my son who
motivated me my
last year! BANG!
Janeline
Sánchez

Thank you mom & dad
you guys have given
everything to me and
my brothers, we all
love you so much
Luis Lujan

I'D LIKE TO THANK
GOD FOR THIS GREAT
ACHIEVEMENT I
WOULD ALSO LIKE
TO THANK MY PARENTS
FOR THEIR LOVE & SUPPORT.
IN HONOR OF JOSUE P.,
THE MAN OF FIRE.

-ZABDI DOMINGUEZ

TO BERTON AND SLATER,
you two are the
reason I have made
it this far. I thank
God for you both
everyday. All of this
is for you! Love
your mama,
Cheyenne

Thank
you to my
loving family for
supporting me on my
journey. Thank you to
my husband for his
patience and my mom
for your love. Thank you
all for never giving
up on me.

To my family,
Thanks for being
with me in this
journey without
your support that
could be impossible.
I love you,
Madeline H.

TO MY FAMILY
THANK YOU FOR
ALL YOUR SUPPORT
I LOVE ALL OF YOU
THANKS
JOHN LOPEZ

I give thanks
to my fam, friends,
music, skateboarding,
pizza, & Hamba
-Jon J.

It was fun why it
lasted. I didn't know
I was going to make
it but I thank God,
my husband and family
for all the encouragement

*Rebecca Araceli

To my family,
Thank you for
coming all the
way to El Paso
to see this big
moment. Thanks
to all my family
for their support,
Araceli C

To my family,
It is because of
you all that I can
say this is finally
happening! Lots of
Love 2 you all! Sam

To my family
and friends,
This would not
have been possible
without your support
and love

Thank you
Gwendolyn Price
We did it! To my family
THANK-YOU and I love
you your love and support
helped me through all
these years. Chris, thank you
for always pushing me. I
love you. To my English
professors, you know who you
are, thank you for allowing
me to see my potential.
I love and appreciate
you all! -April Estrada

To my family,
My daughters that
inspire me to do
my best at all that
I do! "She believed
she could so she did!"
Love you Hailey & Bella!
With God all things
are possible! Amanda
Patrice

thanks
TO MY FAMILY
AND FRIENDS FOR
ALL THE SUPPORT THEY
GAVE ME.
MARIA ISELA SANTOS

Thank you to
my friends and
family for all the
support in pursuing
my dream. I love
you all especially
to my wonderful
Adrian who was with
me all the way -Cecy

To my Mom,
I owe this all to you.
Thank you for your
unconditional love and
support always.
To my son,
I love you so much, this
is all for you! Amanda
aka Mom

Thank you
to my family &
for your help &
support! I ♥ U
Katie & Ava
♥ JESSICA
DEL PINO ♥



I thank God for all
the strenght and
blessings He gives me
everyday to accomplish
this goal, specially
my parents and loved
ones who never
gave up on me.
with love ♥
Estefania Rivera

Gracias
ama y apa
por su apoyo en
este logro, Gracy
mi amor por siempre
estar conmigo y
apoyarme y gracias
mami por creer en
mi donde estes es por ti

Thank
you for support
all the support
family & friends.
I love you all!!
Jeanne

Muchas
gracias
a mis 3 amores
x el apoyo que
me brindaron para
realizar un sueño
mas. Los amo
Javier & Adrian
& Renzica

Gracias
Gabriel Mora
y Peter Ford por
todo su apoyo. Por
creer en mi y darme
todo su apoyo.
con Amor,
Berenice
Mora.

To my Family,
Thank you for
all the support
and love throughout
my journey!
Thank you,
Brittany Guiter

Thank you,
To everybody who
has supported me
& encouraged me to
keep on keeping on
Love,
Andrea Macias

Do not go where the path may lead, go instead
where there is no path and leave a trail.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

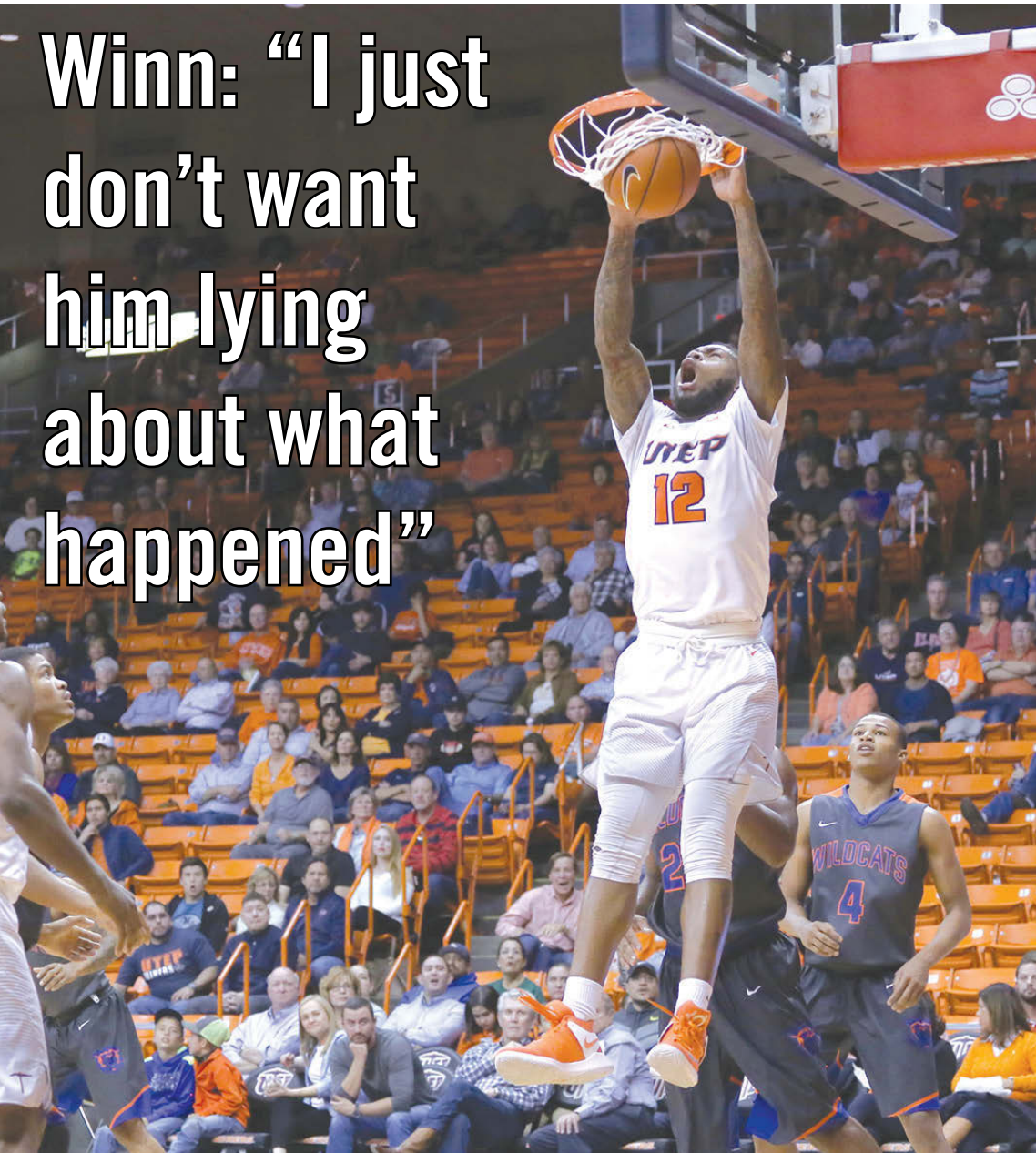
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SPORTS

EDITOR

ADRIAN BROADDUS, 747-7477

The Prospector's exclusive interview with Terry Winn on his departure from UTEP



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Forward Terry Winn decided to part ways from the team after feeling he was unjustly attacked by the staff.

BY JASON GREEN
The Prospector

Sophomore forward Terry Winn is joining the growing list of players to transfer away from the UTEP basketball program during head coach Tim Floyd's tenure after he was abruptly sent back to El Paso during the Gildan Charleston Classic on Nov. 19.

Winn played in the opening round loss against Wake Forest and scored only four points before fouling out. The game was tightly called by the officials, with a total of 23 fouls called on the Miners. Starters Matt Willms and Jake Flaggert ended the game with four fouls and forward Kelvin Jones fouled out.

The next day, Winn come off the bench for the first time all season in an 85-75 win against Western Michigan. Winn scored 10 points and had five rebounds in the middle game of the three-game set.

But, Winn was nowhere to be found for the Miners' third game two days later, which ended up being a 61-54 loss to Mississippi State. Word came from the team following the game that Winn had been sent back to campus.

No official word was heard from the basketball program until last Wednesday, Nov. 23, following an embarrassing 72-56 loss to South-eastern Louisiana—a matchup that

Winn was absent from yet again. After the game, Floyd addressed the media and said that he had not heard from Winn at all.

"I haven't seen him. He may have quit for all I know. He was benched for poor play and didn't handle it properly. We sent him home and haven't heard from him since," said Floyd. "Maybe he's through."

According to Winn, Floyd was right about one thing.

He is through.

"Yes, I had a 'bad game,' if that's what you want to call it against Wake Forest. I got in early foul trouble—big deal—but for him to claim he benched me for poor play is crazy," Winn said.

Winn also said he had no problem coming off the bench against Western Michigan and that he has often come off the bench during his career.

"For some apparent reason, (Floyd) felt as if I had an attitude about the (Western Michigan) game when I didn't. We won the game and afterward I told numerous teammates that it may have been a great idea that I come off the bench," Winn said.

Floyd has only talked to the media following UTEP's most recent loss—and his comments about Winn were limited to what is written here. The Prospector

reached out to Floyd who declined to comment.

As far as what happened on the day that Winn was sent home from practice, there are two stories; Floyd's "he didn't handle it properly," and Winn's.

"In shoot-around, (Floyd) comes in still assuming that I had an attitude about being benched the previous game and goes off on me from the jump, saying 'I'm selfish' and 'a distraction' and it's about 'me, me, me.' I just laughed him off and simply said, 'Coach, I'm trying to win the game. Man, let's prepare for this game in a couple hours, not argue,'" Winn said. "He kept cursing me, saying this and that. I brushed it off with a smile and kept saying, 'Coach, I'd rather not argue.'"

According to Winn, after asking Floyd to just let him prepare for the game several more times, Floyd got louder and louder—eventually telling him to leave "his court" and go back to the team hotel. Approximately 15 minutes later, Winn received a call from the Director of Basketball Operations Evan Eustachy telling him to pack his bags for a flight back to El Paso.

This is not the only place where Winn and Floyd's stories diverge. Floyd also said in his only statement that the team had not heard

from Winn. That statement came on Nov. 23. Winn says that he contacted the coaches, including Floyd, upon their arrival in El Paso on Monday, Nov. 21.

"I reached out Monday to three coaches, including Floyd. Nobody responded but (Bobby) Braswell, who only responded with a brief message to contact coach (Floyd), which I already did," Winn said. "None of them reached out at all, and I think if I had not reached out, none of them would have. They would have just kept rolling and told you guys I fell off the face of the earth."

Winn provided The Prospector with text messages between him and Eustachy from Monday, Nov. 21 at 7:13 p.m. requesting cell phone numbers for several coaches including Braswell and Floyd. Although Winn has proof that he asked Eustachy for the coaches' numbers on Monday, he could not provide proof that he actually contacted the coaches.

Winn did have a copy of a text sent to Eustachy asking about meal money and "release papers" from an unknown date. He says that the same "meal money, release paper" text was sent to all three coaches on Monday evening. It appears that Winn received no response from Eustachy on this unknown date.

The only verifiable communication between Winn and Floyd – according to Winn – came on Friday, Nov. 25 when the two shared a brief text exchange.

Terry Winn: "Coach Floyd this is Terry Winn just wondering when can I have the meeting about getting my release papers?"

Tim Floyd: "We don't need to talk. You want to quit go see the compliance director. I will tell him that you will be in Monday

-Screenshot from Winn's phone

Winn was never contacted from the time that he arrived back in El Paso until he reached out to the coaches on Monday. His first contact with Floyd was with the above text, according to Winn. Winn says that by the time he heard there was a plane ticket for him back to El Paso, his decision to leave the team was being made. He said that even if a coach had contacted him, he probably would have still planned on transferring.

"There's a lot of fake stuff going on in that program. No one really cares about your best interests as a player," Winn said. "Just not the best of player-coach relationships—with you one day, against you the next—as if they never knew you. But, I understand. It's a business. Nothing personal."

Winn later added, "definitely not a family oriented program."

When asked if there were anything that the staff could do or

say to keep him, the answer was simple for Winn, "nothing."

So, Terry Winn will be added to the list of players who transferred before their eligibility was up at UTEP.

Over the past six years, Arnett Moultrie, Michael Perez, D'Von Campbell, Darius Nelson, Marqywell Jackson, Malcolm Moore, Twymond Howard, Chris Washburn, Vince Hunter, Brodricks Jones, Josh McSwiggan, Lee Moore and now Terry Winn.

Winn preferred to leave speculation about Floyd and his coaching style to the fans and media when asked for comment. He did acknowledge that he knows that players have left due to Floyd's being out of touch with today's players; giving the vague answer, "new era, man," and unwilling to give details for other players who have left the team early.

Winn said his main purpose in speaking with the media in this situation is to counteract what he perceives as a gross misrepresentation of what happened between him and Floyd. He said he really does not want to be known as a "quitter," and to that extent, he was asked what his teammates have said to him about the situation.

"They all told me they will be rooting wherever I go and best of luck – same old, same old," Winn said. "I just told them I'm transferring for the betterment of my basketball development – nothing personal."

Winn will finish out the semester at UTEP—which ends on Dec. 5—and then complete the process of transferring to a new university. Winn met with the compliance department on Monday and will receive his transfer paperwork shortly. He has already been contacted by several potential coaches.

As far as his, now former, team goes, Winn said he will miss them and has nothing but kind words for his former teammates.

"I am with them. I wish them the best of luck this season. They have the best back court in Dominic Artis and Omega Harris. Matt (Willms) is a great big, who is battling with injuries, but God will see him through—and Paul Thomas is for sure going to be a great kid on and off the court—developing rapidly every day," Winn said.

As far as the UTEP fans' memories of Winn, there is one thing that he would like to be remembered for—and it is definitely not what happened on the practice court at the end of his UTEP career.

"I love the game of basketball. My on-the-court passion speaks for itself," Winn said.

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Men’s basketball searching for redemption against NSU



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP men’s basketball looks to improve their season against NSU on Dec. 3 at home.

BY MIKE FLORES
The Prospector

UTEP men’s basketball is coming off their first home loss of the new season against Southeastern Louisiana, 72-56, as they fell to 2-3 in their first five games of the year. They are looking to bounce back as they welcome Northwestern State on Dec. 3, at the Don Haskins Center. Many improvements will need to be applied throughout the game if the outcome is going to be any different this time around.

The Miners will have the luxury of a nine-day rest before their matchup against NSU before hitting the hardwood again. This is a time for them to get healthier and right some early-season wrongs.

Head coach of UTEP’s basketball program, Tim Floyd, hopes to use the week and a half off to his team’s benefit.

“We desperately need these nine days, it’s very important to our team,” Floyd said after their loss to Southeastern Louisiana.

On the other hand, the Demons, who find themselves at 2-3 as well, have three scheduled opponents before their showdown with UTEP, which will be tough contests, including Missouri and Mississippi State.

NSU started off sloppy on the road this year, posting up a 0-3 record when they are away from their crowd, and losing by more than 20 points in each of those away games. The Miners hope to continue the Demon’s bleeding when they are forced to travel.

UTEP has been notoriously good at defending the Don under Floyd, as he has marked a winning record at home in his first six years at UTEP. This season, UTEP basketball is 3-1 in the Sun City, including exhibition matchups.

However, starting forward for UTEP, Terry Winn, was not suited up in the Miners’ last loss against SELU due to a team suspension, and his presence was missed dearly. His production in the first five games of 9.7 points per game and 5.7 boards per match was hard to make-up for.

Winn Tweeted about his departure from the program on Saturday, Nov. 26.

“He was benched for poor play and didn’t handle it properly, so we sent him home. Maybe he’s through with this team. His behavior dictated the way we handled things with him. Winn has been a big distraction, and continued to be, so that’s his choice,” Floyd said. “We have a lot of guys that want to play at this level, and want to get better and have this opportunity, so I want to focus on the guys that we have currently.”

With Winn out, the Miners will need to find a way to play around his absence. Other players will be looked at to step up and take control of the starting forward spot.

Another issue that UTEP faces

and speed that he did with in Charleston. I’m worried and concerned about him trying to play through with whatever he is dealing with,” Floyd said. “His injury has been going on for four years now. It’s a very, very difficult injury to deal with, it has ended a lot of careers. You have to give him credit for getting out there—he knows we need him.”

This Miners’ team is young and still trying to figure things out before conference play comes around. UTEP is tied with Rice for the most underclassmen in Conference USA with 11 players each.

NSU will be a good measuring stick for UTEP; the Demons are battle-tested and have produced winning seasons in the last three out of four years.

“We’ve had probably the most losses in Conference USA in terms of quality players, or starters, with Josh McSwiggans, Lee Moore, Vince Hunter and Matt Willms a year ago. So we are going to start integrating new people on the fly in these next games,” Floyd said. “A lot of who we have out there right now, some of our bench, are fill-in’s late. We have paid a great price from our departures, so we are not who we are yet.”

Sophomore Paul Thomas has played in all five games and has earned the second-most rebounds on the team (6.4 per game). He and freshman center Kelvin Jones have provided sparks for the Miners, as Jones has raised Floyd’s eyebrows on a couple of instances.

“Kelvin Jones has been one of our bright spots. I feel that he is going to be a player for us. His instincts are where he needs to grow, but you can see his athleticism, his strength and will. He has not played a lot of basketball, but he’s learning,” Floyd said. “Jones has been trying to become a great player for UTEP since Willms is still ailing with his pain.”

UTEP has no problem putting the ball through the hoop and the Demons have given up over 80 points per game this season. NSU is also suffering on the defensive end when it comes to shooting percentages. As a team, their defense has allowed their opponents

shots on the team, so UTEP will need to limit them if the home team wants come out on top.

Floyd’s group has put more emphasis on the defensive end in the last couple of games, and NSU is not as lethal on the offensive part of basketball as some of UTEP’s past matchups. The Demons are not putting up more than 70 points per contest, and will have problems keeping up with the Miners’ usual efficient scoring offense, as UTEP has tallied more than 80 points in five games.

The Miners have the schedule makers on their side as they have five home games in their next six games.

“We’d like to start off with a win against Northwestern State. That’s the essence of what we’re trying to do,” Floyd said. “Offensive efficiencies would be a great place to start (when the Miners play again). We have a lot of time to work things out and we’ll continue to keep on working.”

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“We’ve had probably the most losses in c-usa in terms of quality players or starters... A lot of who we have there are fill-in’s late.”

- Tim Floyd
head coach
UTEP men’s basketball

before NSU is the health of the team’s 7-foot-1 big man starter Matt Willms, who has been solid this season. He is the third-highest scorer on the team with 13.6 points a night, and he added 22 points in UTEP’s victory over Western Michigan. Willms is the Miners’ best rim protector as he has a team-high of eight blocks on the season.

After Willms’ promising start, he has slowed down only because of his reoccurring foot problem. He will benefit the most from the time off as his projected minutes against NSU is still a question mark.

“I don’t know what’s going on with Matt and his foot. He has not played with the same burst



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Center Matt Willms will have to carry the weight of the Miners’ big men down low.

Women’s basketball prepares for Houston Baptist



FILE PHOTO/ THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP women’s basketball team is currently starting their second-worst start under head coach Keitha Adams (1-5).

BY JASON GREEN
The Prospector

Leading into the 2016-17 season, UTEP women’s basketball head coach Keitha Adams knew that

there would be growing pains with eight new additions to the team. Perhaps she did not anticipate it taking quite this long.

The team is off to the second-worst start in Adams’ 16-year ten-

ure at 1-5, but they will be looking to change that against another one-win team, Houston Baptist, on Wednesday, Nov. 30, at the Don Haskins Center.

The Miners are returning from a Thanksgiving trip to the Virgin Islands, where they faced LSU, NC State and Kansas State. They lost to all three by a combined total of 70 points. The team continues to be without last season’s leading scorer, senior guard Jenzel Nash, who was suspended for a violation of team rules.

Houston Baptist’s lone win came over Southwestern Assemblies of God prior to Thanksgiving. Most recently, the Huskies lost to Oral Roberts on Saturday by a score of 75-65.

Senior guard Sparkle Taylor continues to do all that she can to will the Miners to victory, and leads the team with 83 points during her six games played. The team’s next leading scorer has been the surprising freshman forward Zuzanna Puc with 43 points, who shoots a phenomenal .486 percent. As a team, the Miners are getting outshot by opponent’s .413 percent to .370 percent

From the 3-point range, the Miners are a dismal .226 percent, with guard Lulu McKinney still struggling to find her mark from deep. Currently she is only 1 for 23 on the season from behind the arc. Freshman guard Roeshonda Patterson leads the team, having made seven 3-pointers.

The Huskies are having as much trouble as the Miners this season

with shooting the ball. As a team, HBU is shooting .326 percent and are led by freshman forward Taylor Kollmorgen with 38 points. The Huskies not only are led by a freshman in scoring, they have eight newcomers just like UTEP.

From behind the 3-point line, HBU is shooting .297 percent to their opponents’ .400 percent. If the Miners, and more importantly Lulu McKinney, can knock down the 3’s beyond the arc, they could dispatch the Huskies easily.

Adams has harped on rebounding this year and in her team’s lone win, she saw her team set several rebounding records. The Huskies have the size to matchup with 6-foot-4 forward Tamara Seda in the middle and could pose a threat to UTEP’s rebounding numbers. The Miners average 4.3 rebounds per game to HBU’s 5.0.

If the Miners are to stand any chance of winning this game, they will have to win the battle on the boards.

There is no doubt that following a day of rest after the trip home from the Virgin Islands, Adams had her team back in the gym, where she loves to be. Wednesday will be another chance to show off their hard work, perhaps to the chagrin of the visiting Houston Baptist Huskies.

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OUR VIEW

Memorable moments for sports in 2016



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FILE PHOTOS/ THE PROSPECTOR
1. UTEP women's volleyball started off their C-USA season losing their first nine of 11 games, but finished off winning four of their last five games. 2. The 50th celebration of the 1966 National Championship team was held on Feb. 6 as the team was honored throughout the Miners' game against Western Kentucky. 3. UTEP football lost to the No. 11-ranked Texas Longhorns 41-7 on Sep. 10 despite junior running back Aaron Jones' 123 yards rushing and a touchdown. Jones finished the season with a UTEP single-season record 1,773 rushing yards and 17 touchdowns. 4. The Miner hockey team has 11 wins on the season to go with only one loss. Currently in their second season, the team participates in the newly formed Texas Collegiate Hockey Conference and will host the Conference Playoffs Feb. 9-11. 5. This summer, sophomore hurdler Tobi Amusan competed in the Olympics.

Aaron Jones—to the NFL or stay at UTEP?



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Junior running back Aaron Jones will have to decide between the NFL draft or staying his last year for the Miners.

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS
The Prospector

After they capped their 52-17 victory over the North Texas Mean Green, a wave of seniors stormed the field in excitement over their team's victory.

It was their last game wearing the orange and blue uniform and they stayed after the fireworks shot off to celebrate their last minutes as Miners. There among the celebrating players was the man of the night: Aaron Jones.

He had just come off the greatest game of his entire career, rushing for 301 yards and three touchdown hauls from 83, 48 and 53 yards.

And after all the hugs and celebrations with fans, fellow teammates and coaches, Jones walked up the Sun Bowl steps into the locker room, possibly for the last time.

It wasn't the junior's senior day on the night of Nov. 26, but due to his

exceptional performance throughout the season, applying for the NFL draft is definitely in the back of Jones' mind.

When all the post-game antics have unfolded and the media pressed the question about his future, Jones was blunt about the difficult answer to his future.

"I don't know yet," Jones said. "I'll have to talk to coach Kugs (Kugler) and have a sit-down talk with my family to see what to do next."

His brother and teammate, linebacker Alvin Jones, did not have an answer for Jones' situation either.

"It's crazy he got over 300 yards," Alvin Jones said after the victory over North Texas. "I'd love to see him in the NFL, but I'd love to see him with us too. You never know if the opportunity would come again."

That opportunity is the same one in which head coach Sean Kugler has been a part of throughout his

26 years as a head coach. Kugler, who has dealt with players at the NFL level when he was the offensive line coach for the Pittsburgh Steelers, understands players at the professional level and what it takes to get there.

Last week, the question about whether or not Jones should test the NFL waters was thrown Kugler's way. Kugler responded truthfully to this, suggesting that if his grade is high enough, Jones should really consider the draft.

"Kids do have the ability now to look for a draft grade without expiring their eligibility. And really, I would probably encourage Aaron to do that, to see where he stands," Kugler said. "If Aaron had a first-round draft grade, I would be the first one to tell him to come out because it's an opportunity that you really can't pass up. If it comes back that he's not going to be that, then we'll sit down and have a discussion and talk about his future."

Although Kugler would love to see his star player succeed at the professional level, he would miss Jones dearly on the team.

"I would love Aaron Jones to stay here," Kugler said. "Not only is he a great player, he's a leader, he's one of the hardest workers that I've been around. I'm the biggest Aaron Jones fan in the world and I want him to be successful. I'm not the one who's going to be selfish and stand in his way."

When Jones came off his 300-plus yard game against UNT, Kugler had only one short statement about his future with the Miners.

"I'd recommend he stays," Kugler said, almost foreseeing the greatness Jones can continue to bring to

the squad if he decides to stay for his senior campaign.

The first quarter of the game became another milestone for Jones as he rushed for 127 yards to beat Donald Buckram's 2009 program record of 1,594 yards and became UTEP's single-season rushing leader.

The game also brought him up to third in the nation for rushing yards with 1,773 total yards this year.

"I definitely think this was (my best game)," Aaron Jones said. "That's the most yards I ever rushed for. I've always wanted to rush for 300 yards in a game. That was amazing."

And when he crossed the 300-yard mark, it was all smiles on the sideline for the Miners.

"They said he needed four more yards to get 300, and collectively, as a team, we rallied around that," tight end Hayden Plinke said. "We were all pumped for him."

Quarterback Ryan Metz has seen Jones grow since their high school days. Metz, who played for Andress High School, would often meet up against Jones, who played for Burgess High School. Nonetheless, Metz has seen an astronomical growth from the running back since their high school days.

"I hate to say this, but I'm glad he was hurt during my senior season (in high school) or else would have killed us," Metz said. "It's amazing what he can do and I can't say how proud of him I am."

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Kosgei defies barriers to exceed academically

BY MIKE FLORES
The Prospector

One of UTEP’s cross country runners has enjoyed triumph on both sides of the spectrum, on and off the field. His name is Antony Kosgei and he is currently a sophomore majoring in environmental science.

Kosgei comes from Eldoret, Kenya, and has close to a perfect GPA, with a 3.78 average.

He has made the leap from his hometown lifestyle to the American lifestyle in great fashion. Being a member of the Conference USA’s Honor Roll is a privilege many could not add on to their resume, but he has accomplished that goal in 2016.

UTEP was an easy decision for Kosgei. His coach Paul Ereng and the majority of his teammates are also from Kenya. They have brought a feeling of home to the young cross country athlete.

“What brought me to UTEP is the opportunity for an education, and to measure my athletic talents, but the most important was my future and to get the highest education possible,” Kosgei said.

He started his running career two years ago, so his experiences have been as long as some of the other athletes in the college sport. His dedication and will to get better have put him up there with some of the best on the team.

Last season, Kosgei helped add another conference title in UTEP’s history books, which was their sixth in 12 years with Conference USA. It was their first since the 2009 season, and he placed in sixth throughout the event with a time of 24:53.

His work has translated into his second year with the program, as the Miners have gone back-to-back with the title in their possession in C-USA. In his last year of being an underclassman, Kosgei has reached great heights in his running performances. Kosgei’s conference running was impressive as he finished third for the Miners and fifth overall.

During the Mountain Regionals, he was the second Miner to cross the finish line, and good enough to snag a top-15 spot in the invitational, with a time of 31:12.80.

The sophomore finished off his athletic year strong and will look to do the same in school since the semester in winding down.

“It’s a great opportunity to be a student-athlete. I didn’t know if I had the opportunity to continue my education after high school. I thought this would be the best chance for me, and it has been the best of both worlds,” said Kosgei. “Running is physical and takes a lot of work, and you become more active. I think it transfers to academics for me. School has become easier for me, I’m more motivated.”

Learning curves are known to be difficult because it’s the value of picking up new skills, experiences, languages and a way of life. Being from Kenya and traveling to the United States is a difficult transition for anyone. However, with Kosgei one could not tell by

just glancing at his grades, skills and the efficiency in his work. He changed majors from computer science to environmental science, and has overcome the shift of classwork he has been receiving.

“When I came here (UTEP) my first year, it was a bit difficult. I could not understand some of the accents from my professors. I wasn’t used to the exams that are taken here, and running plus school at the same time was a little uncomfortable for me at first. I was not used to it yet, but I kept on pushing and working hard,” Kosgei said. “Over here we a lot more technology, compared to the manual work in Kenya. So there is a more learning materials here at UTEP though.”

Traveling is a must for a student-athlete in every sport. Cross country requires just as much time on the road as any other collegiate sport.

UTEP’s team has had eight events to attend throughout the season and only one has been in El Paso. This means every weekend for the cross country players is time away from their resources and homes. And with the success that Ereng and his group have tasted, they are putting in maximum effort on both the field and with their studies. It’s not easy doing work on the road, especially if the team’s focus is on winning an invitational.

Regardless, Kosgei has found a way to keep up with the demanding life of a college athlete.

“I’ve tried as much as possible to use my time wisely. I would have my timetable of when practice was, and when I should make time to study,” Kosgei said. “The thing that helped me out a lot is I never gave up and I kept trying. I would run everywhere from practice to class, to the study halls and meetings. It’s a lot of busy days for me.”

Kosgei hopes to be a great role model for everyone and for the younger runners, who have yet to arrive, as he has gained a lot of



PHOTO COURTESY OF UTEP ATHLETICS / THE PROSPECTOR

Sophomore cross country runner Antony Kosgei (#678) was named to the C-USA Honor Roll for his excellence in the classroom.

from the experiences of his older teammates.

After two more years, Kosgei will call it a career in cross country, but he wants to make a major impact through his junior and senior seasons. He has a lot in mind and has never taken for granted who has helped him get where he is now.

“My coaches, teammates and professors have been with me through it all. The coaches have given me an opportunity. My team has helped me every time, advising me when I need it, telling me I’ll

be fine,” Kosgei said. “My teachers have been very understanding. When I have to miss classes, I’ll email them to ask them if I missed any notes, or homework or anything important. They are all so helpful.”

Planning for the future is not always the easiest aspect of life because there are so many unanswered questions, but Kosgei knows what he is working toward. He wants to continue his education when he completes his bachelor’s degree at UTEP and strive

for a master’s degree. Meanwhile, he has not thrown out the possibility of pursuing his talents and making a career out of his running abilities.

“If I can combine both academics and running cross country in the future that would be my greatest goal that I could ever imagine,” Kosgei said. “I want to be remembered for always doing my best in everything. I want to maintain my GPA, and maybe be an example to others in a few years.”

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