

5-7-2019

# The Prospector, May 7, 2019

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THE **PROSPECTOR**  
ESSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

VOL. 104, NO. 29  
MAY 7, 2019

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO  
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# GRADUATION CLASS OF 2019 Issue



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**Middle row left to right:** Valeria Olivares, Catherine Ramirez, Brianna Chavez, Milou Petersz, Noah Sarabia.

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## Vania Castillo strides into the future

BY VALERIA OLIVARES

The Prospector

UTEP student Vania Castillo begins to blur the line between her college career and her future as a journalist as she takes part in the VICE Fellowship for Collegiate Reporting. The fellowship was created in early January of the present year.

After VICE asked journalism students to pitch story ideas about mental health, Castillo submitted a story idea about the mental health of undocumented activists.

"Activists, as it is, already struggle with a lot of problems with mental health because of lack of care and just the stress that they're under," Castillo said. "But adding on to that, the fact that these activists are undocumented, just adds a whole other level of stress."

Castillo and three other students were selected for the fellowship's inaugural semester. Four hundred pitches were sent from more than 200 universities across the U.S., according to a public service announcement by VICE.

As Castillo learns about the way that undocumented activists balance their work with their own private lives and the toll that this takes on their mental health, she will be mentored by VICE editor Ankita Rao in order to publish her story by the end of May.

Former SGA senator at large, film director and actor within UTEP's theatre department, intern at both KVIA and KTSM, in which she later got hired

to work in production, editing and reporting, Castillo sought out after challenges throughout her college career.

The thing that kept her going was her passion for storytelling.

"I was just really interested in telling people's stories, especially here in the border," Castillo said. "I think there's a very unique perspective on the world and just people in general. . . I don't know, I just really like going out and meeting different people and hearing what they have to say."

Castillo believes that opening herself and others to different stories can help her grow as a person and, in turn, as a journalist.

As a double major in digital media production and multimedia journalism, Castillo's dream is to combine her love for the two in order to create documentaries that will expose people to a world that is different from their own.

Being an El Paso local, Castillo is set on working on stories revolving around immigration, but is also interested in looking into other marginalized communities.

"I feel like it's important to give a voice to these kinds of people," Castillo said. "Especially living here in El Paso we see a very unique city with people from all different types of economic backgrounds. . . I think we're lucky in that sense that we get to see all of this."

As she becomes a first-generation college graduate, Castillo recognizes UTEP and its staff having a significant role in the opportunities that she has taken

advantage of and the position in which she finds herself today.

"I don't know where I would be without UTEP," Castillo said.

Kim McKean, an assistant professor at the department of theatre and dance, and Ramón Villa, a lecturer at the department of communication, are two particular professors who helped guide her.

"I think (Ramón Villa) really opened my eyes to filmmaking and just putting yourself out there," Castillo said. "Kim McKean has taught me to just observe the world and just to see the human interactions that we have. I would have never thought that theatre would impact the way I do journalism . . . I'm very thankful to her for that."

Villa, who teaches video production and media scriptwriting courses at UTEP, recalls the times in which Castillo was a student in his classes.

"(Vania Castillo) always had a good intuition about how storytelling works," Villa said. "She wasn't

afraid to get into some story elements that were challenging. That's something I found in Vania . . . she was always willing to challenge herself in what she was going to do."

Her work is also influenced by the electives that she was able to take through the years, such as the Chicano Studies courses that helped her learn about her background which she never learned about in the average history class or book.

As her time at UTEP as an undergraduate student comes to an end, just like almost every other soon-to-graduate student, Castillo is scared and excited for what the future holds.

"I'm terrified. I'm terrified," Castillo said with a growing smile. "Leaving here is definitely going to be very bittersweet. I'll definitely miss the university, but I think that I have definitely gained so many skills here."

Valeria Olivares may be reached at [theprospectoraily1@gmail.com](mailto:theprospectoraily1@gmail.com)



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## I was never good at headlines... adios, Prospery



BY CLAUDIA FLORES  
The Prospector

When I started at The Prospector, I had no idea what I was getting into. I had no idea one day I would see my name in the news page with the title of “editor-in-chief.” All I knew is that if I wanted to build a portfolio and become a journalist, I had to step out of my comfort zone and get my foot in the door.

In the spring of 2017, I got my shot as a contributor and even after some of the stories I wrote never got published (which I totally get why), I was never discouraged. Later, it actually paid off. I became a reporter, then an editor of the entertainment section, then multimedia editor, to finally wrap up my college adventure by becoming editor-in-chief.

It’s incredible to look back at the struggles, the stress and all the things that pile up with school and my personal life.

This place became more than just a workplace; it became a second home.

I feel so much gratitude for those who hired me, starting off with former editor-in-chief Michaela Roman and former director Kathleen Flores, for giving me the opportunity to join this team. To the old guys, Rene, Old Christian, Adrian, thank you guys for your patience and sharing your knowledge along the way.

This place has given me more than just the chance to build a portfolio; it has given me the field experience to know what to expect in the professional field.

Since the very beginning, I can say I enjoyed every event I got to cover, from attending opening shows at the dinner theater, to politics, to writing food, restaurant, and coffee shop reviews, and seeing Luis Miguel on my birthday (I wrote a review, of course.) The Prospector gave me a chance to grow professionally and personally. It gave me the experience to lead a staff, manage things with professionalism even when things got muddy, learn to work with difficult people to make things work in the newsroom, among others.

For those of you who plan on becoming journalists, let me tell you that this is the place where you’ll put on task all the skills you learn in class on a daily basis. Even when we have class assignments, there’s nothing more satisfying than covering events and writing stories under pressure and deadlines.

During my time here, I received many awards at the state level for videos and stories about our border community. Most recently, two former editors and I were award-

ed a national honor with a second-place win in the College Media Business and Advertising Managers 2019 Awards. This type of recognition is something I would have never experienced if I had not joined The Prospector. So, to all of you student journalists, trust me when I tell you that this place is a platform to land internships, network with people in the local and national media, and hopefully land a job in the industry.

To my fellow editors who are graduating with me, you guys are the best! Thank you so much for keeping up with the madness of this semester. From drama in the newsroom, to staying until 2 a.m. after covering the Trump rally, to making production nights so chill (even when they weren’t), thank you so much for your help, patience and your friendship. I couldn’t have done it without you.

Catherine, I owe you a big one for stepping up to the plate when we needed a new editor last semester. Thank you so much for doing a great job and being a great support in the newsroom. I know that you’ll do great in grad school and whatever you do, you’ll nail it. I will truly miss you, girl!

Curly, dude, thank you so much for being my right hand this semester, for helping me plan issues and for making the drama way funnier than what it was. I know that whether you go to Houston and work as a sports reporter, stay in podcasting or if you become a lawyer, you will do terrific at whatever you strive for. I will miss you a bunch, man!

Brianna, we met in the basic multimedia writing class and look at where we are right now! After struggling a lot to pass classes and stressing over procrastination, we finally made it, girl! Be sure that if you stay at KVIA or you go somewhere else, you have what it takes to achieve your goals and I know you will do fantastic! I will miss you a lot, Bri!

Christian and Ashley, I know you guys are not graduating, but this is a farewell, too, as you’ll be leaving the publication for bigger opportunities. I’m sure that whatever you do in your respective areas, you both will succeed gracefully. Thank you so much for joining me in this journey.

Verito, thank you so much for everything! I owe you a bunch of pretty paper for all those recommendation letters. Thank you for trusting me and believing in me to take over this position. Thank you for always having your office door open (literally and metaphorically) to all of us. You’re not a normal boss, you’re a cool boss, and I will miss you so much!

Tracy, thank you for keeping up with us. This semester was all about adjusting and I’m

see ADIOS on page 8



# Leadership Award recipient is devoted to UTEP community, leadership

BY JUAN CORRAL

The Prospector

Thriving student Kaelin Walker was selected for the UTEP's Leadership Award for her devotion and commitment to the student community. Walker is a junior, double-majoring in women's and gender studies and dance, with a minor in legal reasoning.

To qualify for UTEP's Leadership Award a student needs a GPA of 3.5 or higher, two letters of recommendation, must be a junior, senior or graduate student, must hold a leadership role for at least one year, and demonstrate an outstanding level of engagement in UTEP Edge. The recipient must also have participated in a minimum of two registered student organizations.

Walker has been a member of the University Honors Council and Desert Dance since her freshman year.

Walker competed in the homecoming pageant and won third place homecoming duchess which she considered her first involvement in Student Government Association (SGA).

"I feel like that was the first time I really felt school spirit and that's when I knew I was proud to be a Miner because I was representing school in that way," Walker said.

Walker was also recognized for her large participation in SGA.

During her homecoming reign, she proposed recognition for 100 years of women at UTEP with the idea of taking a photo in the form of a pick axe (inspired by the photo taken at orientation) of just UTEP women, with Dr. Natalicio present.

"This was a turning point for me as a student because I realized if I had an idea and I wanted to do something at UTEP, that no matter how big it was, it was definitely possible because the people at UTEP wanted students with good ideas," Walker said.

She was then invited to work on a book, "100 Years of Women at UTEP," published in 2017.

That same year, she ran for senator at large for SGA and was not elected, but in 2018 Walker eagerly ran again, this time victoriously. Walker recently ran for vice president of external affairs in April but came up short by 21 votes.

Walker, a student of color, an immigrant and a member of the LGBTQ community, is quite public about being part of SGA. She became the student representative for the UTEP Deserves Better Movement.

When Walker was first approached to apply for the Leadership Award by her academic

advisor, she was not quite sure if she would qualify for the award.

"It was a big application and at first I thought 'no, I don't qualify for that,' but after reading over the criteria I said, 'wait a minute, I think I do qualify for it,'" Walker said.

Walker plans to graduate from UTEP with honors with a bachelor's degree in women's and gender studies and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance performance. After, Walker wishes to earn her master's degree in women's studies followed by law school.

"After law school, I want to do legislative writing, so bill writing for our government. It's a really lofty dream of mine to become a member of congress," Walker said.

At 22 years old, Walker is a future congress leader and activist amongst the UTEP community that has elicited the change she once hoped for, while accomplishing feats worth the recognition of UTEP's Leadership Award.

Juan Corral may be reached at [theprospector1@gmail.com](mailto:theprospector1@gmail.com)



COURTESY OF Kaelin Walker

**Kaelin Walker** is this year's recipient of the UTEP Leadership Award.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

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College of Education

**Evening Ceremony - 7 p.m.\***  
College of Health Sciences  
School of Nursing  
School of Pharmacy

**SUNDAY, MAY 19**  
DON HASKINS CENTER

**Afternoon Ceremony - 2 p.m.\***  
College of Engineering  
College of Science



For general information visit  
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\*All ceremonies include undergraduate and graduate degrees corresponding to these colleges.



## See you later, UTEP



BY MILOU PIETERSZ

The Prospector

Three years ago, I transferred from Nicholls State University to the University of Texas at El Paso. I transferred looking for more opportunities as a student-athlete and academically. Without a doubt I can say that all of these wishes were fulfilled. I am very grateful for all the opportunities that have come my way while being in El Paso. As a student-athlete, I got the opportunity to compete against better schools, fly to games and I earned a spot to compete in the NCAA championships for doubles in New York. After a great first year at UTEP, I found myself suffering during games from back problems. I ended up getting surgery on my back at home (the Netherlands), which ended my career. However, this led to only more opportunities to come. As student-athletes we struggle with the lack of experience we have in the work field. We haven't had the time to take internships in our related work field and see if this is what we really want to do.

As a medical student-athlete, I took on the internship program with the marketing department at UTEP Athletics. Being able to gain experience in the office and everything surrounding game day was really enjoyable. This way I got to see what it is like from behind the scenes, rather than being on the scene.

As grateful as I was for getting professional experience as a student-athlete, I realized that I didn't have any experience related in my major field (advertising). This slightly worried me because as a foreign student I am going to take on an OPT, which allows a non-U.S. native to work for a year in their related field. When I checked my student email, I found one from the Prospector that had job openings for students with majors in communication and advertising. I knew about The Prospector when they wrote an article on me for Minero Magazine when I was still on the tennis team. I figured I should pass by the office and see if they are still taking applications. I got really excited as I applied for Advertising Account Executive and this would complete my resume as I wrap up at UTEP.

I had an interview with Veronica, the director of UTEP Student Media and Publications. I thought we had a good interview but I still had my doubts about her hiring me. I had no sales experience whatsoever or any professional experience at all to back up that I would be a great Advertising Account Executive. When I got the email that they wanted to hire me, I couldn't wait to start my first day! I loved being able to do real work independently and with a lot of freedom. I had to network and make appointments with business owners in order for them to work with The Prospector. It was a lot of fun and I am so grateful that Veronica gave me the opportunity to be great and trusted me enough to take on the position!

See you later, UTEP.

Milou Pietersz may NOT be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com

## Thank you, The Prospector



BY MALIA SIMONE GREENE

The Prospector

I started my journey here at The University of Texas at El Paso completely alone. I had no family here in El Paso. My friends went to other schools or into military service. I cried the whole week of orientation because I was so homesick. Yikes! But I had to pull myself together and start job hunting.

I was desperate for a job since I had no way to support myself through school. I applied for a work-study position at The Prospector my first semester. My first job ever. But this became more than a job for me. It was a place to learn new skills and prepare myself for what comes after graduation. I had so much support from my supervisor and other staff.

At The Prospector, I got a chance to absorb the amazing world of advertising. I didn't consider it as a career path until my senior year. My supervisor taught me the basics and so much more. I learned how to utilize the opportunities presented in front of me. My professional growth wouldn't have flourished if I hadn't listened to that advice.

I lost track of all the mistakes I made on the job. I have a bad memory and I'm a slow learner. But I was still challenged to do my best and find my strengths, which makes me grateful to my supervisor's patience and mentorship. When I applied for the Miner Ambassador program, I received nothing but support.

When I became president for the Black Student Union, I was never told that work is more important than all my obligations as president. I received encouragement to explore my interests and to fulfill my goals as a student. I believe this is what made me so happy to work at The Prospector. I don't know how I would have fared without that unlimited support and flexibility. The work environment is so positive and uplifting.

I am happy and grateful for all the relationships I formed in the office. I will always cherish the connections that had I with everyone. It made my experience come full circle. I always felt so privileged to have this job. I interacted with the student body on numerous occasions and learned a lot about the importance of being able to connect to other people.

It made me realize how influential working at The Prospector has been for me. I'm not a communications or advertising major. However, I never felt that I didn't belong there or that my experience there couldn't be beneficial to my own goals and interests. In my four years working there, I have learned that doughnuts and newspapers is an undefeated combination. Most importantly, I learned to always have a positive attitude in life because life will suck if you don't.

Malia Simone Greene may NOT be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com

# Neon Desert

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\*\*\*\*\* SUNDAY, MAY 26<sup>TH</sup> \*\*\*\*\*

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## Grateful for these moments



BY BRIANNA CHAVEZ

The Prospector

Exhausting, stressful, but exciting.

Those are the words I would use to describe my time at The Prospector.

I walked into the Student Media and Publications office during the summer of 2017, not knowing what I was getting myself into, but I knew if I wanted to become a better writer and a better journalist and become more involved on campus, I needed to start somewhere.

I knew, from The Prospector's reputation, that it would be the perfect place to do so.

I was an entertainment contributor when I first started. My first story was an album review. I had no idea what I was doing. I felt so clueless, but that's what is so great about The Prospector. You have the space to grow, and for that I will be forever grateful for.

I learned about deadlines and why they're important (and the past editors know, I barely met them, or didn't meet them at all).

I wrote stories that were never published (and now I know why).

I wasn't the best writer, but The Prospector gave me all the tools I needed in order to get better.

I knew when I chose to major in multimedia journalism, the process would not be easy. My parents were a little shocked to hear me say that I was going to pursue a career that, to be honest, does not pay very well.

There were moments where I thought I wasn't cut out for it. Moments where I thought I should have just changed my major. However, if it weren't for the friendships and connections I made here, I don't think I would be writing this column today.

Last year, our department went through several changes. We lost our amazing director Kathy Flores after she announced she would be retiring and we lost several seniors who had dedicated their collegiate experience to this office. It was a difficult transition. There were times where I felt we were barely hanging on. However, our department had people who wanted the paper to succeed despite all the changes being made—Javier Cortez, Adrian Broadus, and of course, our wonderful Director Veronica Gonzalez.

My senior year has been the most demanding. Not only was I enrolled in school full time, I was working two other jobs on top of becoming copy editor, plus the challenges and struggles I was facing at home.

However, I don't think I would have done it any other way. Even though I spent my final moments feeling like I should give up, stressed out, and exhausted, the one place I truly loved being was in the Student Media and Publications office. I covered amazing events and told important stories—President Trump's rally, the selection of a new UTEP president, and the opportunity to speak to our cur-

rent president, Dr. Diana Natalicio.

First off, I would like to thank Kathy Flores, our former director who helped me realize that I wanted to stay at The Prospector, take care of it and really commit to it during my senior year. Thank you to Michaela Roman, our former editor-in-chief. I learned so much from you during your time here. You inspired me to become a better writer and I'm so grateful that I get to call you my friend.

Thank you to Javier Cortez and Adrian Broadus for being patient with me last year, even though I know you all didn't believe in me.

Thank you to Tracy Roy, assistant director at The Prospector. You came to the department during a difficult time when lots of changes were happening. I'm so grateful that we've been able to work together. You've always given me guidance and pushed me to become a better writer and editor.

Thank you to Veronica Gonzalez. You've always believed in me and always told me that everything was going to be OK. You've been there for me during the most difficult times in my life. Thank you for helping me along the way and helping me get to the finish line.

To my coworkers (I would name them all, but you know who you are), thank you for allowing me to trust you. It's great to work at a place where you can trust people. I'm grateful for the times we've spent the wild and LONG production nights every Monday. More importantly, I'm grateful for your friendship.

To Carly Mendez, thank you for having my back and telling me like it is. I know I can always count on you. To Gigi Flores, I can't believe we made it. We've been together since the beginning when we took basic multimedia writing, and I couldn't have imagined it any other way. Thank you for friendship and being with me every step of the way.

I would like to thank my family, especially my parents. It took them a while to come around to the idea that pursuing a degree in journalism would be worth it. They have always expressed to me how proud they are of me every time one of my stories got published, even the short ones. I love you mom and dad. Thank you for all the sacrifices you've made for me and the love you give me every day.

Lastly, I would like to thank UTEP. There was a moment in my life where I felt like staying in El Paso would set me back. Most of my friends were attending other universities across the country. For a moment I resented my parents because of that and other factors that went into play. As my senior year comes to an end, I couldn't be more grateful to be able to call this university my second home. I love UTEP and I always will. I'll miss coming to class every day and walking around the beautiful campus. This university will have a special place in my heart.

Thank you UTEP and, more importantly, thank you The Prospector.

Brianna Chavez may NOT be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com



**Alpha Chi**  
National College Honor Society

## *Congratulations Texas Alpha Beta Graduates*



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**Andrew Francois**

**Johnathan Andrew Cereceres**

**Aldo Rojas**

**Danny A Parks Jr**

**Carlos Enrique Diaz**

**Nicole Gonzales**

**Pablo Arenaz III**

**Leslie Rodriguez**

**Tamara Ronique De la Fuente**

**Jesus Ochoa**

**Jessica Jean Rodregous**

**Elizabeth Contreras**

**Luis F. Garcia**

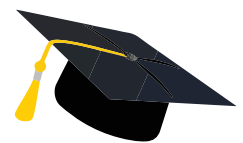
**Amanda Marie Sanchez**

**Edwin Daniel Flores**

**Halee Nicole Hester**

**Celia Elena Gonzalez**

**Terry D. Mendoza**



*Class of 2019*



# The Prospector helped me use my creativity toward my degree



BY SALMA LOZOYA

The Prospector

If you told me two years ago that I would be where I am right now, I would not have believed you. My whole college career I have worked in hair salons, not really thinking about getting any experience in what I was studying—media advertising. As graduation crept in closer, and my advisor kept asking me more frequently about what plans I had as far as my career, I started to realize I had no experience in my field. This scared me, as I never intended to work for hair salons my whole life. If anything, I had obtained my cosmetology license as a form to work through college and have an enjoyable job while I finished my degree.

It took one class announcement from Veronica Gonzalez, who was my copywriting teacher during my junior year regarding positions opening up at The Prospector, specifically in the advertising department. Previous to this, I knew little about our student publication here on campus. I saw the opportunity to work in the advertising side of the publication regardless of how intimidated I was about having what I deemed “an

office job.” Veronica is now my boss.

Getting started was not as hard as I initially thought. I worked in the advertising side of things, so this meant that I was responsible for coming up with our clients’ advertising. Whether this be an advertisement the client provided themselves or an advertisement I had full creative control over, I was finally able to test my skills in my major. What seemed like an intimidating job turned into one of the most liberating experiences for me. I had never had to do as many advertisements, let alone have clients allow for creative freedom. Seeing the ads in the new issue on Tuesday was a treat for me and motivated me to come up with something good and eye-catching so the client was happy with the way I created their ad.

It really does seem like a bittersweet moment, knowing that I will not be able to work at The Prospector after I graduate. Even after having long nights designing for a big project or thinking I wasn’t going to pull off a deadline, I never thought I’d miss it as much as I already am. Having a supportive staff helped make this experience so much more valuable. Not only did I gain experience in advertising, I also gained friendships and knowing that I have support from all the staff and my coworkers really makes it that much more special to know I am be part of this little Prospector family.

I would like to thank everyone in the office for making this experience one of the most memorable for me. I came in a scared little junior, doubting myself so much, thinking I was not going to be what The Prospector needed. I’m coming out with the most confidence as well as being proud of myself for taking a chance in a position I was uncomfortable with in the beginning. Everyone I worked with made the experience that much more pleasant; there was never a time where I felt uncomfortable asking for help, or helping others when I could. There was never a dull moment in the office. Watching everyone collaborate on the newspaper was such a rewarding process in which to participate. This experience was something that has shaped me as a professional and I appreciate having been given the opportunity to be a part of such a great team.

I hope that all of us graduating, as well as those who will continue to work for The Prospector after we leave, will be successful in whatever professional path they decide to work toward and that working for The Prospector will open as many opportunities for them as it did for many of us.

Salma Lozoya may NOT be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com

ADIOS from page 4

glad it worked out as it did. Thank you for your patience, for staying with us until 2 a.m. editing and for always helping us improve whether it was layout or writing. I hope you have a great experience with the future generations to come. I will truly miss you, Tracy!

Isabel and Marcie, thank you for always being accessible to all of us, for always receiving us with a smile and for all you do for this place. I will miss you both a lot!

To those of you who stay, take care of this place. You guys have seen how much it can give all of you and it’s your time to be in charge and continue with the Prosperity legacy.

Isaiah, Claudia, Valeria, Alexia, Priscilla, Glenda, Carolina, Teddy, Elliot, Noah, Jaqui, Michael, Michelle, Elliot thank you so much for your work this semester. I am incredibly proud of you. I know you will do great next semester and in the years to come.

It’s bittersweet to say goodbye not only to The Prospector, but to my undergrad studies at UTEP. After graduation I will continue to freelance with a local publication. I will take a well-deserved break to later come back to school to pursue a master’s degree in creative writing and hopefully become a cool writer.

So to you all, thank you, and to The Prospector, I will miss you dearly.

Claudia Flores may NOT be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com

## SSSP CONGRATULATES OUR GRADUATES

### FALL 2018

**Jessica Gutierrez**  
BS in Biological Science

**Evelyn Ruiz**  
BBA in Finance

**Evelyn Tovanche**  
BS in Biological Science

**Rhiannon Perez**  
BA in Psychology

**Griselda Sosa-Rico**  
BA in Multidisciplinary Studies

### SPRING 2019

**Brandy Caldera**  
BA in Art

**Brandon Delgado Malanche**  
BS in Computer Science

**Jezarael Gandara**  
BA in Digital Media Production

**Vivian Pongratz**  
BS in Rehabilitation Sciences

**Aldo Rojas**  
BS in Biological Science

**Miguel Carrillo**  
BBA in Accounting

**Jesus Esparza**  
BS in Mechanical Engineering

**Luis F. Garcia**  
BA in English & American Literature

**Claudia Valdiviezo**  
BS in Cellular & Molecular Biochemistry



# STAY THICK WHERE YOU WANT TO STAY THICK



# JUST \$10 A MONTH



ON THEIR ACADEMIC SUCCESS





## President reflects on tenure as her last semester comes to a close

BY BRIANNA CHAVEZ

The Prospector

Irreplaceable.

It's a common word used by the community to describe UTEP President Dr. Diana Natalicio, who has played an extremely impactful role in the UTEP, El Paso and Cd. Juárez communities for decades. Her efforts to achieve access and excellence for all students has become a staple in the mission of the university.

"I just think that, you know, we shouldn't say anyone is irreplaceable. I think what we should say is that we hope that the values will

be the same," Natalicio told The Prospector in an interview in late March.

She walked into the president's conference room on the fifth floor of the administration building sporting a black blazer with a pickax pin, a bright orange shirt underneath and of course, her classic pinned up bun.

"There's never really a good time," Natalicio said when asked why she decided to retire. "I was trying to find a logical stopping point and 30, it's a round number, right," she joked. "I mean, I don't know. For me, 30 just sounded right."

She had just returned from a collaborative event at Socorro High School put on by UTEP,

El Paso Community College and the Socorro Independent School District to encourage high school seniors to go to college—a "one-stop shop" for students as university officials helped them through the application process. That event is just one of the many community outreach efforts that Natalicio has helped implement over the decades.

Natalicio described the event as a way to promote a sense of ease for students, and reduce stress for high school seniors enrolling in college.

"The fear of failure is the thing that I think we need to try to help students (by saying), 'You can do this. You've already demonstrated

you can do it by succeeding in high school,'" she said.

### Path to success

Natalicio's passion for education came after she graduated high school.

"My own personal experience was really the driving force because I went to a very mediocre, unambitious high school," she said.

In her hometown of St. Louis, Missouri, Natalicio said the high school she went to did not push students to go to college. The male students were taught mechanics and woodworking, while

see NATALICIO page 20



## Dr. Natalicio throughout 45 years of service at UTEP

1977

*Promoted to associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts*



1973

*Natalicio assumes chairmanship of the Department of Modern Languages*



1994

*She was appointed by Bill Clinton to the National Science Board.*



1998

*UTEP celebrates 100th commencement in the Sun Bowl*

1992

*El Paso Collaborative for academic excellence is established.*



1991

*She is appointed by President George H.W. Bush to the Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence of Hispanic Americans*



1985

*As vice president of academic affairs UTEP dedicated Women's Week agenda to her*



1988

*Natalicio is appointed President by the UT Board of Regents*



1990

*Natalicio looks back at a decade of change during the State of the University address*



2001

*President Natalicio in the much anticipated ground breaking ceremony for the New Miners Sports Complex*



1998

*Student, faculty and staff celebrate Natalicio for her 10th anniversary as UTEP president.*



# Congratulations

class of  
**2019**

## Graduate

### College of Business Administration

#### Doctor of Philosophy

Rawia Ahmed  
Randika Sanjeeva Eramudugoda Gamage  
Md Mahmudul Hasan  
Lifei Xue

### College of Education

#### Doctor of Education

Karina Chantal Canaba

#### Doctor of Philosophy

Ashley Graboski-Bauer  
Lidia Herrera-Rocha  
Claudia Saldana Corral  
Lisa Ann Serna

### College of Engineering

#### Doctor of Philosophy

Nancy Selene Avila  
Tallen Ashley Capt  
John D. Ciubuc  
Carlos Alejandro Garcia Rosales  
Juan Jose Gomez Chavez  
Daniel Michael Mejia  
Matthew Mark Vechione  
Yang Zhang

### College of Health Sciences

#### Doctor of Physical Therapy

Angel Ernesto Perez

### College of Liberal Arts

#### Doctor of Philosophy

Miriam Josephine Alvarez  
Eva Nohemi Orozco Garcia  
Julie Ann Rivera  
Heather Smith

### College of Science

#### Doctor of Philosophy

Tahmina Akter  
Richard Alexander Alfaro-Diaz  
Cora Evelyn Gannaway Dalton  
Qin Gao  
Md Tariqul Islam  
Bethuel Omuiti Khamala  
Jonathon Edward Mohl  
Juan Alejandro Ochoa Chavez

### Engineering & Science Interdisciplinary

#### Doctor of Philosophy

Ishaq Olarewaju Adisa  
Paulami Banerjee  
Noemi Dominguez Ruiz  
Venkata Sai Yashwanth Injeti  
M Esther Salinas  
Carlos Tamez Jr.  
Kathryn Rose Wedemeyer-Strombel

### School of Nursing

#### Doctor of Nursing Practice

Jpy Akhigbe  
Laura Alcantar  
Dora Maria Carcoba  
Habtekiros Kahssay  
Laurence Jerome Labayen  
Maria Esther Sanchez  
Michael James Scholl  
Crystal Lynne Torres  
Mimi Echivarre Veloso  
Natasha Dawn Wardsworth  
Isabel Cristina Zuniga

### College of Business Administration

#### Master of Accountancy

Andrea Elizabeth Alvora  
Jeanette Alvora  
Claudia Samirah Baltazar  
Leandro Salvador Brandi  
Emily C. Chacon  
Ramon Galvan Jr.  
Benjamin Cristian Gandara  
John G. Hoagland III  
Jonathan Lechuga  
Shuangpei Ma  
Andres Aaron Martinez  
Maria Eugenia Martinez  
Alondra Alejandra Miranda  
Mariah Medley Novela  
David J. Otero  
Luis E. Pasaret  
Giannino Manuel Rodriguez  
Wendy J. Rodriguez  
Esteban Sifuentes  
Michael Sosa  
Armando Ugarte

#### Master of Business Administration

Rodolfo Aguilar  
Christian Alex Cabral  
Xiaofei Chen  
Luis Eduardo Contreras  
Margarita Danielle Delgado  
Edmundo Esparza  
Gilbert Favela  
Miguel Angel Fraga  
Andrea M. Galindo Leal  
Michael Garay  
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Raul Gomez Jr.  
Carolina Elena Gonzalez  
Tory Jean Johannsen  
Miguel Alejandro Maldonado  
Izabela Marta McCage  
Carlos Roberto Perezares  
Thelma Ramos  
Juan Reyes  
Melissa Jazmine Rivas  
Francisco Salazar Jr.  
Abigail Lenter Sescon  
Sanket Milan Shah  
Evan Vanderzwan  
Amandeep Kaur Wraich  
Ervin Armando Zubiate

### Master of Science

Raul Estrada  
Astrid Georgina Garcia Ramos

### College of Education

#### Master of Education

Esmeralda Aguilera  
Yvette Aguirre  
Frances De Jesus Altamirano  
Sonia Jessica Alvarez  
Kelsey Michelle Anderson  
Kristen Nichole Ash  
Erika Becerra  
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Monica Blanco  
Brooke Elizabeth Boutwell  
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Jeremy Espinoza  
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Elizabeth D. Huerta  
Mariana Kolar  
Erika Louise Lazo  
Laura Lorta  
Erica Luna  
Jessica Marie Matias-Cuesta  
Irene Marlene Mendez  
Gissel Meza  
Melissa Islas Moreno  
Kevin Joel Moussavi-Saeedi  
Alejandro Munguia  
Araceli Munoz  
Deena Munoz  
Alexis Murphy  
Andrew John Nebl  
Lizeth Ortiz  
Claudia Regina Perales  
Jessica Lavon Pilson  
Stephanie Prieto  
Arelis Raya  
Sofia Gabriela Reyes  
Cesar M. Ronquillo  
Marisol Ruiz  
Alejandra Ms Salgado  
Kaylee Sanchez  
Vanessa Marie Santiago-Larkin  
Marvelyn Scavuzzo  
Celeste Lucia Schultz  
Stephanie Senclair

Manuel Charles Serros  
Olivia Solomon  
Marisela Stanley  
Jeffrey Lewis Stevens  
Merideth Lee Stevens  
Isabel Stretton  
Rudy Tapia  
Jessica Valdez  
Raul A. Villagrana  
Rosana Villalobos Martinez  
Jorge Alberto Villarreal Arroyo  
Sandra Waldmann  
Elaine Elizabeth Whitman  
Claudia Ivonne Wilburn

#### Master of Science

Crystal Ayala  
Sarah Christine Bolanos  
Grace Ojornile Chimekwene  
Mariatzel Favela  
Angela Danielle Lopez  
Pamela Nicole Lopez  
Amberly Mabel Martinez  
Simon Oyijewu Ocheme  
Melanie Straight  
Carmen Vasquez

### College of Engineering

#### Master of Engineering in Civil & Environmental Engineering

Celena M. Arreola  
Luis Hector Guerrero  
Saul Trejo

#### Master of Science

Carlos Felipe Acosta Carrasco  
Rogelio Adame  
Akinsunbo Akinbile  
Zakia Al Kadri  
Pedro Alfredo Alvarado Heredia  
Ahmad Paiman Amiri  
Jose Antonio Arredondo Jr.  
Jeronimo Benavides  
David Ernesto Burgos Sr.  
Jose Andres Cabrera Maynez  
Diana Janneth Camacho  
Gilbert Thomas Carranza  
Israel Alejandro Carrete  
Colton John Caviglia  
Hector Cervantes Jr.  
Alvaro Chacon Jr.  
Marisol Chacon  
Swapnil Singh Chauhan  
Carlos Emmanuel Cisneros  
Jose Eduardo Contreras Jr.  
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Jorge Angel Diaz-Cabral  
William Charles Easttom II  
Melissa I. Escalante  
Adriana Escobar De La Torre  
Alfonso Fernandez

Hector Fierro  
Javed Salman Firoze  
Gabriel Felipe Galarza  
Leon Everardo Garay Acosta  
Enrique Antonio Garibay Trejo  
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Lizeth Viridiana Herrera  
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Emily Naomi Herzog  
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Xavier Andres Jimenez Guzman  
Ishjtjot Singh Kamboj  
Gabriel Llausas  
Edgar Omar Lopez  
Edgar Jorge Maguregui  
Nazli Etebari Malekzadeh  
Michael Manzanares  
Claudia Marchan  
Manuel Fernando Martinez Jr.  
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Saby Lourdes Medina  
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Mariano Mercado  
Alberto Daniel Morales  
Patrick A. Morales  
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Gina Elizabeth Moreno  
Andres Gerardo Navarro  
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Mauro Joaquin Ruiz III  
David Saenz  
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Omar David Salazar Mares  
Gerson Santos Medina  
Shaimum Shahriar  
Oscar Siegfried Veloz  
Angel Izael Solis  
Jesus Jose Valles Urbina  
Eduardo Allen Vazquez Jr.  
Jorge Vazquez  
Kristian Dominic Villanueva  
Sofia Alexandra Zea

#### Master of Science in Information Technology

Oluwafemi Abraham Ayeni  
Josuhe Neri  
Amy Rosalie Padilla  
Stephen Jennings Pruett

### College of Health Sciences

#### Master of Public Health

Tamanna Ferdous  
Alejandra Martinez  
Brianda Selene Sarmiento Rodriguez  
Ingrid Natasha Simons  
Sally Merlin Voss

### Master of Rehabilitation Counseling

Nicole Gonzales  
Damaris Guerra  
Fabián Marquez  
Salvador Rios Jr.  
Sue Smith  
Jessica Snow  
Alexis G. Vargas

#### Master of Science

Magda Vedenice Alvarado  
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Stephanie N. Escobar  
Victoria Fierro  
Lance Dakota Gruber  
Lulani Nichole Martinez  
Callie Mae Mathis  
Celeste Orozco  
Kendra Nicole Rosales  
Olivia Alyzza Ruiz  
Briana Arlene Sanchez  
Loren Renee Sotelo  
Lisa Jacqueline Valles  
Katelyn Nicole Vera

#### Master of Social Work

Amanda Amaya  
Rosalba Blanco  
Alysha Rachelle Brady  
Matthew Christopher Bryan  
Perla Magaly Chaparro  
Paola Chavez Payan  
Victoria Adriana Compean  
Violeta Maria Curlee  
Agueda Yamel Dagda  
Breanna Mae DeLong  
Delia Dominguez  
Cynthia Lucero Gonzalez  
Edith Gonzalez  
Jennifer Guerra  
Juan Vicente Guerrero  
Rebekah M. Kulowski  
Ishmael Israel Lopez  
Laura E C Marquez  
Jennifer Martinez  
Leonardo Martinez  
Destiny U. Miramontes  
Jose Angel Molinar  
Crystal Morales  
Laura Chavez Orozco  
Jamie Rivera  
Hebert Rocha  
Elizabeth Rodriguez  
Cristina Guadalupe Schaffino  
Nicolas Daniel Silva  
Edgar Arturo Talavera Ruiz  
Denisse Andrea Violante

### College of Liberal Arts

#### Master of Arts in Teaching

Andrea Elena Reveles

#### Master in Public Administration

Deanna Toccars Carson  
Dewey Eugene Clemons Jr.  
Pierre Giuseppe Crescimbeni  
Dominique Mone Davis  
Cassandra Suzanne Davisson  
Jason T. Herring

University of Texas at El Paso



# University of Texas class of 2019 at El Paso

Raloma Iveth Jimenez  
Raul B. Marquez  
Guy William McGunegle  
Jeffrey Martin Nail  
Barbara Cibeles Nascimento  
Conceicao  
Reinier Perez  
Luis Omar Perez Rivera  
Marcus Pitts  
Vincent Steven Pokluda  
Brice Donovan Rae  
Cleber Ribeiro da Costa  
Mayra G. Rodarte  
Rudy Rodriguez Jr  
Richard Joseph Russell II  
Ana Isabel Sandoval  
Chris Thrasher  
James William Van Zilke

## Master of Arts

Erric Allen  
Andrea Michelle Anderson  
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Ruth Arras  
Araceli Arroyo  
Susana Mariel Arzate  
James Justin Baxter  
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Roberto Guadarrama  
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Benjamin Hammer  
Giavanna Lillian Haseley  
Christopher John Haymon  
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David Carl Hultquist  
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Isidro Abuchahama Intave  
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Harold Eddie Jarrell  
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Winifred Renita Love  
Inês Atanásio Mahumane  
Honório Dos Santos Eugénio Manjor  
Maria Erica Marin  
Alexandra R. Martinez  
Pablo Geronimo Martínez Coronado Sr.  
Rocio Irene Mejia Garcia  
Juan J. Mendoza  
Stephen Shane Mercer  
Fabiola Alejandra Meza  
Michelle Denise Millen  
Mónica Molina Arredondo  
Pablo Manuel Morales  
Spencer Morris  
Michelle Estefania Munoz Cisneros  
Luis Omar Pacheco  
Jenny Sonya Patino  
Edmundo Anibal Quinto Pinto  
Manuel Humberto Ramirez Jr.  
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Todd Lawrence Reiser  
Roger Andrew Renteria  
Angelica Rey Acevedo  
Ashley Monique Rodriguez  
Shantanu Rojatkhar  
Alejandra Sifuentes  
Rafal Piotr Soroka  
Mark David Stinson  
Luis Miguel Suira  
Joshua Lance Thompson  
Andrea Torre  
Claribel Torres Giraldo  
Dora Maria Tovar Gutierrez  
Justin Trimble  
Ru Tu  
Cody Tveten  
Andrea Michelle Urbina  
Julián Ramiro Vargas Daravina  
Gladys Helda Vega  
Paula Andrea Vidal Arboleda  
Michael David Wahl  
Jessica Wells  
Michael Joseph Wiles  
Michael Lane Wiley  
Benjamin Lee Williams  
Charles L. Wilson  
Christina Lynn Wilson  
Scott Alan Wolfe  
Megan Elizabeth Zigler

## Master of Defense & Strategic Studies

Adam J. Carlson  
Winston Castillo  
Thomas Leroy Christesen II  
Ben William Dojaquez  
Esperanza Fuentes  
Jeremy Todd Hendrix  
Steward Evert Hogans  
Scott Joseph Holzerland  
Mei Ling Konstantynowicz  
Shawn Lawrence Le Tang  
Julie Ariana Loya  
James Lee Mudd  
Matthew J. Reed  
Scott Richards

Albert Acevedo Rodriguez Jr.  
Marco Schinella  
Dion Simpson  
Thomas Gilberto Sotomayor  
Elmostafa Talha  
Derek Max Yazzie  
Jamaal DeShawn Young

## Master of Fine Arts

Francisco Javier Barraza Alonzo  
William Ramon Daugherty  
Martha Carolina Davila Diaz  
Warren O'Sullivan Decker  
Luz Alba Hernandez  
Crystal Lynn Hurd  
Fiorella Daphne Manrique Ponce  
Oscar Antonio Moreno Huizar  
Irma Leticia Nikicicz  
Melissa Anne Nurczynski  
Kristen Leigh Olin  
Jesus Joseph Pena  
Xochilt Alejandra Sequeira Aguilar  
Maria Lorena Sosa Rodriguez  
James Jackson Walzel  
Nicole Anne White

## Master of Music

Carlos Enrique Barba Cederborg  
Alejandro Carrillo Pastrana  
Jacqueline Rachel Hale  
Adam Trice Mayhall  
Michelle Doris Shaheen  
Ashley Crystelle Venegas

## Master of Science

Laura Patricia Alonso  
Shawn Patrick Hutson  
Tonantzin Graciela Lozano  
Shawn Kenneth Naeegele  
Mai Han Nguyen  
Juan Urbina

## College of Science

### Master of Arts in Teaching

Brenda I. Delgadillo  
Sarah Michele Garcia  
Md Easin Hasan

### Master of Science

Sharmin Abdullah  
Angel Adrian Aguero  
Angela C. Aguilar  
Ricardo Avila Escobedo  
Kabita Baral  
Laxman Bokati  
Benard Owusu Dechi  
Mirza Mohammad Maqbul Elahi  
Raymond Anthony Ford  
Karla Patricia Godinez Macias  
Garrett Thomas Goff  
Arturo Vicente Gonzalez-Lopez  
Govinda Bahadur KC  
Patricia Andrea Lozano  
Lois Mendez  
Haley Caitlyn Miller  
Ezequiel Arturo Moreno Flores

Modupe Ore Odusanya  
Chukwuemeka Nwābueze Okoro  
Jazmin Quezada  
Nathan Zachary Reade  
Jose A. Rosales  
Sergio David Samaniego  
James Edward Snell  
Mahendra Subedi  
Xiang Yang Teng  
Surya Prasad Timilsina  
Denisse Urenda  
Mariana Vasquez  
Bofei Wang

## School of Nursing

### Master of Science in Nursing

Alexa Monae Acosta  
Christine Grohs Agerlid  
Nicole Kristin Aguirre  
John Akunne  
Nicole Ann Alaniz  
Juliana Anjos  
Victor Manuel Armendariz Jr.  
Yvonne Aubel-Mazza  
Nancy Adriana Barraza  
Julio Cesar Barron  
Kristin Neille Becker  
Jessica Pauline Bowen  
Patricia Loya Castro  
Florence Ifeyinwa Chinwuba  
Paul Adam Cline  
Maria Lourdes Coca  
Kenneth Collins  
Lynn Cubela  
Angelica del Toro  
Baldemar Espinoza  
Stacey Estes  
Margarita Favela  
Shannon Elizabeth Finklea  
Anna Marie Flores  
Claudia Gallardo  
Bryan Alan Garcia  
Brandon Allen Gauthier  
Camille Gerdes  
Audrey S. Gilliam  
Jerardo Gonzalez  
Shelly Marie Green  
Raul Mendez Guevara  
Sarah Lynn Harlass  
Christine Marie Hernandez  
Lisa Marie Herrera  
Kellie Hoskins  
Daniel Kelly  
Ariana Lugo  
Manuel Madrid  
Diandra Argelia Maldonado  
Pedro Juan Maldonado Camacho  
Nayeli Martinez  
Corey Mikes  
Erin Marie Mina  
Dolapo Molaria Mitchell  
Mary Mwangi  
Jessica Y. Navarro  
Tracey Lyn Nutter  
Gabrielle Olivas  
Angel Virgilio Pagan  
Renee Patlan  
Amanda Marie Petersen  
Dorothy Anne Pottle

Miriam Aidee Quiroga  
Nancy Ramirez  
Maria Isabel Rodriguez  
Jennifer Teresa Rolley  
Cintia Rosenbaum  
Kathleen Elizabeth Ruman  
Dion Anthony Saenz  
Janet Lea Salcido  
Adriana Sanchez  
Sharon Irene Sanchez  
Ricardo Serrano  
Rachel Shaw  
Caroline Sims  
Rhonda T. Sipe  
Adam Skidmore  
Rickie Jean Soberanes  
Juan Luis Soto  
Kristen Marie Stansbury  
Ferdinand Parfait Tabi  
Atem Leke Tambo  
Larry Eugene Terry Jr.  
Manuel Tobias  
Monica Tom  
Diane Elizabeth Turner  
Jazmin Vasquez  
Sabino Vega Jr.  
Jessica Veliz  
Kimberly Nicole Ventura  
Blas Edward Villa  
Humberto Villalobos  
Anthony Joseph Viscon  
Bronta Lenise Wegesa  
Anna Lara Wilkins  
Nicole Marie Wolf  
Olga Lilia Yeager  
Norma Alicia Yee  
Daniella Simona Ytuarte

Ileana Jeanette Breceda  
Ricardo Carrillo  
Darion O. Cazares  
Juan G. Cazares  
Ana Griselda Coronado Martinez  
Alejandro Delgado  
Valeria Delgado  
Adriana Guadian  
Roberto Guevara Jr.  
Otto Guillermo Gust Jr.  
Talmid Issac Maldonado  
Alberto Mata Jr.  
Getsemani Molinar  
Alec William Mondello  
Justin David Morrison  
Erick Munoz Luna  
Ivan Alejandro Olivas  
Adrian Ontiveros  
Miriam E. Oseguera  
Miguel Antonio Perez Ceballos  
Carlos Rodriguez  
Marjili Alejandro Rodriguez  
Armando Saucedo Jr.  
Luis Fernando Sierra  
Alexandra Torres  
Cesar Enrique Valenzuela Holguin Jr.  
Melanie Rose Walker  
Niluk Stefan Wikkramatillake

## Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering and Management

Nathan Alexander Gonzalez  
Angel Rosales

## Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering

Aldo Alcantara Guardado  
Abdulaziz M. Alotaibi  
Abdulmajeed Faisal S Alshareef  
Lizeth Arredondo  
Steven Andrew Cardenas  
Bianca Castillo  
Julio Castro  
Fleance Chrystagally  
Kimberly Charl Cortez  
Eduardo Davila  
Dexter Escanilla Deniega  
Walter Doerne

## SPRING 2019 CANDIDATES

### Undergraduate

### College of Engineering

### Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering

Jesus M. Avila III  
Cynthia Margarita Balderrama  
Marcos Alan Banda Morales

Congratulations and  
good luck to  
all of our graduates!

-College of  
Business Administration

Class of 2019

Congratulations  
Graduates  
from the  
College of Science!

Congratulations,  
wishing you success  
in your future endeavors.

Accounting and Information  
Systems Department

Center for Accommodations  
and Support Services

BEST WISHES TO UTEP'S  
2019 GRADUATING CLASS.

THE FUTURE  
BELONGS  
TO YOU!

Alberto Duenes Ibarra  
Sergio Arturo Felix  
David Flores  
Manuel Galindo Jr.  
Norma Angelica Granados  
Natalie Patricia Hernandez  
Jonathan Frank Johnson  
Sarah C. Manzano  
Steve Meraz  
Mauro Morales Jr.  
Hector Raul Mota-Aguilar  
Efrain A. Palacio Leos  
Gerardo Parra  
Abraham Ponce  
Damaris Renteria  
Daniel Rios  
Josue Rivera  
Adrian Rodriguez  
Jesus Joaquin Rodriguez Jr.  
Victor Manuel Rodriguez Jr.  
Luis Alfredo Rojas Aguilar  
Samuel Anthony Ruybe  
Alyson Esperanza Sanchez  
Kent C. Solis  
Antonio Emilio Teijeiro  
Daniel Enrique Terrazas  
Daniel Tinerva  
Sharon S. Underdahl  
Andrea Alexis Vasquez  
Matthew Henry Wood

#### Bachelor of Science in Engineering Leadership

Crystal Rose Barrera  
Andrea A. Duenez  
Roberto Esteban Espejo  
Steve Martin Galicia  
Jared Jude Gardea  
Carlos Juarez III  
Vanessa Monique Lopez  
Miguel Alberto Lopez-Adame  
Nestor Lucero  
Callie Ann Mitchell  
Vanessa Moncayo  
Hugo Alfred Rico  
Joshua Alejandro Rodriguez  
Luis R. Rodriguez  
Ivan Vazquez  
Araham Alejandro Zuniga Herrera

#### BS in Computer Science

Bianca Chanel Alvarado  
Bianca Sarahi Alvarez  
Francisco J. Antunez  
Sebastian Ayala Urtaza  
Anthony G. Ayo  
Zachary Jordan Bell  
Alan Jordi Caldelas  
Joaquin Castro  
Julio De La Cruz Jr.  
Brandon Delgado Malanche  
Alejandro Diaz  
Noa Shea Dodson  
Taylor Rayne Dodson  
Bryan Ricardo Figueroa  
Stephanie Figueroa  
Luis G. Flores Jr.  
Annadiley Gallegos Garcia  
Daniel Alejandro Gomez  
Isai Gonzalez  
Laura Gonzalez  
Sebastian Gonzalez  
Elsa Gonzalez-Aguilar

Joseph Alvaro Gutierrez Jr.  
Peter Gustav Hanson  
Laura Julie Hinojosa  
Luis Carlos Jimenez  
Ryan Jones  
Abigail Lira  
Stephanie Loya  
Andrew John Madrid  
Alan Daniel Marin  
Reynaldo Martinez Jr.  
Roman Alejandro Martinez  
Farhana Akter Munni  
Sebastian Nunez  
Xochitl Judi Oliveros Salazar  
Michelle Esmeralda Patino Calero  
Sebastian Xavier Quinones  
Jorge E. Ramirez Carrasco  
Alexis Nicole Reyes  
Francisco Rodriguez  
Chris W. Santos  
Edward Steven Seymour  
Daren Martin Solorzano  
Christopher Wyatt Tovar  
Gerardo Uranga  
Alan A. Uribe  
Abisai Vasquez  
Timmy Lee Williams Jr.  
Steven Yeh

#### Bachelor of Science in Industrial & Systems Engineering

Mohammad A A A M Abutaleb  
Grecia Acosta  
Arturo Alejandro Acosta Solis  
Abdullah Emad Alabdulkarim  
Hassan Alajmi  
Saud Kh A A M Alenezi  
Mohammed Bander Almutairi  
Hadi M Dh A A M Alshemmeri  
Yaqoub Aghr Ashkenani  
Aylin Alejandra Camacho Soto  
Becky Espinoza  
Luis D. Galvan Jr.  
Jaquelin Govea  
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Antony K. Kosgei  
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Omar Yair Osuna Escobedo  
Estephany Rascon  
Alberto Reyes Terrazas  
Renata Schaefer Garza Castillon  
Jaime Alan Torres  
Adriana Villalpando

#### BS in Mechanical Engineering

Ahmad Omar Abu-Issa  
Kenya Guadalupe Aguilar Palomo  
Ahmad GH N H GH Aladwani  
Mohammed Ibrahim H Albaqqal  
Ramon E. Aleman  
Khaled Alenezi  
Ibrahim H SH B Alkhalidi  
Saad Almhjan  
Abdulaziz Salem Almethen  
Fahad Saad Saud Almutairi  
Abdulwahab J. Alnajem  
Alhumaidi M. Alotaibi  
Eid A E R M Alouthaina  
Talal F. Alsaedi  
Saud M. Alsubaai  
Jazmin A. Arellano  
Chantal Atienzo

Muhammad Azim Idham Azmi  
Mohamed Majdi Azzam  
Ismael Baca Meza  
Luis Eduardo Barba Reyes  
Cesar Andres Borgaro  
Roger O'Dell Brown  
Yadira Isabel Calderas  
Oscar Camarillo  
Jayr Francisco Cardenas  
Emiliano Castillo  
Jairo Castillo  
Pablo Elias Castrejón Ponce  
Javier Alejandro Chavarin  
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Luis Normando Gandara Mendez  
Abraham M. Garcia  
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Cynthia Garcia  
Isidro Sebastian Garcia  
Juan Diego Garcia  
Luisa Fernanda Garcia  
Christian Gomez  
Nancy Gonzalez  
Nicholas Gonzalez  
Eduardo Alfonso Grajeda Martinez  
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Jonathan Michael Gutierrez  
Lucia Gutierrez Lara  
Guillermo Nicolas Gutierrez Serrano  
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Alexandra Hernandez  
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Stuart Paul Kohn  
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Carleigh Elaine Simmons  
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Jocelyn Torres  
Salvador Torrijos  
Manuela G. Toscano  
Daniel Valtierra  
Jaime Varela  
Pedro Antonio Vazquez  
Carlos Daniel Vizzarra Alvarado  
Christian Alexis Zamora

#### BS in Metal. & Mat. Eng.

Esteban Escarcega  
Israel Favela Trevizo  
Emmanuel Levario  
Victor Eliseo Mendez  
Sebastian Moncayo  
Ivan Maximiliano Montes  
Ramirez  
Abraham Zamora

#### College of Liberal Arts

##### Bachelor of Arts

Analisse P. Acosta  
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Melissa Aguero Orozco  
Carolina L. Aguilar  
Irving Alejandro Aguilar  
Ailene Lili Aguirre  
Cristal Viridiana Aguirre  
Santiago Fernando Alcantar  
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Joanna Alvarez  
Lesly Sarah Alvarez  
Monica Haide Alvarez  
Erika Amezaga  
Mitzi Nicole Anguiano Zarate  
Ana Grecia Antunez  
Sammy J. Apodaca  
Latrell E. Archer  
Hilda Nohemi Arellano  
Jessica Armendariz  
Annabella M. Attaguiile  
Alejandro Aveytia  
Narda Andrea Avila Delgado  
Jacqueline Balderas  
Daniel Scott Barnhorst  
Brianna Rosario Barrientos  
Diana Laura Becerra  
Christopher Bejarano  
Mary Angelea Bejarano  
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Juan Antonio Beltran Jr.  
Andrea Bencomo  
Carson Scott Bennett  
Alexandra Berrios  
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Matthew Donald Brink  
Eva Leticia Briones  
Jose Daniel Brisenio  
Lilia Brisenio  
Amber Bruner  
Joseph Bueno  
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Melissa Carrillo  
Samantha Michelle Carrillo  
Jannie Casas  
Paige N. Casey  
Ashely Belle Casillas  
Neliada Castellanos  
Nelida Guadalupe Castor  
Jon Erik Castro  
Viviana Margarita Cateau  
Arlene Elaine Caudillo  
Johnathan Andrew Cereceres  
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Aime Deer  
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Maleny Janet Diaz  
Hugo Dominguez  
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Blanca Edith Duenas  
Julia Duenas  
Carmen O. Duran

Kimberly Ann Durr  
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Albert Enriquez  
Asael Enriquez  
Shani Enriquez  
Vicente Enriquez Jr.  
Christopher M. Esparza  
Erica M. Esparza  
Luis Fernando Esparza  
Aztecatl Espinosa  
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Joshua Falconi  
Domingo Farias  
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Rocio Fierro Perez  
Edna Elena Fitzmaurice  
Edwin Daniel Flores  
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Claudia Veronica Garcia  
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Linda Beatriz Garcia  
Luis Felipe Garcia  
Priscilla Garcia  
Vivian Alexis Garcia  
Ingrid Patricia Giese  
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Daniel Gonzalez  
Daniela Gonzalez  
Jose Antonio Gonzalez  
Sarah Naomi Gonzalez  
Sarai Gonzalez  
Darlene Gonzalez-Rosales  
**Lorenzo Martin Granadoz Chavez**  
Malia Simone Greene  
Jeremie Jeremian Griffiths  
Adam Guajardo  
Miguel Angel Guerrero Martinez  
Adrian Paul Gutierrez  
Darina Esther Gutierrez  
Itzel Gutierrez  
Juventino Gutierrez  
Ismael Gutierrez-N II  
Alexander Javier Guzman  
Aleyna Michelle Halatyn  
Karla Esmeralda Hawkins  
Meshelemiah Henderson  
Laura Mae Heredia  
Alexander Hernandez  
Ana Carol Hernandez  
Jasmin Anahi Hernandez  
Laura Hernandez  
Jesus Armando Herrera Jr.

Stephanie Allison Herrera  
Ana Jazmin Herrera Aquino  
Abel Alexander Jaquez  
Julio Cesar Jaramillo-Reyes  
Kristen Marybeth Jimenez  
Kaitlin M. Johnson  
Andrew Jesus Justus  
Martha Elia Korniyama  
Cenaída Georgina Lather II  
Timothy Isaiah Lerma  
Andrea Lopez  
Andrew Jesus Lopez  
Diana Lizet Lopez  
Kevin Chase Lopez  
Mariana Lopez  
Robert Joseph Lopez  
Katryna M. Lord  
Ricardo Javier Loya  
Darsy L. Lozano  
Stephanie Paige Lozano  
Salma Lozoya  
Paola Fernanda Lugo  
Jasmine Monique Luna  
Melissa L. Macias  
Joseph Edward Madrid  
Joshua Justiss Madrid  
Carolina Magdaleno  
Rebecca Maldonado  
Andrea Gabriella Marcum  
Ivan Marquez  
Paola E. Marrero  
Eric Martell  
Jason D. Martin  
Adrian Martinez  
Ana A. Martinez  
Eric Martinez  
Homero Noe Martinez  
Jorge R. Martinez  
Mario Martinez  
Mayra Alejandra Martinez  
Rebecca Martinez  
Xzavier Martinez  
Nicole Alyssa Mata  
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Gerardo Medrano III  
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Demi Renee Mimbela  
Ana Karen Miramontes Loya  
Gabriela Irani Miranda  
Krista Marlen Mireles  
Jose Javier Monsisvais  
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Alejandro Montiel  
Yazmin Dolores Mooney  
Breana Nichelle Morales  
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Martyn Angel Morales  
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Abigail N. Moreno  
Megan R. Moreno  
Anthony Joseph Mottern  
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Brittany Moyers  
Mario Omar Muniz  
Brittney Munoz  
Rebecca Jean Munoz  
Estevan Michael Murillo  
Giselle Murillo  
Natalia Anali Murillo

**Congratulations to  
all the graduates  
and much success  
in the future.**

Office of the Dean of Students

**CLASS OF 2019**

**Congratulations Grads!**

- Department  
of English

**The Department of Geological Sciences  
would like to congratulate each  
of the graduates of Spring 2019.  
We wish you the best of luck  
in all of your future endeavors.**

**You ROCK!**

- Geological Sciences

**Congratulations on  
your recent graduation!**

This educational achievement  
is a significant milestone in  
your life and is highly  
commendable.

As you consider your options  
following your graduation,  
consider pursuing graduate  
studies at UTEP.

-THE GRADUATE SCHOOL



# THE UNIVERSITY OF

Congrat

CLA  
O

20

I thank my family  
for your support  
and the ROTC program  
for giving me a chance  
thank you  
mom & dad.  
for everything  
Jake DeV

congratulations  
Nursing Students!  
Good luck to  
everyone!   
- Ali Fuentes.

Thank you  
to the  
Brothers of  
EAB

thank you  
to all my love-  
ones specially  
my hubby and  
mom. I  
thank you  
for everything!  
this is for you  
Westlyn  
Thank you  
for everything  
mom.  
Jonathan  
Gutierrez

Thank you  
to my  
mom, brother,  
and my son!  
- Sarah  
Frances

gracias mi  
Dias, a mi  
familia los  
sacrificios si  
tienen  
recompensa  
- Milca  
Moraes

Thanks  
mom, Dad  
I couldn't  
do it  
without  
you  
- Joseph

Gracias a  
mi familia &  
mis amigos  
por todo su  
apoyo.   
- Futura Adviana  
enfermera Diaz

Thank you to  
my parents  
for all the love  
and encouragement!  
Love,  
Victoria

Thank to  
my family and  
met my mom and  
wife

Congrats  
2019

gracias a  
mi familia  
por siempre  
apoyarme  
- Luisa  
Garcia

With God  
and my mom  
everything was  
possible, thank you!  
- Nadia

Thanks mom,  
dad & Shaz!  
- Mirael  
Gracias a mi  
familia por su apoyo!!  
Stephanie  
Prieto

Thanks to  
my family  
for helping  
me through these  
4 years!  
- Cynthia Rae

This goes out  
to all the veterans  
who are choosing  
new careers!  
Thank you to my  
family & the U.S. Army  
- [signature]

Thank  
you  
Mamma &  
Daddy! I  
love you

Thank  
you Mom  
for all your love  
and support!  
Love you,  
Luis  
Pared

Thank you  
Mom + Dad + love!  
we did it!  
Half way there!  
Chris

Thank you  
family & friends - Paola

Thank for  
everything!  
Prosper Family  
- Malia

Thank  
you God, mom,  
papa & amigos.  
#08101011 Again  
- Samantha  
Fierro

Congrats  
to my  
DAUGHTER  
KAYLA  
VILLERAS

Thank you  
guys for  
EVERYTHING!  
I love you

GRACIAS  
AMIS PAPAS  
POR CREER ENMI!  
LOS AMO  
- Michelle  
Anarado  
Muchas gracias  
por el apoyo  
de mi familia.  
Los amo y  
me siento bien  
orgullosa  
- Michelle Neder

Thank you to all  
my family for the  
support!  
- Julianne

Thank you  
for everything  
Jose Rico  
Thanks  
for everything!  
- Travin

20  
19



# F TEXAS AT EL PASO

## ulations

ASS  
F

19

K you  
grandma  
ain't Berntha  
always  
being there  
for me.

I'd like to  
Thank my mom,  
dad and sister  
for supporting  
me through these  
4 years of hard  
work. -Jeremie G.

Congrats  
everyone!  
We all did  
this together

we did it  
guys!!  
congratulations

Gracias a mi  
familia por  
todo el apoyo  
-Alejandro M.

Gracias  
Por todo  
el apoyo  
y esfuerzo  
-Daniel  
Martinez

Thanks  
mom and  
Dad for getting  
me through this!  
Love you all!  
-Maida

"No one exists  
on purpose. no  
one belongs  
anywhere." -Morty

Congrats  
class 2019  
for EE  
\*Thank you  
Mom & Dad  
-Victoria L.

Thank You  
Mom & Dad  
For Everything  
Thank You  
God  
-OF

To my kidos!  
this is for you!  
you care about  
IT!

Gracias a mi  
familia y amigos  
por hacer esto  
posible. Los  
amo  
-Valeria  
Dominguez

Thanks  
mom  
We did it  
-Vivi

Gracias  
por todo el  
apoyo y amor!  
Los quiero!  
-Claudia

Family!  
couldn't do it  
without you!  
-Ashley

THANK  
ME  
FOR  
ME

Thanks  
Everyone for  
the support, we  
did it!!!  
-Rome Isaac

Congrats  
Dad!  
Adam  
Alvarado

Thanks  
Mom & Dad  
Love, gi

Thank you  
mom!!!  
We did it  
-Vivi

Familia  
Los Amo  
gracias por  
su apoyo. Esta  
es para  
ustedes  
-Panda

Thank you  
papi  
papi en este  
logro!

Gracias  
Many y  
Jilly  
Thanks Mom!  
-Arie M.

Thank  
you  
to my parents  
& fam.  
-OL

Thank you  
for  
an amazing  
experience!  
-Isabel O.

Thank you  
mom  
for everything!  
-Brianna!

Thank you to my  
parents & David for all the  
support these last 2 years.  
Love you all  
-Megan

Thank you  
Britane  
Murd

Thanks  
for coming  
guy S.  
Luc E.  
Gracias to your  
support my children  
Vernita, Jonathan  
Luisito, Jeremiah  
Kuzmore

Wow  
So glad this  
is our  
year  
that ties Every one

Thank you  
friends, family  
& staff!  
-Andrea V.

Thank you  
family for all  
your love and  
support  
-Kim Diaz

Thank you  
family for all  
your love and  
support  
-Kim Diaz



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19



Alexis N. Najera  
Jesus Roberto Najera  
Sarah Nicole Najera  
Jesenia Priscilla Navarrette  
Rafael Sebastian Navarrette  
Kellie Margaret Newport  
Eduardo L. Noriega Jr.  
Anthony Jessie Nunez  
Bridiana Nunez  
Aprial G. Ochoa  
Isabel Olivares  
Jaqueline Olivas  
Rosita Ontiveros  
Jacklyn Orellana  
Domonique Orozco  
James Adrian Ortega  
Haide Ortiz  
Valeria Ozuna  
Mayra Eydie Pacheco  
Jazmin Padilla  
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Pedro Alex Partida  
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Casie Jeen Pedregon  
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Alejandra Perez  
Ariana M. Perez  
Britney N. Perez  
Maria R. Perez  
Perla G. Perez  
Milou Pietersz  
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Erik Ivan Prieto  
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Marylou Raphael  
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Jessica Aurora Reyes  
Salvador Reyes III  
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Omar Adrian Siegfried  
Milagros Sierra  
Jared Timothy Sievek  
Zachary Martin Silva  
Kevin Carlos Smith  
Elizabeth Solano  
Melisa Soriano  
Amanda Renae Sosa  
Ruben Soto Jr.  
Gerald Wayne Stewart  
Jessica Alexandra Stone  
Kevin Strombel  
Idalia Suarez  
Felipe Roberto Talavera  
Sharlene Marie Tandy  
Maria Soledad Tarin  
Steven A. Taylor  
Katie Lynn Tepezano  
Felipe Ernesto Terrazas  
Celeste Simonet Thomas  
Priscilla Thomas  
Andrea Elizabeth Thompson  
Christopher Ryan Thompson  
Selena Tinajero  
Alejandro Torres  
Alyssa Renee Torres  
Benjamin Eduardo Torres  
Maria Luisa Torres  
Andrea Tovar  
Brianna Dawn Newton Trejo  
Ronnie Antonio Uribe Jr.  
Mario Jonathan Valadez  
Crystal C. Valdez  
Karen Ashley Valdez  
Alejandra Aimee Valdez Carrasco  
Christie Marie Valenzuela  
Roxanne Van Ruiten  
Dania Vance  
Stephanie Sarahi Vargas  
Joseph Anthony Vasquez  
Rebekah Elena Vasquez  
Susana Vega  
Nicole Christine Velarde  
Gabriella Berenice Velazquez  
Alexandra Vidali  
Pamela Ines Vigo-Sanchez  
Alejandra Villarreal  
Rosalinda Villarreal  
Anacristina Villegas  
Lauren Ashley Viramontes  
Emily S. White  
April Woods  
David Isai Yeverino  
Ricardo Zaragoza  
Adrian Omar Zavala  
Mercedes J. Zavala  
Edward Zach Zuloaga

**Bachelor of Fine Arts**

Andrea Victoria Ariza Barba  
Jared Christopher Berry

Hugo Hiparco Brito  
Patrick Sean Chavez  
Rene Alexander Delgado  
Bianca Saprina Diaz  
Lucero Espinoza Calderon  
Barbara De Anne Evans  
Michelle Kristi Fluekiger  
Gabriel J. Franco Kull  
Nichole Audrey Hardgrove  
Ashley Christine Martinez  
Jaxs Alexis Munoz  
Karla Sofia Perez Lopez  
Jeffrey Dannel Quintana  
Arianna Jeanette Rodriguez  
Jose Angel Salazar  
Louie Salazar  
Victoria Salmeron  
Lauren Taylor Wagner  
Marissa E. Whitaker

**Bachelor of  
Multidisciplinary Studies**

Joshua Isaac Abraham  
Estephania Acosta-Hayen  
Stephanie Nicole Albright  
Alba E. Alvarez  
Diane Marie Apodaca  
Steven A. Armendariz  
Crystal Avila  
Silvia Ayala  
Emmanuel Becerra  
Veronica Becerra  
Jacob Joseph Belpedio Sammut  
Alexander Randolph Bohler  
Cornelius D. Brown  
Darius Ammier Brown  
Vilma Evelina Burman  
Gregory Cardenas  
Emily Teresa Caro  
Naomi Cervantes  
Ariel Chavez  
Kaitlin Amasa Conner  
Nicholas Cordova  
Christopher Coronado  
Jessica Cortez  
Jeannine Lisa Crowell  
Joann Julie Cubillos  
Yolanda G. De La Rosa  
Christel Delgado  
Israel Delgado  
Alexander M. Dennis  
Pamela Diaz  
Lilia Duenas  
Ayan Dutt  
Adele Mahina Escobedo  
Rosa P. Estrada  
Bethany Marie Felton  
Melissa Flores  
Katrina Rhiannon Forti  
Keynan Selwyn Foster  
Javier Adrian Fraire Pena  
Ashly M. Franklin  
Enrique Gallegos III  
Almendra Garcia  
Karen Hernandez  
Nerea Hernandez Escobar  
Armando Ibarra  
Jerome Shelby Isaac Jr.  
Victoria Lynn Jeffress  
Jolene Victoria Keipp  
Chantele Flemlister Krabill  
Luis Gerardo Lares  
Victoria Lynn Leos  
Elaine Naomi Leyva

Miguel Lopez  
Carmen Adela Lozano  
Charles Luevano  
Hailey Kristina Macias  
Damaris Martinez  
Gabriel A. Martinez  
Patricia Martinez  
Javier Mateos-Campos  
Ryan C. Mattison  
Rene Ivan Maynez  
Daniel Mendez  
Bianca Yolanda Mondragon  
Vincent Morua  
Alejandro Munoz  
Samuel Morillo Jr.  
Ricardo Luis Olivarez Jr.  
Christopher M. O'Neil  
Amanda Leigh Ontiveros  
Ricardo Perez  
Jasmine Phan  
Hector Portillo  
Yvette Ramos  
Brenda Lizath Reyes  
Paola Rimada  
Melinda Rivera  
Valorie Camille Rivera  
Julio C. Rodriguez  
Marco Rodriguez  
Randy A. Ross  
Daniela Ruan  
Janine Ruiz  
Samantha P. Rutledge  
Adriana E. Sarabia  
Taylor Aubrey Sargent  
Manuel Saucedo Jr.  
Dionne Marie Siava  
Alexandra R. Sotelo  
Audrey Adele Spearman  
Michael Robert Tipton  
Ariana Torres-Guerra  
Abel Arturo Valenzuela  
Joseph A. Vazquez  
Christina Viramontes  
Roger Dung Vu  
James Kenneth Wilson

**Bachelor of Music**

Annie S. Aguilar  
Orlando Javier Barajas Soria  
Jesus Ramon Burciaga  
Rita M. Canava  
Samantha Victoria Chavira  
Shannon Alicia Clark  
Samantha Davalos  
Tiffany L. Davis  
Victor Xavier Diaz  
Suzanne Marie Graham  
Raul A. Medellin  
Cristina Melendez Rascon  
Juan P. Palacios Jr.  
Carlos E. Pedroza  
Raymond Nicholas Perea III  
Paul Joseph Reid  
Caleb Ryan Tullius  
Mikaela R. Valdez  
Rene Varela Torres

**Bachelor of Science**

Michelle Alvarado  
Desiree M. Aragon  
Jazmine Andrea Arreola  
Francisco Arriaga Pazos  
Brenda Carreno Barraza

Cynthia Alicyn Buell  
Lorena Graciela Calvillo  
Daniela Gonzalez Catarino  
Arelly Guadalupe Contreras  
Delmarie Delgado  
Valeria Alexa Dominguez  
Jose Ignacio Echeverri Alegre  
Karen D. Flores  
Grace Flores-Robles  
Ana Fuentes  
Antonio Garcia Silva  
Erika Leslie Guedea Morales  
Halee Nicole Hester  
Sabrina Naomi Hill  
Japheth Daniel James  
Alejandra Maciel  
Luis-Alberto Magallanes-Duarte  
Natalie Nicole Melgoza  
Omega Michelle Najera  
Daniella Julia Nemecek  
Leslie Ornelas  
Laura Estefanie Orozco Aguayo  
Stephanie A. Paz  
Mariana Paola Ramirez  
Daniela Sarai Ramos  
Erika Mirelle Rios  
Arturo Rubio  
Dominique Yvonne Saldana  
Diana Michelle De Leon  
Anita Cherie Deblois  
Florbeatriz Delgadillo  
Paola Ivonne Delgado  
Karma Dema  
Georgina Diaz-Escandon  
Valeria Simone Diaz-Pacheco  
Briana Dominguez  
Gilbert Sebastien Dominguez  
Nohemi Alicia Dominguez  
Ana R. Duenez  
Esmeralda Duenez  
Jose Ignacio Echeverri Alegre  
Christina Marie Eckels  
Jochain Daberechi Eddi  
Theresa Rose Edmonston  
Alondra Elizalde  
Susan Paola Enriquez  
Victor Hugo Erives Jr.  
Gabriel Armando Estrada  
Eleazar Fierro  
Amanda Rae Flores  
Daniel Flores  
Jerrica Michelle Foster  
Valeria Ariel Franco  
Valerie Gallegos  
Hiram Gameros Garcia  
Adalberto Isaiah Garcia  
Lizette Garza  
Steven Brion Glover  
Alejandra Gomez  
Celia Elena Gonzalez  
Desiree Seleste Gonzalez  
Meela Grey  
Oscar Manuel Guerra  
Thomas Jacob Guinto  
Anthony Gutierrez  
Dawa Wangchuk Gyalpo  
Hazael Hernandez  
Samantha Hernandez  
Grecia Hinojos  
Raymond Holguin  
Jessica Ann Hopkins  
Daniel Ibarra  
Zachary G. Jennings  
Amber Nicole Jernigan  
Joshua Duane Joyner

**College of Science**

**Bachelor of Arts**

Ramon Chavez Jr.  
David Esparza Jr.  
John Matthew Gilbreath  
Karina Leon

**Bachelor of Science**

Patricia Ablanedo Morales  
Susmaury Acosta  
Miriam Maytee Aguilera Nava  
Kristen Ayda Ahumada  
Laila Saeed Al Saihati  
Edgar Aldama  
Hassan Nazir Aldaz  
Gloria Juarez Aldrete  
Sandra Aleman  
Idhali Alonzo  
Taylor Alexandria Alonzo  
Guadalupe Alvarez Rodriguez  
Miranda R. Amato  
Kevyn Abraham Amezcua  
Stephanie Renee Anchondo  
Daniel Andrade  
Miriam Rebecca Aragonez  
Pablo Arenaz III  
Nikkita Marie Arras  
Melinda Sue Arrieta  
Bianca Victo Augustain  
Athulya Gijo Augustine  
Victor Avila  
Francisco Ayala Rodriguez  
Seham Zoheir Azzam  
Madelyn Kenna Babst Jr.  
Isabel Barraza  
OJ Barrera

Dania Yin Barroso  
Ariadne Beanes  
Claudia Isabel Becerra  
Paul Gabriel Beltran  
Madison Leah Bencomo  
Laura Bounuda  
Sara Cathe Bustamante  
Lauren R. Camarillo  
Karla Gabriela Cano  
Hernandez  
Yuliana Cardoza  
Daniela Vanessa Carrera  
Deidrah Carrillo  
Melissa Casas  
Luisa Fernanda Castillo  
Aida Alejandra Castro  
Alfredo Cera  
Alexis P. Cervantes  
Karla Chavez  
Courtney S. Chesanek  
Aaron Nicholas Clark  
Kylie Renee Cole  
Francisco Contreras  
Denisse Corona  
Sofia Corral  
Angela Victoria Correa  
Lindsey Renee Dacey  
Erika Miche De alba  
Diana Michelle De Leon  
Anita Cherie Deblois  
Florbeatriz Delgadillo  
Paola Ivonne Delgado  
Karma Dema  
Georgina Diaz-Escandon  
Valeria Simone Diaz-Pacheco  
Briana Dominguez  
Gilbert Sebastien Dominguez  
Nohemi Alicia Dominguez  
Ana R. Duenez  
Esmeralda Duenez  
Jose Ignacio Echeverri Alegre  
Christina Marie Eckels  
Jochain Daberechi Eddi  
Theresa Rose Edmonston  
Alondra Elizalde  
Susan Paola Enriquez  
Victor Hugo Erives Jr.  
Gabriel Armando Estrada  
Eleazar Fierro  
Amanda Rae Flores  
Daniel Flores  
Jerrica Michelle Foster  
Valeria Ariel Franco  
Valerie Gallegos  
Hiram Gameros Garcia  
Adalberto Isaiah Garcia  
Lizette Garza  
Steven Brion Glover  
Alejandra Gomez  
Celia Elena Gonzalez  
Desiree Seleste Gonzalez  
Meela Grey  
Oscar Manuel Guerra  
Thomas Jacob Guinto  
Anthony Gutierrez  
Dawa Wangchuk Gyalpo  
Hazael Hernandez  
Samantha Hernandez  
Grecia Hinojos  
Raymond Holguin  
Jessica Ann Hopkins  
Daniel Ibarra  
Zachary G. Jennings  
Amber Nicole Jernigan  
Joshua Duane Joyner

Sangeeta Priyanka Kurada  
Arabella A. Lino  
Bruce Nicholas Lomeli  
Tillett Lomeli  
Leslie Ayleen Lopez  
Luis Alejandro Lopez Ledezma  
Joachim Edmundo Lucero  
John P. Luevano Jr.  
Adrian Gustavo Luna  
Chase Everett Mackey  
Kristine Alyssa Magallanes  
Marybel Arai Manriquez  
Miguel Angel Manriquez Jr.  
Daniel Martinez  
Karla Martinez  
Kathy Marie Martinez  
Leila Alejandra Martinez  
Lisa M. Martinez  
Mike Martinez  
Reynaldo Martinez Jr.  
Alexis Dominique Mata  
Mariah Aracely Matos-Nunez  
Luis Miguel Maynez  
Magda Christine McClendon  
Nasttassja G. Medina  
Luis-Ignacio C. Mendiola III  
Daniela Luisa Mendoza  
Margie Meza  
Tania Guada Miramontes  
Ivan Nathaniel Miranda  
Amanda R. Mitchell  
Jaime Molina  
Karina Nicole Monticone  
Andrea Celeste Morales  
Leonela Morales  
Sarah Jasmine Morales  
Cynthia Rae Moreno  
Michael Eduardo Moreno  
Sebastian Gage Muncrief-Saldivar  
Ana A. Nava  
Alondra Navarrete  
Krysten A. Navarro  
Susan Giselle Nevarez  
Elizabeth Noriega Landa  
Valerie Nunez  
Katia Elizabeth Ochoa  
Janet Jacqueline Olivas  
Rafael Ornelas  
Oscar Jacob Ortega  
Samara Ortega  
Tania Ortega  
Aneka Grace Otero  
Valerie Renee Papa  
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Breanna Chantal Pence  
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Valerie M. Perez  
Magaly Perez Rodriguez  
Alejandra Pina  
Sara Ezat Pourjavaheri  
Angelica Quinones  
Preetha Rajkumar  
Idalis Malika Ramirez  
Juan Luis Ramirez Jr.  
Paola Ramirez  
Jesus Manuel Reyes  
Desiree Elizabeth Rios  
Daniela Arian Rodriguez  
David Rodriguez  
Gloria Rodriguez  
Leslie Rodriguez  
Vanessa Rodriguez

Pongezi    Congratulazioni    Gratulacje  
おめでとう    祝贺    Parabéns  
Félicitations    Поздравляю    انيذاهت

**Congratulations!**

Hats off and picks up to our graduates for all that you have accomplished at and contributed to UTEP. We wish you the best as you continue your journey as global citizens.

-Office of International Programs and Study Abroad

As this chapter of your UTEP journey comes to a close, be inspired by the many successes you have achieved and the dreams you have realized. May your future be filled with bold new beginnings and unlimited possibilities.

**Congratulations!**

**Class of 2019!**  
**- UTEP President's Office**

**Congratulations on graduating, Miners!**

**We encourage you to continue mining for knowledge, think in terms of your community in your future successes, and DO NOT be afraid to RE-CREATE what the world needs. We look forward to hearing from your accomplishments!**

**-Recreational Sports Department**

**Congratulations Class of 2019**

**Housing and Residence Life**

Ysenia Nicole Rodriguez  
Aldo Isac Rojas  
Benny Adrian Rosales  
Celeste Marie Rosales  
Ronald Alberto Ruiz  
Christian Lee Sajz  
Ibrahim Feras Salama II  
Carina Amanda Salazar  
Luis Alberto Salazar  
Brianna Brissa-Marie Sanchez  
Lizette Sanchez  
Luisa Maria Sanchez  
Maria D. Sanchez  
Pamela Isabel Sanchez  
Valerie Sanchez  
Marisela Sanchez Alonso  
Valeria Ileana Saucedo  
Marisela Ivonne Seanez  
Emily T. Sena  
Denise Sherwood  
Cristina Gavaldon Sifuentes  
Adrian Silerio  
Maria Isabel Siles Asaff  
Ruta Simanavicius  
John Byron Snell  
Carolina V. Solis  
Marco Enoc Soto  
Paola Alejandra Suarez  
Itzel A. Tejeda  
Kira Maria Tiula  
Dina Torres  
Gabriel Trevino  
Lluvia Vanessa Trevizo  
Uguy Samdrup Tshering  
Jenna Nicole Turza  
Humberto Galo Urrutia Cedillos  
Ana Marcela Valdez  
Karen Rocio Valdez  
Claudia Alejandra Valdiviezo  
Ivan Rene Valenzuela  
Kassandra Mae I Valerio  
Jessica Vasquez  
Aaron E. Vazquez  
Elizabeth Dolores Vicencio  
Neha Vijay  
Elizabeth Michelle Waldrop  
Hyung Kyung Suh Yi  
Gerardo Zavala

#### College of Education

#### Bachelor of Arts

Gabriela L. Aguilar  
Maria Fernanda Baca  
Theresa Mary Cataldi  
Ingrid Irasema Favela  
Penelope Garcia Fernandez  
Ruby Gonzalez  
Rebecca Albina Hernandez  
Luisa Fernanda Legarreta  
Jorge Luis Lopez  
Priscilla Marie Luevano  
Itzeli Areli Martinez  
Mariana Mendoza Del Valle  
Celeste M. Meza  
Martina Murillo  
Valeria Angelica Ocano  
Tania Orellana  
Debra Oropeza  
Mariana Palacios  
Samira Ponce De Leon  
Marcia Sofia Ramos  
Aide Rivera  
Nancy B. Rivera  
Ariadne P. Ruiz  
Marisol Sifuentes  
Luz M. Torres  
Lauren Lisa Vargas  
David Anthony Vijil  
Anna Sophia Villalobos  
Nallely Villalobos

#### Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies

Denise Acosta  
Korina L. Arras  
Vibrianna E. Avila  
Alicia Fernanda Camargo  
Casey Diana Cenicerros  
Kristina Alma Cicchetti  
Jessica L. Cortez  
Destanee Brianne Cruz  
Claudia Del Valle  
Kimberly Lee Diaz  
Jennifer Yvette Fematt  
Yessica Fernandez Acosta  
Natalia Galvan  
Paulina Garcia Medina  
Amanda Nicole Gomez  
Irma V. Guerra  
Leeza Marie Gutierrez  
Yasmeen Hamdan  
Andrea Herrera Cabral  
Fernanda Jimenez

Arlene Lozano  
Yvette Lujan-Rodriguez  
Karla Leticia Martinez Gutierrez  
Paola Leticia Martinez Gutierrez  
Vianey Miriam Medina  
Leslie Meraz  
Savannah M. Nieto  
Anahi Olague  
Liliana Victoria Ortiz  
Ariel Alexis Patino  
Andrea Carolina Perez Lopez  
Liliana Iveth Ramos  
Jose E. Rodriguez  
Mary-Elizabeth Rye  
Rocio A. Santos  
Jessica Sarmiento  
Ana Cecilia Solis  
Mayra Ramos Torres  
Lauren Kristine Walker

#### College of Business Administration

#### Bachelor of Arts

Isabella Rene Caro  
Sarah Valadez

#### Bachelor of Business Administration.

Ryan Abraham  
Alyce Kristin Acosta  
Jocelyn Paulina Acosta Barraza  
Socorro Monserrat Aguilar  
Jesus Aguilar-Arroyo  
Zaira E. Akhtar  
Rebecca Alba  
Farah Ziad Aldasouqi  
Victoria Aurora Aleman  
Ian Angelo Alvarado  
Ruben L. Alvarado  
Albert Alvarez  
Patrick Andrew Alvarez  
Sarah Alvarez  
Yanette Amparan  
Gregg Matthew Anaya  
Jacqueline Andrade  
Michael R. Antisdell  
Isaac L. Armendariz  
Denis A. Arras Jr.  
Joshua S. Arriaga  
Carlos Avalos  
Padraic Nolan Baily  
Kimberly Alexis Barba  
Melissa Barbosa  
Cristian Hael Barron Mora  
Karen R. Benavides  
Cynthia Bermea  
Pamela Cecilia Blanco  
Zevanda Lisel Borjon  
Francisco Botello Jr.  
Kenneth Charles Boyd  
Christian S. Bravo  
Darius Devon Brown  
Daniel J. Bueno Jr.  
Leticia Bueno  
Alondra Alexandra Burciaga  
Erika Denise Burnett  
Eduardo Camacho  
Ana Cecilia Camargo Tellez  
Javier Cardenas-Munoz Jr.  
Mario Alberto Carranza  
Juan Pablo Carrasco Palacios  
Eduardo Carrera  
Alexis Nicole Carrillo  
Miguel A. Carrillo

Jennifer Pamela Castro  
Brenda Lizette Cenicerros  
Caitlin Christine Cervantes  
Ileana Jocelyn Chacon Garcia  
Nefertiti Chavarria  
Andres Armando Chavez Ordenez  
Anais Chavira  
Zachary Chenoweth  
Ruth Isabella Clark  
Jose Daniel Colon  
Eduardo Alejandro Contreras  
Robert Michael Corbin  
Christopher Cordova  
Claudia Cortes  
Jessica Denise Cortez  
Miguel Angel Cortez  
Sonia Cortez  
Daniella Cruz  
Eduardo De La Rosa  
Michelle Yazmin De La Rosa  
Melany De La Rosa Cangas  
Dargelle Arissa De La Torre  
Alfredo De Santiago  
Oscar A. Del Valle  
Isaac Yahir Delgado  
Krystle Delgado  
Silvia Delgado  
Emily A. Diaz  
Victor Diaz  
Aaron David Dominguez  
Benjamin Dominguez I  
Diana Valeria Dominguez  
Marco Antonio Dominguez  
Paula Giovanna Dominguez Parra  
Jaqueline Dominguez Villalba  
Chencho Dorji  
Kesang Tshomo Dorji  
Marianna Duarte  
Andrea Dulche  
Gaetane Edouard  
Alexa M. Enciso  
Jodie R. Enokson  
Victor Alejandro Enriquez Silva  
Amy Cristina Espinola  
Ignacio A. Esquivel  
Karen Michelle Favela Escobar  
Justin Robert Fawcett  
Francisco Alfredo Fernandez  
Jacqueline S. Fernandez  
Jason Dwight Filley I  
David Flaco  
Amanda Liane Flores  
Argelia P. Flores  
Erika Flores  
Gustavo Flores Jr.  
Jairo U. Flores  
Natalie Elaine Flores  
Marisol Flores-Moreno  
Adriana Marie Franco  
Jennifer Franco  
Omar C. Frausto  
Brenda Arely Fuentes Ortiz  
Naidid Gallardo  
Kay Gamboa  
Abraham Rodolfo Gandarilla  
Jonathan Derek Garcia  
Joshua Nathaniel Garcia  
Antonio Garcia Ceja  
Michael Randy Gibson  
Andrea Giner Vega  
Pablo Ginther Gongora  
Celeste Gomez  
Denise Michelle Gomez  
Elsa Leilani Gomez  
Rene Gomez

Andrea Gonzalez  
Gustavo Gonzalez Ur.  
Jocelyn Itzayana Gonzalez Apodaca  
Valeria Guadalupe Gonzalez Munoz  
Isis Yuritzi Grajeda  
Rosa Emma Granados  
Gabriel Guillen  
Hector Daniel Gutierrez  
Jessica Eileen Gutierrez  
Kimberly Guzman  
Gerardo Hansen  
Stephanie Brooke Hart  
Jason David Henry  
Aylin Paola Heredia  
Enrique Hernandez  
Estefania Hernandez  
Jared Hernandez  
Karla Edith Hernandez  
Keren Areli Hernandez  
Rebecca Hernandez  
Edward Lee Refugio Herrera  
Jesus D. Herrera  
Iris Jazmin Hita  
Natalia Huerta  
Erik Gerardo Hupfer  
Jacob Matthew Hupfer  
Qusai Wael Issa  
Daniel Trinidad Jaso  
Arlene Yadira Jasso  
Antonio Jeremiah Johnson  
Mandy Michelle Kruse  
Stephanie E. Lara  
Mariana Leyva  
Laurence Loisel  
Samuel Longoria  
Mathew G. Looney  
Allan Lopez  
Elaine Yamilis Lopez  
Esther D. Lopez  
Junior A. Lopez  
Savannah Monique Lopez  
Sara Gabriela Lopez Parra  
Isaac Lopez-Hurtado  
Celeste Marie Lucero  
Leonel Lucero Jr.  
Mario Allen Luna  
Brian K. Lynch  
Mariana Madero Guerrero  
Alexis Magallanes  
Cecilia A. Magana  
Hector Aaron Maldonado  
Judith Maldonado  
Tiffany Maldonado  
Zenia Karyme Maldonado  
Breeana L. Mapes  
Jessica Samantha Mariscal Quintana  
Adrian Michael Martinez  
Alejandro Martinez  
Denise C. Martinez  
Maria Elena Martinez  
Matthew A. Martinez  
Meghan Renee Martinez  
Rosario Inez Martinez  
Samantha Marie Martinez  
Raul Isaac Martinez Rodriguez  
Victoria Marissa Matos  
Christina Darlene Mayorga  
Raul Antonio Mena Jr.  
Raven Rose Mendez  
Gisela Itzayana Mendoza  
Luis Angel Meza  
Devin Mikael Mina  
Erika Idaly Miranda  
Tania Monarrez  
Maria Montanez

Giselle Montoya  
Juan E. Montoya  
Fernando Moreno Villarreal  
Mallory Sue Mosher  
Gabriel Alejandro Munoz  
Diego Munoz Mendez  
Saul A. Murillo  
Mark Alexander Myers Jr.  
Jessica Alejandra Nevarez  
Cesar A. Nunez  
Juan Jose Nunez  
Angel K. Odriozola  
Landry J. Oliver  
Adrina Aileen Oliver  
Luis Eduardo Olivera  
Norma Daniela Ovies  
Leticia Pacheco  
Leslie Padilla  
Frida Naomi Paez  
Sethavuth Paradee  
Justin Robert Paxton  
Monica G. Pena  
Claudia Angelica Perez  
Nawang Tobgay Phuntsho  
Matthew Edward Pinho  
Jonathan Polanco  
Karla Elizabeth Ponzo  
Alessandra Marina Portillo  
Bernardo Eugenio Prado  
Christian M. Prawel  
Angel Anthony Quintana  
Luis Quintero  
Edgar Quiroga  
Jessica Quiroz  
Maria Salette Quiroz  
Arthur D. Ramirez  
Jazmyne Danielle Ramirez  
Jonathan Ramirez  
Levi Jefferey Ramirez  
Manuel David Rendon  
Valeria Renteria  
Daniel Jaime Reyes  
David Cuauhtemoc Reyes  
Sonam Rinchen  
Antonio Alfredo Rios Jr.  
Bianey D. Rios  
Roland A. Rios  
Horacio Rios Vega  
Kimberly Michelle Rivera  
Kimberly Preci Rivera  
Ricky Robles  
Brianda Susana Rocha Vejar  
Donna Rodela  
Jessica Elizabeth Rodriguez  
Jesus Rodriguez  
Mary Rodriguez  
Viviana Irais Rodriguez  
Juruby Romero  
Ashley Rosales  
Stephanie Rubio Saenz  
Corinna Salas  
Adrian E. Salazar  
Angel Lee Salazar  
Giselle Saldana  
Lilian Estela Salgado Chavez  
Monica Sanchez  
Nayha Sekhani  
Pamela Sepulveda  
Anthony Shiner  
Erika V. Sianez  
Daniela Sifuentes  
Andres Sol  
Serena Rose Soledad  
Abril M. Solis  
Sofia Solis



Congratulations to  
the graduating Class of 2019!  
May you keep reaching your goals  
as you embark on the next journey  
in your life.



Go Miners!

-Student Engagement  
and Leadership Center

#### Congratulations on your graduation and well-deserved success

Johnathan A. Cereceres	Daniel Andrade
Nathaniel Luke	Hector D. Gutierrez
Alicia F. Camargo	Raul Gomez
Kaitlin Johnson	Stephanie Paz
Paulina Espinoza	Carlos A. Chavira
Mitzi Anguiano	Raul Reza
Kristen Ahumada	Marcos Banda
Aylin P. Heredia	Luis Miguel Suira
	Steve Meraz



STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
ASSOCIATION  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO



Wishing all Spring 2019 UTEP graduates  
continued success and achievement.  
Thank you for letting us be a part  
of your educational journey,  
we look forward to being part of  
your bright future as well.

Congratulations from the  
UTEP Division of Student Affairs





# Congratulations

class of

# 2019

Kevelin C. Sosa  
Leslie Sosa  
Natali Sosa  
Nohely Sosa  
Gustavo Soto  
Candace D. Swindell  
Paul E. Thomas  
Zih Yun Ting  
Donitza Marie Tirado  
Jonathan Torres  
Cindy I. Trammell  
Clara Elizabeth Trevizo  
Sebastian Uribe  
Saidah Angelica Valenzuela  
Abigail Valles Acosta  
Aaron N. Varela  
Jessica Vargas  
Alfonso M. Vasquez  
Coral Ivonne Vazquez  
Rafael Vega  
Gabrielle Monica Velasquez  
Jimmie Villa  
Tania Villa  
Andrea Paulette Villalobos  
Luis Alonso Villalobos  
Ricardo Villalobos Jr.  
Raul Ivan Villarreal  
Deanna Vitela  
Gerardo Vizcaino  
Jessica Daniela Zaragoza  
Junkai Zhong

## College of Health Sciences

### Bachelor of Science

Megan Melis Acevedo  
Joshua Benjamin Alfsen  
Federico Alvarez III  
Celeste Anahi Alvidrez  
Jovana Antunes  
Lorena Arredondo  
Alonzo Q. Astorga  
Macey B. Austin  
Brenda Carina Baca  
Jackeline Baca  
Martha Lizze Bazan  
Lauren Maree Betance  
Ariel Jae Blair  
Kimberly Cabral  
Mauricio Calvo  
Daisy Cardenas  
Sergio Castaneda  
Bricia Castrejon  
Aaron Anthony Cervantes  
Andrea Janeen Cervantes

Lauren E. Chacon  
Nayely Rocio Chacon  
Aaron M. Chavez  
Alyssa M. Chavez  
Erica Nicole Chavez  
Jose Carlos Chavez  
Kayzang Chimm  
Ashlyn Scout Colon  
Hugo Alejandro Cordova  
Jennifer Lee Courtright  
Itzel Natalia De La Torre  
Josue Delgado  
Miraal Shafik Dharamsi  
Chantal Diaz  
Rosa Elvira Escalante Lopez  
Ronda Nancy Esper  
Adriana Estrada  
Cynthia Estrada  
Leslie Estrada  
Andres Horacio Fernandez  
Emily Flores  
Melissa Flores  
Marcos Flores Calderon  
Kirsten Angela Franka  
Marion Dewey Franklin  
Allison Arlette Garcia  
Gloria Paola Garcia  
Maida I. Garcia  
Sebastian Saul Garcia  
Georgina Alejandra Garcia Bustillos  
Raul Andres Gardea  
Mariana Garza  
Jonathan Jesus Gomez  
Alejandro Gurany Jr.  
Angelina Gutierrez  
Syed Ammar Haider  
Bianca Renee Hatch  
Brandi Ann Henderson  
Cynthia Maritza Hernandez  
Estefania Hernandez  
Claudia Gabriela Hernandez-Herrera  
Nathan Andrew Herrera  
Brandon J. Howard  
Grace Angela Hubbard  
Ileana Abril Jarquin  
Jose Vicente Lamas Jr.  
Sarrah Frances Loera  
James W. Lomeli  
Matthew Lopez  
Amber Luna  
Ailed Macias  
Bianca Lisette Magallanes  
Anne Leris Macaraeg Mario  
Nadia Marquez  
Alyssa Andrea Martinez  
Angel Martinez

Melissa Renita Martinez  
Armando Martinez Ruiz  
Raphael John McCullen  
Eduardo Alejandro Medina  
Jasmine Alexandra Mendoza  
Mariza Annette Mendoza  
Eduardo Merino Canizales  
Ruth Meza  
Vanessa Miramontes  
Amanda R. Moore  
Yvette Morales  
Madeline Jaine Morgan  
Efren Narvaez  
Amanda Nash  
Cristian Nieto  
Kassandra Kiana Olivas  
Alex Rene Ornelas  
Marlyn Orozco  
Jesus Armando Ortiz  
Gabriel A. Pacheco  
Mario Alber Pacheco  
Karen Pacheco Ochoa  
Miranda Leonor Padilla  
Frances A. Paez  
Derrington J. Perez  
Mayte Perez  
Mauricio Said Polanco  
Leslie Porras  
Luis Carlos Porras  
Juliana Arissa Ramirez  
Clarissa Gonzalez Rasberry  
Errica Suzette Reynolds  
Jonathan Andre Rivera  
Emmitt Enrique Rodriguez  
Christina Roman  
Lorena Romero Alberto  
Georgina Salas  
Nora G. Salgado Chavez  
Edward C. Sanchez  
Stephanie Santiesteban  
Maximiliano Sarmiento  
Jasmin Rosio Segovia  
Jeremy Matthew Serrano  
Alejandro David Silva-Lopez  
Luis Miguel M. Solis  
Alberto Torres Jr.  
Ruben Torres

Sergio Ivan Urena  
Eduardo Marcelino Urueta  
Lizeth Valenzuela  
Abey Valles  
Michael Jose Vazquez  
Vicente Veck  
Megan R. Veeranna  
Marc Anthony Veliz  
Madison Venegas  
Francisco Villa II

### Bachelor of Social Work

Rocio Barajas  
Dennise Cano-Sanchez  
Hazel V. Cazares  
Jacqueline Anissa Cuellar  
Maribel De la O  
Juan Carlos Dominguez  
Yohana Edith Duarte  
Brenda I. Esparza  
Aaron Anthony Flores  
Idaly Galindo  
Angela Louise Gutierrez-Macias  
Christina Lopez  
Ingrid Marcela Loya  
Sofia Macias  
Rafael Martinez  
Jennifer Munoz  
Alexandra Polanco  
Alexis Andrea Ramirez  
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Julia Elizabeth Rodriguez  
Yajaira Eliza Rodriguez  
Diana Lizette Romero  
Tania Romero  
Kimberly Rubio  
Carolina Soto  
Alondra Suarez  
Xareny Trujillo  
Edlin Haydee Tuda  
Monica Vasquez  
Kayla Villegas  
Marisela Zuniga

## School of Nursing

### BS in Nursing

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Aida Gabriela Acosta  
Ashley Marie Aguilar  
Zandra M. Aguirre  
Jenean Ahmad  
Coral Alaniz  
Valerie Ann Aldous  
Reena S. Amaro  
Jennifer Marie Barragan  
Clarissa Isabel Bernal  
Lauren Gayle Black  
Joslyn J. Bringas  
Juan Jose Calderon  
Jacqueline Campos  
Maria Adriana Cardenas  
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Evelyn Castaneda  
Margarita Castorena  
Ayleen Castro  
Lizet Chavez  
Sarah Elizabeth Chavez  
Adela Marie Colmenero  
Zoe Elizabeth Contreras  
Karen Pearl Copp  
Melissa Corral  
Jasmin De La Fuente  
Adriana De La Torre  
Afton Donne Deleon  
Yessica Delgado  
Rachell Dawn Dixon  
Cristina Dominguez  
Brianna Hope Duchene  
Ayveri G. Durand  
Dalia Samir Elbo  
Heidi Drylie Eshleman  
Ellie Lauren Felix  
Ana Isabel Fernandez  
Alexandra Alyse Furman  
Victoria Ann Fuss  
Travis William Gardner  
Esmeralda Gold  
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James Phillip Gonzalez  
Nancy Gonzalez  
Kyle Morris Graham  
Fernanda Iliana Grajeda  
Ashley N. Grolou  
Antionette Grove  
Cassandra Alexis Hellard  
Edith M. Hernandez  
Reahna Hernandez

Alfred Hajar  
Salma Sofia Ikhlail  
Salma Yamel Issa Rios  
Charity Kiplagat  
Linda Lelings  
Beatriz Lopez  
Cesar B. Lucero  
Carolina Sarahi Lucero Salas  
Alissa Luna  
Teresa Mares  
Amy Miller  
Brienna Mitchell  
Brisa Maria Molina  
Analita Montoya  
Desirae Nicole Morales  
Lakishia Shontika Muniz  
Angelica Ruth Munoz  
Ana Patricia Nouel  
Krystal L. Ortiz  
Linda Marie Ozuna  
Joe Pabon  
Victoria Christine Padilla- Villegas  
Alma Angelica Palacios  
Karen V. Palacios  
Tara Michelle Paxton  
Maya Pedersen  
Nathan Pedregon  
Adriana Perez  
Hector Manuel Perez  
Dennise Ponce-Quintanilla  
Ashley Marie Purcell  
Elizabeth Ramirez  
Mattye A. Rash  
Gabrielle Reyes  
Jodi Yvonne Reyes  
Stephanie Reyes  
Toni M. Rocha  
Minaxi Marga Rodriguez  
Brandi Nicole Romero  
Stacy Romero  
Yessenia Ross  
Victoria Saenz  
Lilly Sanchez-Hernandez  
Eric A. Santeliz  
Christopher Steven Sapien  
Wesley R. Solis  
Sydney Sutton-White  
Novelyn A. Tapia  
Kristina Anita Therese Torres  
Salvador Valdiviezo  
Stephanie Marie Valenzuela  
Brittany Irene Wernhoff  
Sara Lee White  
Jessica L. Williams  
Sarah Wolf  
Elizabeth K. Zydney



SERVICE from page 10



2002

President Natalicio signs an agreement with NASA officials to create a network of research for students

2006

Received distinguished alumnus award, Texas Exes, UT Austin



2006

"Glory Road" celebrates the 1966 Texas Western Men's National Basketball Championship Team



2013

Sworn in as board chair of the American Council on Education, the largest national higher education organization



2011

Received the Orden Mexicana del Águila Azteca the highest honor bestowed on foreign nationals by the president of Mexico



2010

Natalicio discussed Tier-one status at the opening of the new student Health Center at Union building East



2008

Named one of the 35 people who will shape the future of Texas, Texas Monthly Magazine



2016

Named to the Time magazine 100 Most Influential People list



2017

Named among the Top 50 world Leaders by Fortune magazine



2019

Natalicio is the all time longest serving female president of a four-year public university. Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2019. UTEP announced its status as an R-1



NATALICIO from page 9

the female students were taught secretarial skills and home economics.

"When I finished high school, I went out like all my fellow graduates and got a job. I mean, that's what we did. So, I was working at a large manufacturing company as a receptionist and switchboard operator," she said.

There she learned how to plug in and change the cables swiftly to connect telephone calls. Within the first month of doing so, something felt off.

"I looked at that switchboard. And I realized I can't live my life just be swallowed up by this by this box," Natalicio said.

A scared 17-year-old girl who had never left her neighborhood did something out of her comfort zone. She walked into St. Louis University, a private Jesuit college, and asked how she could enroll.

"They knew from the high school's name and reputation that it wasn't very strong so they told me, 'Look, you can come, but you're going to really have to work hard; you're going to have to really catch up,'" Natalicio recalled.

So she did. Natalicio took classes in the morning, walked to work after class and studied on the bus on her way home. Her collegiate journey taught her the importance of a higher education and why students, like the ones at Socorro High School she had spoken to earlier that day, need to realize that.

"I really understand how important it is not to get into the trap of not going to college and telling yourself 'I'll go later' because it doesn't happen, seldom happens," Natalicio said. "And sort to trying to grapple with the fact that you're going to have to step up your game, you're gonna have to do this, if you want a different kind of life."

The idea of having a better and different life for herself resulted in several personal achievements. During her time at SLU, she became a part of the honors program which eventually opened the doors to a fellowship that sent her to Brazil—a trip she said changed her life.

"I was on my own. I'd never been on an airplane. I'd never traveled anywhere, really. I was kind of transformed," Natalicio said.

It also gave her the opportunity to connect with the then-chairman of the languages department of the University of Texas at Austin. She became a teaching assistant and earned a master's degree in Portuguese and a doctorate in linguistics from the university.

### From professor to president

Natalicio arrived at UTEP to become a visiting assistant professor. She said she wanted to try out the job and the university for one year, but one year turned into 45. Natalicio fell in love with the city and all it had to offer, including the drive and motivation many UTEP students have. She went on to become professor of linguistics, chair of the modern languages department, dean of liberal arts, and vice president for academic affairs.

Natalicio said the process to become president is much different today, but becoming president



PRISCILLA GOMEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

**UTEP President Diana Natalicio bids farewell to UTEP.** In an exclusive interview with The Prospector, Natalicio said the 2019 spring and summer commencement ceremonies will be her last.

was never really a goal of hers until she realized her plans could change if she didn't. Natalicio was three years in to her five-year plan as provost when she applied for the position.

"As the process began to develop, I began to understand that if I didn't get the job as president, I wasn't going to get to do my agenda anyway. So, I might as well throw my hat in the ring," Natalicio said.

After several interviews, Natalicio—the only woman out of five finalists—was selected to become president in 1988. During her 30-year tenure, the university has worked tirelessly to provide access and excellence for all UTEP students.

"Thirty years is enough time to get something like that done because executing a strategic plan takes time," Natalicio said.

When her tenure year began, Natalicio said one of the challenges she faced in order to provide access was getting the student demographics to mirror El Paso's demographics.

"I mean (UTEP is) a public university. You have a public mandate. You've got to do that," Natalicio said. "So, that's one of the things we set out to do and not without resistance from a lot of people who kept telling us 'you're going to have to lower standards.' I told them 'no, we're going to raise standards.'"

She added that in order to create access for students, UTEP needed to be able to do it well in order to give students access to the highest quality degree they need to compete with other people out in the world.

Natalicio said the excellence aspect of the university's mission has taken a bit more time in or-

der to provide students, faculty and staff with better resources. During her final year of her tenure, UTEP was able to obtain a national top tier ranking. UTEP's charted course and its mission, led by Natalicio, has become a model for other universities.

"You've just got to do both access and excellence, because too many students don't have any other options. We have to give them the best education we can, so that this college investment, this big bet that they made on themselves, is going to pay rich dividends," Natalicio said.

### Looking to the future

The UT Board of Regents unanimously selected Dr. Heather Wilson, U.S. Secretary of the Air Force, as Dr. Natalicio's successor, on April 2.

Natalicio said the most important advice she can give is to get to know and understand the UTEP students.

"I think the hard part will be somebody coming in new, and not having that kind of ecosystem understanding, and having to develop it quickly in order to be successful," Natalicio said. "Because here, the surrounding area, and the people who live in it, are really important factors. ... Our role here is to educate the people who are here."

In March 2018, The Prospector spoke to Natalicio as she celebrated her 30th year as president. She said at the time she had a long list of things she wanted to accomplish before she retired. When asked about that list and what has been checked off, she simply said "many things," but she's also added to it, too.

"The list never really shortens. You just have

different pathways, different things," Natalicio said. "I'm thinking a lot about what I'm going to do and how I'm going to do it. I'm going to breathe first, you know, that'll be good."

Natalicio said it will be difficult to downsize as she is preparing to move out of the Hoover House.

"I have a lot of work to do at home, because I've accumulated so much," she said. "I'm going to have to get a little faster at it. Because my pace is too slow, I wouldn't be able to move for at least five years if I stay at this pace."

She plans on traveling, she said. She will visit Portugal this summer, a place where she said she feels "in her element" and once called home for a year and a half.

"I love Portugal, it's a place where I feel tall. Portuguese are fairly short and that's always reassuring," Natalicio said.

While she may be stepping out of the administration building and the Hoover House, Natalicio will still call El Paso her home. She said she will still be cheering the university on and offer her opinions "if anybody wants them."

It's hard not to call Dr. Diana Natalicio—a woman who saw the university's potential and pushed students to achieve their goals just as she did—irreplaceable. But, we won't say she's irreplaceable. Instead, we'll say she's one of a kind. We'll say she has definitely impacted the lives of many people within the UTEP community, and that will forever be cherished.

Brianna Chavez may NOT be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com

# Graduate Amy Miller masters the cello

BY GLENDA AVALOS

The Prospector

Graduation marks the end of an exciting, frustrating and enriching part of a student's life and after two years as a graduate music performance student, Amy Miller is ready to receive her master's degree in music performance.

"My first year here, I was the only cello master student and I was principal on the UTEP Symphony Orchestra," Miller said. "It taught me a lot—to step up when you're put in that role."

“

It's one of those things where you have to take it day by day, and think 'my life is not over, what else do I want to do?'

”

- AMY MILLER

Music Performance graduate student

Born in the small town of Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Maryland, Amy grew up playing lacrosse until an injury, and during her junior year of high school, Amy picked up the cello.

"I've been playing lacrosse since I was four, and that was something that I loved to play. I was recruited and got signed to a university in Boston and then I tore my ACL and meniscus, and that's when everything shifted," Miller said. "It's one of those things where you have to take it day by day, and think 'my life is not over, what else do I want to do?' Music was something that I had loved to do."

Throughout high school, Miller was a

member of the Youth Symphony Orchestra and participated in the Kennedy Center Youth Fellowship Program. Although Miller spent a lot of time working on her musical talent, she never expected to make it her career.

"I found myself at the University of Michigan, doing my cello performance as an undergraduate and there's where I developed my taste for music and kind of really getting into that world," Miller said.

Miller said the experience that she received at Michigan was eye-opening for her since her classmates were studying music seriously their entire lives and she hadn't. She worked to introduce herself to that world and started to see what it took to be a musician.

"I decided that I really wanted to be a cellist and I wanted to work hard and be the best that I can be," Miller said.

Miller has participated four times during the summer in a small music festival at the Meadawmount School of Music in Westport, New York.

"That experience taught me a lot about the stamina that you need to have as a musician. It taught me about myself, and what I actually want to do," Miller said.

After graduating from the University of Michigan, Miller has continued her education at UTEP and has since been involved with the El Paso community by participating as a substitute cellist in the El Paso Symphony Orchestra and Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra.

Miller has served as a teaching assistant for the String Project at UTEP, a program that helps tutor students from kinder to fifth grade who can't afford individual music lessons.

"We teach them how to play their instruments privately and then as a group together. It's just a really good experience for them and for us as teachers," Miller said.

After graduation in May, Miller wants to engage with the community by getting to know her audience through music. In the future, she wants to keep teaching students about music and plans to dedicate herself to art management.

Glenda Avalos may be reached at [theprospector1@gmail.com](mailto:theprospector1@gmail.com).



GLENDA AVALOS / THE PROSPECTOR

Miller has served as a substitute cellist in the El Paso Symphony Orchestra.



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# DesignHaus highlights seniors

BY DANIEL MENDEZ

The Prospector

As part of earning a graphic design degree at UTEP, one must complete the portfolio class. It's a class that usually is the first to be filled once registration starts and overflows with students. Each semester these students must curate a student-led exhibition to showcase the work they have done throughout their years at UTEP and present it at the Glass Gallery in the Fox Fine Arts building.

This semester's exhibit will showcase a total of 16 students as they present DesignHaus 2019.

"Each student in the class presents their work in the showcase, so we put forward our best work," said Laura Chaidez, double major in graphic design and media advertising. "And we present it to the community, it can be either to our family members or friends and, preferably, to professionals."

Clive Cochran, senior lecturer for the UTEP graphic design department, states that this is the department's 10-year anniversary of hosting the event. The department has hosted 20 shows (two per academic year).

The event was born when six students took it upon themselves to create an exhibition to present their work. They did it off campus at an art studio and that event evolved to what the class is today.

Cochran orchestrated his senior portfolio class to emphasize the word "teamwork." Teamwork is necessary to the students' success as they control everything—from the theme, to the organization and scheduling. The students handle the catering, scheduling the Glass Gallery for use, arranging and cleaning the gallery, marketing, the graphics of posters and more.

In the first week of class, the students usually

hold a meeting and discuss the plan for the exhibition, thus creating leaders in the group to help make sure everything goes as planned, Cochran said. For him, a goal for this class that came to fruition over time were the teachable moments for the students when they seek employment in the real world because they are working with others to make sure the graphics present the message relayed.

Brooke Crisp, senior graphic design major, created a poster for the event, but later gave the task to another student whom she felt would execute it better. So, she gave herself the task of making sure everybody was on schedule and not falling behind.

One of the group's biggest obstacles is that students have varied schedules, causing several occasions when not everybody was present to hash out all the details to ensure plans were executed on time. So communication through texts and meeting in person have been the key to making it all possible.

"Since it is student-led, and we are all doing other things, (it's) sometimes very hectic to get everybody together," Crisp said. "There hasn't been an instance where we could all get together," Crisp said.

This year's inspiration for the exhibition is from the Staatliches Bauhaus, commonly known as the Bauhaus in Germany. It was a short-lived German art school that was made famous for the approach to design it publicized and taught. This year the school turns 100 years old, so the class felt that they should honor the school that is ubiquitous in today's work.

An opening reception will be held 6 to 9 p.m. May 9 at the Glass Gallery and will run through May 17.

Daniel Mendez may NOT be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com.



COURTESY OF DESIGNHAUS

16 Students will be displaying design work as part of their senior showcase before graduation.

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# Goodbye, UTEP. It's been real.



BY CATHERINE RAMIREZ

The Prospector

Alas the time has come, and where to begin? I've always loved writing, and I never considered a career in journalism – until recently. In the summer of 2018, I walked into The Prospector office to give real journalism a shot. It was definitely a challenge, but a challenge I enjoyed nonetheless. The biggest test I faced was the leap I took from a contributor to entertainment editor in the fall of 2018. The amount of responsibility increased by about 80 percent and it really kicked me into gear and allowed to me grow professionally.

To all aspiring student journalists, one of the biggest challenges for me was realizing as a student working for a college newspaper we might not receive the recognition or praise compared to someone from a large or local news/media outlet, but we all are equal and it's important to remember that.

It's not only hard for student journalists to feel respected professionally but also, it's hard to be respected as students in all job sectors. It is

important you keep your head high and remind yourself of your goals. No matter what job you take as a freshman in college or as a graduate, you will start from the bottom, but it will benefit you professionally in the long run. Although no one wants to be an intern doing dirty work, it is necessary because you network and become emerged to your industry that will eventually lead you to your goals.

Aside from all the deadlines, layouts, long production nights and re-writing headlines a thousand times – being part of The Prospector has introduced me to a new love for El Paso and the UTEP community.

From covering concerts, theatre productions, festivals, art exhibitions, feature profiles on artists, to Trump's MAGA rally, I have found a new appreciation for this community and city all thanks to The Prospector. The events and the stories I've covered created a sort of bond with this city and community that I will carry with me forever, wherever I go, and I am forever grateful.

I will admit when I attended my first semester at UTEP I was not the biggest fan of the school or the idea of college in general,

but over time and after some realizations, I began to love the college experience as a whole and UTEP, in particular. For anyone wondering if they should join that club, sorority/fraternity, run for a position in SGA, or join a work study program – if you can afford it, do it.

Spending four to five years in college sounds dreadful, but it actually flies by. I don't really remember every late night I stayed up crying because of how frustrated I was with school, but those tears and late nights toughened me up. What I do remember are the all the fun times I had at UTEP games, concerts, and other activities that brought me into the Miner community. So, get involved.

Undergraduate time is a little awkward. You feel grown, but you're not. You feel free, but you're not. You're trying to figure life out and what step to take next, but it's important to enjoy each day as much as you can because even as grown adults we will still be trying to figure life out.

Although graduation is only days away, I still have much to "figure out," but I know that, eventually, everything will fall into place. I hope

to continue my education by attending grad school and seeing what happens from there.

But before it all ends, I can't finish without thanking those who supported me through it all – my parents, my sister, family and friends who pushed me continuously when I wanted to give up. I want to thank all my Prosy team, all 31 of them for being great coworkers and cool people. I want to personally thank Vero and Tracy for teaching me the ins-and-outs of working for a newspaper and the support they gave all semester long; your work doesn't go unnoticed.

To all the Prospector editors, Gigi, Brianna, Ashley, Claudia, Christian, Curly and Isaiah for long production nights, budget meetings and other shenanigans that I will definitely take with me forever. You all are amazing, smart and just awesome people. I wish you all nothing but the best I know you all will succeed in all that you do.

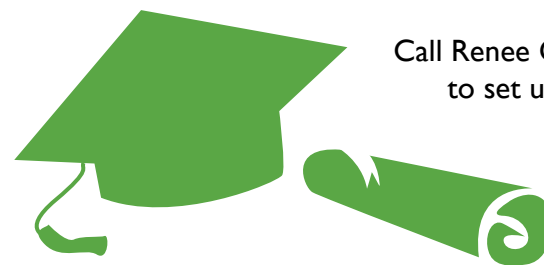
So, to close, goodbye UTEP. For now.

Catherine Ramirez may NOT be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com.

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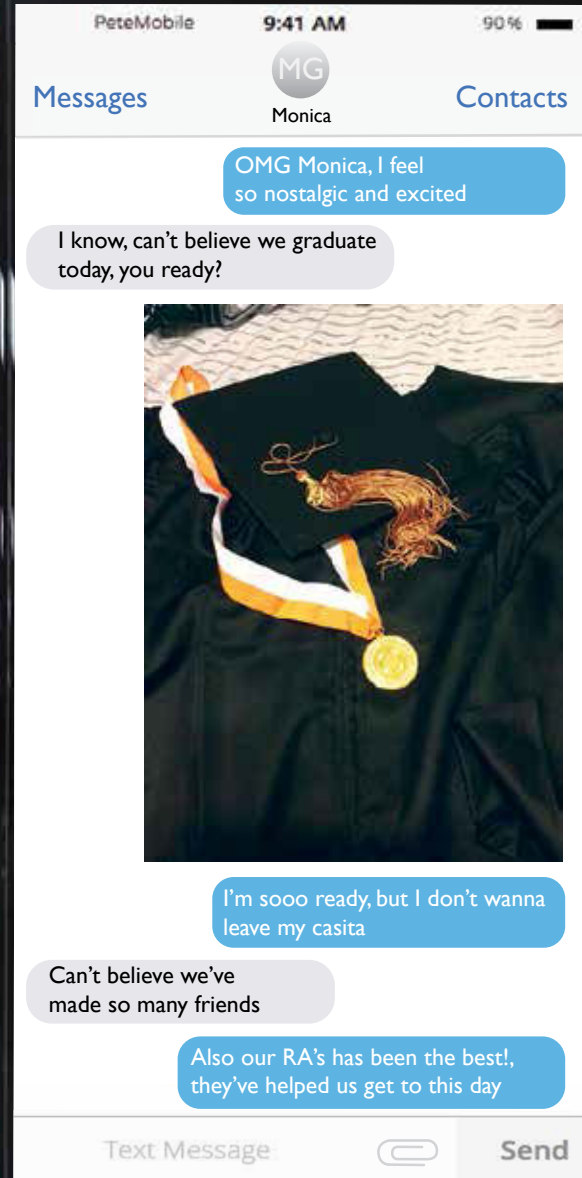
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## ENJOY THE ULTIMATE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE



# Dance seniors present final project performances

BY ALEXIA X. NAVA CARMONA

The Prospector

The Department of Theatre and Dance will present "Trajectory: Senior Dance Capstones" May 10 as part of a final senior dance project.

The capstones are a series of eight- to 10-minute choreographed pieces directed by the graduating dance seniors, including group and solo dances. The student projects include a written paper proposal with a thesis statement. The seniors work with designers from the department to set up a show.

"It's basically an opportunity for us to get to work with lighting designers and the rest of the department to build a show and build the show that we want," said Marayah Vigo, a senior majoring in both dance and psychology. "It gives us a great opportunity to learn how to work with dancers in a choreographer-dancer setting and seeing how can we work together to create this show."

The choreographies in the Capstones are of different themes. Vigo's capstone piece named "Caldo de pollo" is about hunger and how one in six people go hungry every day.

"(I'm) really playing with this idea of utilizing my dancers' own movement, instead of just saying, like, 'This is what you're going to do and you're going to do it' but really asking them to come up with their own ideas of hunger and poverty, and constructing it in a way that I guess feels organic for for them," Vigo said.

Senior Yazmin Norris created the choreography and directed her piece "Taking Away From Ourselves" that speaks about anxieties with the participation of nine dancers. Norris is also doing a second piece involving two dancers called "3 a.m." about her recurring nightmares.

"I have a lot of nightmares and night terrors, so I'm trying to think of all those feelings that I get when I'm waking up scared, or yelling

or crying after a nightmare and I'm trying to make it into a dance," Norris said. "(This) piece is called '3 a.m.' because, when I wake up from these night terrors, (it's) usually 3 a.m."

Both Vigo and Norris are planning to pursue a dancing career once they complete their capstones and graduate from UTEP.

Vigo wants to take a break for a while before studying for her master's in dance movement therapy, where she will use what she learned at UTEP by majoring on both dance and psychology.

"I feel like I added the psychology major in order to be able to prepare myself for the things that I can and will be doing as a dance movement therapist, and there's a lot of psychology things that are considered prerequisites for the master's program."

Norris said she wants to be a dance teacher. She has had a studio for two years now and at first she wanted to remain self-employed.

"I opened up my own studio because I didn't want to ever go back working for someone else. In my mind, I was just coming back to finish my degree, but now that I've been here, and I'm about to graduate, I think I will go back to trying to teach," Norris said. "My plan is to maybe find a studio this summer to maybe have a part time job and teach and then eventually, I'll look into teaching at a high school or a studio."

"Trajectory: Senior Dance Capstones" will have its first show 7:30 p.m. May 10 in the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall. Following shows will be at 2:30 p.m. and at 7:30 p.m. May 11.

For information, visit [events.utep.edu/event/trajectory\\_senior\\_dance\\_capstones](http://events.utep.edu/event/trajectory_senior_dance_capstones).

Alexia X. Nava Carmona may be reached at [theprospector1@gmail.com](mailto:theprospector1@gmail.com).

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# Senior centerfielder Ariel Blair

## Graduate to end season with tourney success

BY MICHAEL CUVIELLO

The Prospector

El Paso's own Ariel Blair, a graduating senior center fielder for the UTEP softball team, looks to close out her collegiate career with a second trip to the Conference-USA softball tournament. The Miners clinched the seventh seed in the conference tournament, winning two out of three games versus Florida International University this past weekend. Blair did her part with her first career triple, and the first run batted in this season in the Sunday matchup against the Panthers.

The Hanks High School graduate has been a four-year starter for the Miners primarily in center field. At Hanks, she compiled a .510 career batting average and as a senior was named the El Paso Times All-City First Team. As a senior, Blair ranked third nationally in stolen bases with 39, and second state-wide with 65 runs scored. The quick-footed Blair was ranked 94th ranked prospect in the state of Texas by MaxPreps, one of the top sources for High School athletics.

During her career at UTEP, Blair has contributed with excellent defense and is a significant factor on the diamond. Overall, Blair has 23 stolen bases in her career and has stolen 16 out of 17 bases in the past two seasons. Her 10 total stolen bases in 2018 tie for sixth all-time in Miner history for a season. For her career, Blair has 92 hits and 70 runs, to go along with 175 putouts in the field.

Blair said she overcame much adversity to be able to play. She started playing softball at age six and made the varsity team as a freshman. As a sophomore at age 14, Blair came down with a throat infection that turned out to be much worse, with numbness of her hands and feet.

She became paralyzed in her limbs from the elbow and knees down and diagnosed with Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS). GBS is a rare neurological disorder which causes the body's immune system to



PRISCILLA GOMEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Senior centerfielder Ariel Blair had 10 stolen bases in the 2018 season, ranking her sixth all-time in program history.

attack part of the body's nerve system, which can result in weakness to paralysis.

Blair recovered from this rare illness and became one of El Paso's best softball players and translated that into an athletic scholarship at her hometown university.

When asked about her decision last year about

“ I love being able to wear UTEP across my chest every game and support my hometown. ”

- ARIEL BLAIR

Senior centerfielder  
UTEP Softball

attending UTEP to The Prospector, Blair said “This is probably one of my best decisions I have ever made. I love being able to wear UTEP across my chest every game and support my hometown.”

Blair comes from a family of athletes. Her father,

Jason Blair, was a tight end for UTEP from 1993 to 1996 and had 43 receptions for 503 yards along with two touchdowns during his career.

Blair's father was recently named the head coach of the football program at Hanks High School after two seasons as the offensive coordinator, replacing former UTEP assistant Aaron Price. Her sister, Alyesse, is currently on the softball team for Hanks and her mother, Rachel Blair, ran cross country at UTEP and coached at Hanks for five years.

An excellent student, Blair has been named to Conference-USA Commissioner's Honor Roll every season she has been at UTEP. Student-athletes named to the Commissioner's Honor Roll must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average or better. Blair will complete her bachelor's degree in Health Promotion.

Blair looks to extend her college playing days as far into the postseason as possible. The Miners (17-32, 10-14) will open versus defending conference champion and sixth seed Middle Tennessee State (27-26, 11-13) in a single elimination game at 2:30 p.m. May 8 in Birmingham, Alabama. All four first round matchups will be streamed on ESPN+.

Michael Cuvillo may be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com.

# Deuces UTEP

BY DANIEL MENDEZ

The Prospector



“They say ‘they never really miss you ‘til you dead or you gone’ so on that note, I’m leaving after this song,” are words on Jay-Z’s Black Album, the album that was supposed to be his retirement album.

But that was not the case and those opening bars on the album share my same sentiment about leaving UTEP.

UTEP and I haven’t had the best relationship from the jump. I mean, I hated you. I despised you on my first go around at the university. But after some academic probation, where I really found myself and found what I actually wanted to do in the real world, I came back, got off probation, changed my major and now I’m finally graduating. It took a while, but greatness is a process that is what I keep telling myself.

But on this second go-around at UTEP, it came with a certain appreciation. The fact that this second go-around, all my friends had either dropped out, and proceeded with life – or one graduated here or there – but I was alone, made it different this time around. It made me concrete on academics and eventually led me to The Prospector, where I’ll be honest, it has been my favorite thing about my last two plus years at UTEP.

My Prosproy career started off by being drenched in beer and champagne when the first thing I was assigned was an El Paso Chihuahuas game where they won the 2017 PCL Pacific Conference Championship. I’ll never forget that experience. It was then on my drive home that I confirmed to myself that the world of media and sports is what I want to do in life.

From covering a winless football season, to a new athletic director to the sudden retirement of Tim Floyd and the hiring of Rodney Terry to the football program’s first win in two seasons, UTEP Athletics has given me an opportunity that I’ll forever be thankful for.

From growing up as a fan to doing media for events, it has been one of my favorite things to cover while I’ve been here despite the struggles. Shoutout to Drew Bonney and Jim Senter, especially you Senter, I’ll forever appreciate our off-the-record convos. The Prospector and UTEP Athletics made me appreciate the university.

see DEUCES on page 26



DEUCES from page 25

Heading into this semester I told myself that I didn't want to be pigeonholed. Just writing for sports, I had been sports editor, I wanted something a bit more. I wanted to be a well-rounded journalist, so the fact that we didn't have that many writers this semester, or the fact that I wanted to challenge myself, I found myself doing more news stories. Some of the news stories I had been able to cover have been some of my favorite experiences. From O'Rourke's presidential campaign launch, the Trump rally, and all that it entailed, to highlighting professors who are doing incredible research for the university. This is where you can say my appreciation for the university grew to admiration.

But it's not only the assignments that made me open my arms up to UTEP, it was the people I met along my journey at the good old Prospector. From our original director Kathy and AB who was editor-in-chief (EIC) at that time and took a shot on me and gave me the opportunity to do this. Thanks, AB.

To our current director Veronica Gonzalez, I'm going to miss going to your office and talking about life and its tribulations and my countless attempts of stealing your Paydirt Pete bobblehead. You've been a great source for me especially when I was depressed at the end of

last semester. Thank you, Vero.

To all former editors, especially The Prospector graduating class of 2018, I learned a lot from you guys. If it wasn't for you guys I don't think this semester would have been that great. To this current staff, it's been a dope time. Granted there was some drama with some crazy shit happening at the beginning of the semester but we prospered.

From being declined at the Trump rally where Bri Bri, Gigi and myself seemed defeated we still came back to school and produced a paper adding in the stories we worked on after the rally. In all honesty, I hold that event as something that made us better as a staff. From Bri Bri's freakout and having our newest assistant director Tracy Roy coach Bri Bri through it, to Gigi feeling she was a horrible EIC, which you weren't. To me, trying to remain cool and level-headed through it all despite it being one of the most stressful issues I ever got to be a part of. You two may not know it, but you've helped me get through this semester – so thank you Bri Bri and Gigibertha. Also, one time for Cat because if it wasn't for her we would've been so screwed for our cover. Also, Christian, you are the GOAT of covers.

To the next editors in line, I'm sure you'll be great, just don't burn the paper to the ground. Sort of intrigued to see where you guys take

Prosperity next. Isaiah (aren't you happy I finally spelled your name right) bring back the sports podcast that's all I ask from you and, one last thing go all out and cover this upcoming men's basketball team. I think they might be special and I'm jealous I won't be here for that. Also, make sure the Kat senior basketball feature is top notch, that's another story I'm jealous I won't be able to do. By chance, if Katarina Zec reads this, just know you're my favorite player at UTEP.

And last but not least, these final thanks goes out to the family and my G.O.O.D. family.

To my older brother and sister, you two paved the way for me to be here and are my biggest inspirations. Becoming my legal guardians at the time when everybody doubted you. The tripod bond we have, I'll forever be appreciative of it.

Even though now it's a square because of the older brother's wifey. That bond helped me get through this semester.

To my grandmother, who made it all possible. I made the promise to not only her but to me that before she eventually passes away, I needed her to see me walk across the Don Haskins stage.

To my mom, you'll have the best seat at graduation as you did for my older siblings right above looking down. Thank you.

To the homies, it's dope that we are all slowly but surely getting our dreams. From Perkins becoming a flight attendant and moving to Oakland, week one is my goal Perky. To Veggie and Marty: I told you two how depressed I was at the end of last year and, man, I would be lying if our group chat isn't one of my favorite things on my phone. You two helped me beat depression. To my two homies that protect and serve the city, firefighter Bama and officer AJ, continue being great. To Manny and Kidney (especially Kidney), you weren't supposed to live this long without a kidney, but

man I'm glad you're alive because you've been there for me when I needed it. To Ak and Mata: Ak keeps life in perspective for me to continue that dream chasing money to Mata and everything you do for me. You're probably the homie I see the most so thank you for being there. To Precious, I'm still salty I'm not the best man, but I understand. I look forward to yours and Elise's future though, taking the jump and looking for houses is a huge step forward and I'm happy to be a part of it. And last but not least, the two wolves of Cincinnati street, Tubs and Briones, you two are crazy, but I wouldn't have it any other way. To the homies, I mentioned in this graph just know I love you and thanks for being there. Thank you.

"Strive for what you believe in, set goals and you can achieve them," Jay-Z.

So long UTEP, curly out.

Daniel Mendez may NOT be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com.

“

The Prospector has been my favorite thing about my last two plus years at UTEP.

”

- DANIEL MENDEZ  
Web Editor  
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# Highlights of 2019 spring athletics

BY ISAAH RAMIREZ

The Prospector

The 2019 spring semester featured tournament wins, names being placed in record books and a conference championship. Miner fans have plenty to look forward to after a solid outing by several Miner programs. Let's take a look at the notable events that took place in UTEP athletics during the 2019 spring semester.

## Women's Track and Field

For the fourth time in five years, the UTEP Women's Track and Field team won the Conference-USA indoor track and field championship Feb. 17. Senior Lilian Koech won the gold medal in the mile run, with sophomore Carolyne Chepkosgei earned the silver medal in the same event. Junior Linda Cheruiyot earned a gold medal in the 300 m race winning with a time of 9:30.67.

The Miners also excelled in the field with freshman Roosa Yloenen throwing her collegiate best mark of 50.44 in the javelin throw at the Texas A&M Invitational. This throw placed her at seventh all-time in the UTEP record book.

## Men's Golf

A Conference-USA championship was not evident this season for the UTEP men's golf team, but there were some great moments for team.

The Miners won the Pepsi Cola Classic and sophomore Oskar Ambrosius showed great promise for this program having six top 10 finishes and winning the Bearkat Invitational.

Senior Aaron Terrazas was named to the All-Conference USA second team with a senior season that included four top-five finishes. Terrazas also earned Male Athlete of the Year at the first annual Golden Pick Awards.

As a team, the Miners capped off the year with four top-five finishes and having junior Eduardo Gonzalez returning for the Miners who shot a career-low of 67 during the third round of the Western Intercollegiate Tournament.

## Women's Tennis

The UTEP women's tennis team has a lot to look forward to next season after an improved 2019 campaign.

Freshman Kirsten Prella who was recently named to the All-Conference USA singles second team led the Miners with 22 wins and is the first all-conference Miner since 2016. Prella's overall winning percentage of .733 places her at eight in the UTEP record books, and her 22 wins places her at 11th all-time. Prella also earned a 17-7 record in doubles competition and comped at the No. 1 position in singles and doubles for the Miners.

The Miners earned three straight wins for the



COURTESY / UTEP ATHLETICS

ABOVE: UTEP women's track won the Conference-USA title Feb 17.

RIGHT: Senior Aaron Terrazas had four top-five finishes.

first time since the 2015-2016 season defeating Portland State, Boise State and UT Tyler.

Sophomore Erandi Martinez earned a win in straight sets at the ITA Mountain Regional Tournament and was named the Steve Hoy UTEP Athlete of the Week going 2-0 in singles play against Boise State Apr. 5, and Wyoming Mar. 2.

The two recent additions of international stand-outs Thassane Abraham and Eve Daniels along with returners in Prella and Martinez bring plenty of promise for this young program.

Isaiah Ramirez may be reached at [theprospector1@gmail.com](mailto:theprospector1@gmail.com).



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