

5-5-2020

## The Prospector, May 5, 2020

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THE **PROSPECTOR**  
ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

VOL. 105, NO. 25  
MAY 5, 2020

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO  
WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM

**CONGRATULATIONS  
GRADUATES!**

**20  
20**



# Wilson to grads: Class of 2020 will endure

This spring, you are among the more than 2,300 UTEP students who will join the ranks of Miner alumni. Not too long ago, when you began this journey, you made a commitment to work hard. To recognize your potential and to uncover the very best in yourselves.

In normal years, our spring semester — like that of universities across the country — would end with the celebration of this milestone in your life with family and friends. Because this year is anything but normal, we will delay that celebration until the fall, when I hope to see you again.

While I won't shake your hand until the fall, I wanted to let you know now how proud we are of you. In many ways, the oddity of this semester highlights your accomplishments in ways you might not have considered.

No matter how you found your path to college, the degree you earn this semester is your ticket to a dream. Each of you has reached this milestone through determination and perseverance. When there were challenges, you met them head-on. With the support of your family and the UTEP community, you did it.

Despite the uncertainty that the pandemic challenge has brought, you have once again pushed through, looked forward and focused on what needed to be



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

UTEP PRESIDENT HEATHER WILSON WRITES TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2020, REASSURING THEM AMIDST THE "UNCERTAINTY THAT THE PANDEMIC CHALLENGE HAS BROUGHT."

done for yourself, your family and your community.

Adaptability.

Perseverance.

Resilience.

Engagement.

These qualities have defined our graduates since the very first of our alumni received their degrees in 1918.

Looking back through history, almost every generation has faced significant challenges either at the time of their col-

lege graduation or shortly after. From world wars, to civil unrest, to threats of terror — students met the challenges of their day. They adapted, persevered, and found ways to build their lives and their communities.

Class of 2020, your lives and your community — our community — will endure. And we will do so, in part, because you have reached this milestone with a sense of purpose. You've persevered, and you've capitalized on the op-

portunities this university has provided to you. And no matter what challenges lie ahead — big or small — you have the skills and knowledge necessary to adapt and to keep moving forward.

Congratulations and warm best wishes,

**Heather Wilson**

UTEP President

THE PROSPECTOR  
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**SPEAK YOUR MIND**

## Esto no es el final de una era

Grecia Sánchez  
The Prospector



Aunque esta sea mi última columna para El Prospector, esto no significa un fin. Mis vivencias personales y académicas con el Departamento de Publicaciones Estudiantiles quedan por siempre plasmadas en cada uno

de mis reportajes y en los momentos auténticos, dentro y fuera de la oficina, que viví y recordaré siempre.

Empecé a trabajar para el departamento en el verano de 2016, antes de comenzar mi segundo semestre de UTEP. Mi editora en jefe en ese entonces, y mentora durante mucho tiempo, era Michaela Román, quien me había encargado entrevistar a la entonces presidenta de la universidad, Diana Natalicio, en mi primera historia como contribuidora para El Prospector. La entrevista iba a tomar lugar en la casa de la presidenta, conocida como Hoover House, donde se celebraría una nueva generación de estudiantes en la Asociación Gubernamental de Estudiantes (SGA, por sus siglas en inglés).

Yo tenía muchísimos nervios durante todo el evento. Me acerqué tres veces a la Dra. Natalicio sin siquiera hablarle por pena. Me senté en una banca afuera durante mucho tiempo hasta que agarré el valor de dirigirle la palabra, tartamudear al presentarme y finalmente decirle en enunciados cortos de la entrevista.

Con una sonrisa amable, Natalicio me llevó a un salón privado y dijo que procediera a preguntar sobre cualquier cosa. A medida que iba la entrevista, Natalicio me hacía sentir más cómoda, capaz, e incluso inteligente. Nos sentamos durante 15 minutos, pero la profundidad en las respuestas de Natalicio me daba para escribir mi historia completa.

Horas después, crucé la frontera, escribí mi historia, y chequé errores gramaticales tres veces. Cuando al día siguiente me llamaron a la oficina para edición, rápidamente me di cuenta de que El Prospector sería el lugar perfecto para aprender de otros.

Resulta que había escrito una historia con párrafos largos, oraciones incompletas, y una redacción débil para el estilo del periódico universitario. Pasé las siguientes dos horas reescribiendo mi historia con ayuda de mis edi-

see ADIOS on page 4

## Between laughs and tears, it's time

Alejandra Molina  
The Prospector



used to so many different things.

At first it was a struggle, suddenly taking classes that were completely in English, adjusting to the deadlines, the way classes and assignments worked and having to speak in a language that wasn't native. On top of that, my ADHD made it really difficult for me to concentrate in classes and read 60 pages or more per week for each class. For the first semesters, I felt like an outsider, it took me a while to make connections and friends.

It all had to do with campus involvement: during the first semesters, I only went to class and back home, commuting everyday back to Juarez. But as semesters went on, I became a bit more involved in campus activities. I got

If I asked myself four years ago how I would have envisioned my experience at UTEP, it wouldn't have been anything like this. Even going to study in another country was a whole new world to me back then, and I had to get

my first job on campus, later, I tried joining the UTEP Speech & Debate team for a semester and then I joined Student AdFed, a student organization for advertising majors.

Which is how I found out about The Prospector. Thanks to AdFed, I found this job opportunity. I never pictured myself working at the school's newspaper, since I was focused as a Digital Media Production major was making short films, but I decided to apply because I wanted a change of scenery. I thought I wouldn't get the job honestly, because my major was so different from journalism or advertising, but Veronica Gonzalez, the director of student media & publications, gave me a chance.

I've been The Prospector's videographer since January 2019, and it has been an amazing experience, filled with challenges and more. From weekly videos to advertise the newspaper to commissioned videos, every week was a different experience. I improved my editing skills as well as my camera skills thanks to this job.

Not only was I the videographer, but also had the opportunity to be a contributor during the fall 2019 semester. I ended up taking photographs of events, such as concerts and local events, while also writing about them. Never in

see IT'S TIME on page 4

Keep Those  
**PICKS**  
UP!

FROM: MINER STUDENT-ATHLETES, COACHES AND STAFF

#ElPasoStrong

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ADIOS from page 3

tores. Así fue como se publicó mi primera historia como reportera y esto significó el comienzo de una era.

Para el semestre de otoño me habían contratado y había podido formar parte del equipo que cubriría las elecciones presidenciales en 2016, donde viví por primera vez el ajeteo devastador que se vive en el periodismo político. Fue un evento donde por primera vez sentí fatiga física, y francamente, también hueva emocional.

Habíamos empezado a entrevistar, twittear, fotografiar, editar videos, y demás, desde las 6 p.m. y terminamos a la 1 a.m. publicando todo el contenido editado en línea. Yo todavía necesitaba cruzar la frontera para llegar a mi casa, dormir, y llegar al día siguiente antes de las 9 a.m. que empezaba mi clase. Durante mi viaje de regreso a Ciudad Juárez, no podía dejar de

pensar que todo era injusto, que no era posible lo que había ocurrido en el país, que cómo le iba a hacer si un día cerraban el puente, si un día no podría continuar con mis estudios. ¿Qué iba a hacer? ¿Por qué me tocaba vivir esto? ¿Por qué a mí?

Al cruzar al lado mexicano a la 1:30 a.m., vi a un hombre recargado en una barda para disminuir la velocidad de los carros con unas flores en la mano. Era un vendedor ambulante, bastante viejo, que seguía de pie en su jornada laboral, desde quien sabe cuántas horas bajo el sol del desierto, porque aún tenía que vender ese último ramo de flores. Siempre vuelvo a llorar porque me acuerdo que mi primer pensamiento fue: ¿en serio me estoy quejando de la vida que tengo?

En lugar de seguir en mi lugar de víctima, comprendí que gozaba muchos más privilegios de los que alcanzaba a ver y que esto venía con

un set de oportunidades magníficas que, de aprovecharse, podría resultar en una mejor visión de lo que acontece en el mundo. Por mí, por mi gente y por mi país.

Comprendí que, desde la posición de periodista, al poder hablar con personas de todas áreas de la vida y de ambos lados de una moneda, se pueden lograr muchas más cosas de las que imaginaba. De aquí nació la motivación personal de incluir el idioma español en mis historias para El Prospector y de iniciar mi trabajo como editora de copia y después editora en jefe en *Mínero Magazine*, la revista bilingüe del departamento.

Historias como estas, hay muchas. Todas estas experiencias no habrían sido posibles sin la ayuda de la gente que conocí en *Prosperity* y *Mínero*. Kathy, muchas gracias por darme la bienvenida al departamento, Verónica González, gracias por ser mi mano derecha en todo momento,

Tracy Roy, gracias por ser un recurso indispensable 24/7, Isa, gracias por cuidar de nosotros. Gracias a Michaela, Amanda Gonzalez y Luis Gonzalez, Rene Delgadillo, Christian Vasquez, Andres Martinez, Javier Cortez, Adrian Broadus, Gabby Velasquez, Vania Castillo, Claudia Hernández, Valeria Olivares, Victoria Almaguer, Glenda Avalos, Marisol Chávez, Antonio Villa-señor, Verónica Martínez, Brandy Ruiz, Salma Lozoya, Nina Titovets, Itzel Lara, y Elliott Luna.

El Prospector, gracias por ser el pilar de mis aventuras periodísticas. *Mínero Magazine*, gracias por ser mi dicha personal y mi trabajo de ensueño. Esto no es un adiós, porque lo que viví con ustedes vivirá siempre en mí. Gracias.

Grecia Sánchez may be reached through her Twitter, @Grecias068.

IT'S TIME from page 3

a million years would I have imagined I would be able to do that, but it was a fun and educational experience.

Overall, my experience at UTEP has been an interesting one. Not everything has been easy or sunshine and rainbows, there were tough times, but either way, it was a learning experience.

I had so many accomplishments. Despite my inability to concentrate in class, I was in the Liberal Arts Dean's List every semester during these four years. I met so many amazing people that will be in my life even after I graduate. I had the opportunity to work with amazing and talented team over at *The Prospector*.

As I'm about to graduate with all that's going on right now in the world, the plans I had, unfortunately, are not going to be possible. I will

have to adjust, keep an open mind and hope for the best — which is how I can describe my general experience at UTEP and in life.

Some words that I wish someone had told me back then is to not hesitate to ask for help if you need it, or if you feel like something is getting tough. Hold onto your friends, the people that really care about you are always going to be there no matter what. You got this; you can do it; you can write that ten-page essay for class, even if it

seems it's difficult or boring. Take some time as well to relax, focus on your mental health, hang out with your friends, because these are four years of your life you're never going to get to experience again.

Now there's nothing left for me to say except thank you for these years and goodbye UTEP, it's been real.

Alejandra Molina may be reached at amolinabac@miners.utep.edu

# TAKE CARE OF YOUR WATER. KEEP IT CLEAN



Do not dump waste, chemicals, paint, custodial waste, and general rubbish items (tires, old car parts, shopping carts, etc.) into storm drains, channels, or ditches.

No tirar basura, aparatos electrodomésticos, muebles, llantas, y chatarra a canales y acequias del sistema de drenaje pluvial.



Properly dispose of hazardous wastes, pesticides, and fertilizers. Call UTEP EH&S to schedule waste pickups.

Deseche correctamente los residuos peligrosos, pesticidas, y fertilizantes. Llama al departamento EH&S en UTEP y agenda fecha para recoger los desperdicios.



Storm drains are easily identified with "NO DUMPING" decals at stormwater inlets.

Alcantarillado de aguas pluviales es identificado con anuncios de "NO REVERTIR DESECHOS AQUI"



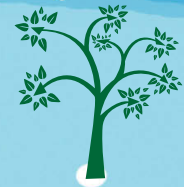
Keep material out of the stormwater conveyance system (curbs, gutters, sidewalks, streets, drains, culverts, and arroyos). Dispose of grass, leaves, yard waste, and construction debris properly.

No tapar el flujo pluvial a canales, alcantarillas y arroyos con basura. Disponga correctamente de basura vegetal (césped, ramas, y hojas) así como basura de construcción.



Recycle oil, antifreeze, and other vehicle fluids, or dispose of them properly to prevent the pollution of stormwater, groundwater and the Rio Grande.

Recicle aceite, anti-congelante y lubricantes o disponga propiamente de ellos para prevenir contaminación del sistema de drenaje pluvial, mantos acuíferos y el Río Bravo.



Leave natural vegetation in place where possible to prevent erosion.

Si es posible, deje crecer la vegetación en forma natural para evitar la erosión.



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# Graduating artist marches into an uncertain world

Jaqueline Martinez

The Prospector

With a double major in printmaking and painting, Vicente Delgado is a UTEP Visual Arts graduating senior of the 2020 spring semester. Born and raised in El Paso, Delgado decided to pursue the arts as it became a familiar hobby growing up.

Surrounded by art, the artist grew up inspired by both of his parents. From arranged bullfight-



PHOTO COURTESY OF VICENTE DELGADO

UTE SENIOR VICENTE DELGADO IS GRADUATING WITH A DOUBLE MAJOR IN PRINTMAKING AND PAINTING.

ing poster collages to painting on empty bottles and filling them up with colored beans to create linear patterns, his parents would constantly create art from home-bound materials. Delgado was fascinated by the development of all his parents' projects and the capability of turning basic materials into works of art.

The artist's father was also part of a baseball team and would play in different parts of Ciudad Juarez, from decent, city-built parks to the outskirts, where they would have to come in early and paint the lines. Delgado was always inspired by the environment that surrounded the baseball field and took it as an opportunity to go off and explore, discovering various items and scraps that had been dumped illegally.

Inspired by the landscape, Delgado became involved in photography as he got older and began exploring the downtown area of El Paso, the neighborhoods as well as the outskirts and illegal dump sites.

"These places interest me, on the magnitude of items that are thrown out, and how nature



PHOTO COURTESY OF VICENTE DELGADO

VICENTE DELGADO IN THE PRINTMAKING STUDIO IN THE PROCESS OF MAKING A PRINT.

see UNCERTAIN WORLD on page 6

# CONGRATS

## TO OUR MAY GRADUATES

### CAREER GUIDE FOR THE AGE OF COVID - 19

READ YOUR COLLEGE SPECIFIC GUIDE AT [utep.edu/careers](https://utep.edu/careers)



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PHOTO COURTESY OF VICENTE DELGADO

UTEP SENIOR VICENTE DELGADO IS GRADUATING WITH A DOUBLE MAJOR IN PRINTMAKING AND PAINTING.

UNCERTAIN WORLD from page 5

is slowly eating it,” Delgado said in his artist statement.

As a printmaker, Delgado’s work begins with photographs of the dumpsites and, once gathered, he edits and measures the image to the size of the paper he is using and exposes the images onto a screen for serigraphy, printing done through a silkscreen process.

The artist plans to attend graduate school at Colorado State University and was offered a teaching assistant position for the school’s printmaking program. The artist has kept in contact with his professors who have advised him to register and start searching for housing. Delgado already signed a one-year contract on an apartment.

“I am going to continue to get myself set up at Fort Collins, Colorado, through video chat and hopefully drive down there before fall begins so I can get myself familiar with the town,” said Delgado, who worries that the school’s closure due to the pandemic will continue until 2021. “The plan so far is to continue with hope that everything will go back to normal by summer.”

As the pandemic takes its toll economically on workers of different fields, including artists, who many find themselves scrambling to

find work as art galleries have been temporarily suspended.

“Artists often struggle to get by in uncertain times, and the current COVID-19 crisis is no exception,” said Thalia Field, the BAI’s faculty director in News from Brown, as the Brown Arts Institute along with other national institutes have started to provide community grants to help support artists during the pandemic.

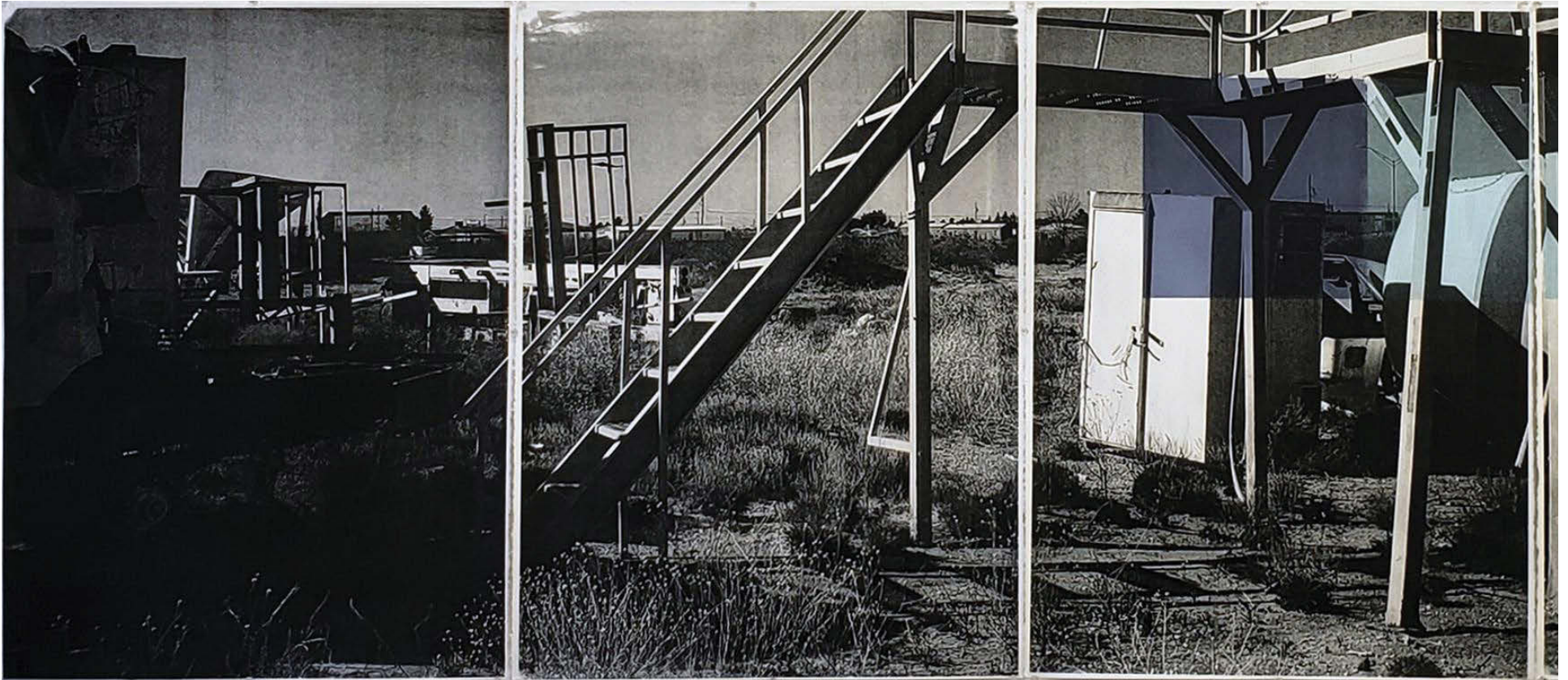
“A profession in the arts has always been discouraged by others, and some people do listen and branch off to other professions and I think if they ever wonder, what if they hadn’t listened to everyone else?” said Delgado.

He doesn’t feel the need to feel discouraged by his career of choice in regard to the circumstances. Under the guidance of his professors, growing up and meeting artists, teachers and curators, Delgado feels assured that the arts offer many careers and job opportunities.

“I believe I am making the right choice and I’ll make sure to motivate others to avoid those who are discouraging and surround themselves with people who are making it happen,” said Delgado who hopes to continue his education and eventually become a printmaking professor and exhibitionist artist.

Jaqueline Martinez may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu)





"MIXER" 30" X 88" INCHES, SILKSCREEN.

PHOTO COURTESY OF VICENTE DELGADO



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CAREER AHEAD. WE ARE PROUD OF YOU, CLASS OF 2020!**



# Terry Scholar learned leadership through his high school band

Maria Salette Ontiveros

The Prospector

The University of Texas at El Paso is welcoming nine freshman who were selected to receive the Terry Scholarship award this upcoming fall. Chosen from among thousands of applications, Bryan Arriaga, who has decided to major in computer science and minor in business, is one of the accomplished students to become one of UTEP's Terry Scholars.

According to TerryFoundation.org, taking into account other scholarships that the student may receive, the foundation provides sufficient assistance to cover tuition, books, fees and reasonable living expenses on campus.

From Horizon High School, with a history of playing in school band since he was in sixth grade, Arriaga became the high school's band director at the beginning of his junior year. He was the vice-president of his senior generation, meaning he oversaw prom, senior activities, senior dues and everything related to activities seniors had, and the member of the Spanish Honor Society and National Honor Society.

"Freshman, sophomore and junior year, I was just this average band student, and at my senior



year, I became the director of the band," Arriaga said. "It was a lot of pressure, but being in band taught me you just have to do everything in your life to the best of your ability, and I think that's something that opened the door for me to be a leader, to be a role model for other people."

Becoming the band director at his high school was a huge change for him and showed Arriaga a lot about self-evaluation and doing the right

thing not just for him, but for the rest of his team.

"Being in that position is difficult, because you are always being watched, everything you do is being watched," Arriaga said. "You are the role model to 300 students who rely on you."

This year, with Arriaga directing, Horizon High School's band went to the state championship in San Antonio, Texas. During Arriaga's sophomore year, the band was state champion and this year they went confidently and sure that they were going to win the state championship again, but they did not. Instead, they landed seventh place.

"I felt the heartbreak of everyone in the band because we were working for months and we felt like all the effort we put in kind of went to waste, but what I told my band after was that it doesn't matter if we got it or not," Arriaga said. "What is important is the effort we put into it and as long as you feel like you did your best, that's all that matters. And that was a life lesson that I took, that experience taught me a lot for my life."

Arriaga will also form part of UTEP's band program after auditioning some months ago.

In the near future, Arriaga sees himself as a businessman, creating a business that people can benefit on in their daily lives.

"The reason why I mixed computer science and business is because I think that technology has an important role and is going to be on demand from now on to many years to come," Arriaga said.

"When I had my interview for the Terry, I think that it went really, well," Arriaga said. "I'm grateful that I can call myself a Terry Scholar and a Miner."

Due to the situation with the pandemic, Arriaga feels ready to face any circumstance that might come.

"All I can hope for is that everything is close to normal by August but worst-case scenario it is best to adapt to our situation to get best out of our college experience," he said

Arriaga's message to all those students who are trying to apply to scholarships and find opportunities is to avoid excuses and take charge to secure their own future.

Maria Salette Ontiveros may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu)

## CONGRATS GRADUATES

# 2020 Class of

## YOU DID IT!

### SENATORS AT-LARGE

Jacqueline Renteria  
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Natalia Dueñas  
Mariana Briones Gutierrez  
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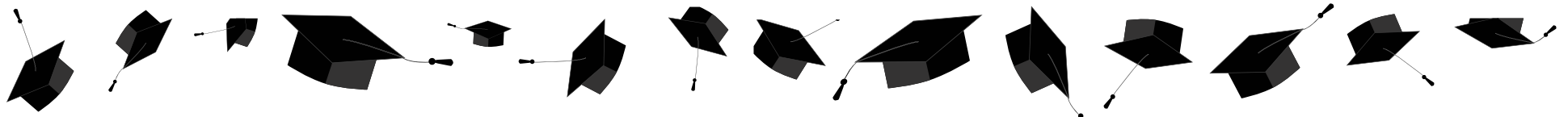
### PRESIDENT

Cristian Botello



## STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

[www.utep.edu/sga](http://www.utep.edu/sga)



# Congratulations Class of 2020!

## Graduate

Chris Minh Dao  
Bianca Chanel De La Cruz  
Julio De La Cruz Jr  
Imelda Denisse Diaz  
Srialekya Edupalli  
Hilda Fontes  
Luis Franco

Annadiley Gallegos Garcia  
Diana Marie Gonzalez  
Enrique Gonzalez  
Mirsá Gonzalez Favela  
Kassie Lynn Green  
Jose Daniel Guillen  
Otto Guillermo Gust Jr  
Julia Fernanda Hernandez  
Elizabeth Herrera Ortega  
Aaron Michael Himan  
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Aneesa Hope Judd  
Soderia Elena Kakoulakis  
Sanju Khatri  
Ruth Denisse Lara Marmolejo  
John Raymond Lindquist III  
Noah Joel Lopez  
Luz Celeste Luna Guzman  
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Manali Arun Mahalungkar  
Manuel Alejandro Mar Del Hierro  
Fernando Martinez  
Roman Alejandro Martinez  
Oliver Martinez Garcia  
Elizabeth Mendia  
Michael Micheal Mikhael  
Alireza Mohsini  
Cynthia Morales  
Malvina Guadalupe Munoz  
Edgardo Negron Ortiz  
Xochitl Judith Oliveros Salazar  
Daniel Alfredo Pacheco Nunez  
Jesus Jose Padilla Mendez  
Chan Joun Park  
Lorianne Yvette Pena  
Gerardo Emmanuel Perez  
Paul Alfredo Perez Iturralde  
Monica Denisse Pinon Martinez  
Ryan Matthew Price  
Khandoker Abdul Rahad  
David Ramos  
Aaron Jesus Ramos Cabrera  
Efrain Alejandro Renteria  
Nohemi Rey  
Alexis Reyes  
Luis Alberto Riojas  
Benjamin Wayne Robertson  
Laura Sujey Rodriguez  
Jorge Rosales  
Stephanie Marie Sanchez  
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Nancy Marina Silguero  
Elisa Carolina Sosa Salgado  
Itzel Adriana Torres  
Steven Torres

Alan A. Uribe  
Cesar Valenzuela  
Luis Eduardo Valerio Frias  
Ernesto Vazquez  
Marina Alejandra Vazquez  
Gabriel Vela  
Denis Iran Vieira Souza  
Bethany Rose Wilburn  
Matthew Gabel Wright

**Master of Science in  
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Jorge Esteban Chavez  
Karla Nashaly Santiago Rodriguez

## College of Liberal Arts

**Doctor of Philosophy**  
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Audrey Fay Cisneros  
Bryan Cruz  
Francisco Javier Flores Ramirez  
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Kevin Thomas Guay  
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**Good luck on your future endeavors!**



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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.

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**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 about your accomplishments!



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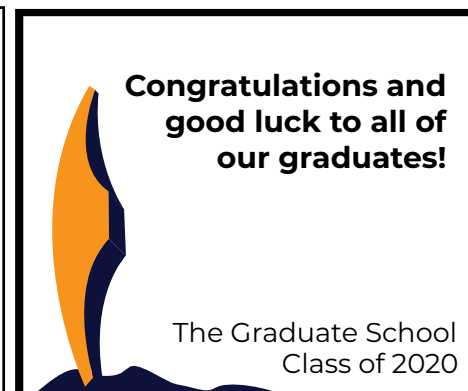
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Cristian Aleja Botello  
Mariana Brisenno  
Evangeline Yvette Brown  
Erick A. Burgos  
Amanda Christine Bushaw  
Cristina Camacho  
Kevin Camarena  
Claudia Alejandra Camargo  
Jorge Camargo Salazar  
Monique Cano  
Paola Fernanda Cano-Oropeza

Mariana Raquel Cardenas Dominguez  
Danielle R. Carreon  
Francisco H. Castaneda  
Alexandra Elena Castanon  
David Michael Castillo  
Marissa Ann Castro  
Nicholas Jordan Certeza  
Hesús Chaparro Oramas  
Ismael Flavi Chavez  
Karen Lizbeth Chavez  
Melissa Chavez  
Erika J. Cisneros  
Alan Cohan  
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Manuel Blaine Combs Jr.  
Luis Jesus Contreras Jr.  
Mayra Haide Contreras  
Michelle Contreras  
Valerie Cordero  
Lucia C. Coria  
Vanessa Corral  
Ruth Nedra Cossel  
Kira Rae Crider  
Paul J. Cuara  
Victoria Eugenia De Anda  
Jake Deven  
Stephanie Paola Diaz  
Matilda Lee Diebel  
Diana Dieguez- Enriquez  
Matthew John Duran  
Morgan Sierra Elixavide-Pitcher  
Briana E. Elizondo  
Sandra Yajaira Escobar  
Sharon Esparza  
Matthew Michael Espino  
Jessica Gabriela Esquivel  
Estephan Erik Estrada  
Alexsia D. Faz  
Mark Andrew Femat  
Isaac Fierro  
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Michael Steven Franco  
Chandler Fay Franklin  
Ruth French  
Patrick John Gailey  
Eduardo Iseal Galvan  
Juana O. Galvan  
Kate Vianette Galvan  
Natalie Itzel Gamez  
Tracy Gamon  
Angelica M. Garces  
Esmeralda Garcia  
Jessica A. Garcia  
Jose Luis Garcia Jr.  
Juana Lizet Garcia  
Kimberly O. Garcia  
Luis Angel Garcia

Melissa Ann Garcia  
Olivia Renee Garcia  
Vanessa I. Garcia  
Nestor Garnica Jr.  
Nicol Garza  
Alexis J. Gillette  
Giovanna Nahomi Girard Herrera  
Eliezer Alfonso Gomez  
Gilberto Antonio Gomez  
Jacob Ezekiel Gomez  
Leslie Ivette Gomez  
Selina Gonzales  
Jasmine Gonzalez  
Matthew Elias Gonzalez  
Yomaira Monserratt Gonzalez Perez  
Alexandria M. Gonzalez-Peterson  
Claudia Grado Baylon  
Ulysses Grajeda III  
Denev Nicole Grimes  
Claudia V. Guerrero  
Vanessa Isela Guevara  
Joshua Joel Gutierrez  
Maximiliano Gutierrez  
Daisy Guzman  
Rebecca Lauren Harding  
Chelsey Norine Harp  
Addam J. Hernandez  
Adriana Danyel Hernandez  
Karla Paola Hernandez  
Paola Aleja Hernandez  
Yoanna Hernandez  
Rebecca Maynes Hibbert  
Danielle Christine Hinson  
Aubony Karina Hooper  
Christopher James Hoyt  
Dayanna Denise Huerta  
Tracy Aldaco Huhn  
Pera Sophia Hunt  
Diego F. Juarez  
Ivan Kihara Jr.  
Diana Marian Lares Garcia  
Deborah Sofia Leal  
Alejandro Rene Leyva  
Ricardo Leyva  
Destiny Alexis Loesch  
Alaric Wallace Lopez  
Aylyn Lopez  
Jeremiah Lopez  
Norma V. Lopez  
Jose Adrian Loya  
Rodolfo Lozano Jr.  
Isaac Lujan  
Crista Vennette Mack  
Patricia Laurie Mackenzie  
Angela Madero  
Nicole Ann Madrid  
Rebecca Maldonado  
Sebastian Mancera  
Carlos Eduar Mancilla





# THE UNIVERSITY OF

THANKS TO MY FAMILY FOR ALL THE SUPPORT IN THE MY DREAM!  
MICHAEL CONTRERAS

Thank u to my family & friends who have supported me  
- Josh & Jasssss

UTEP ROTC ROCK CLASS 2020  
EDT shermen

A todos los impresionables.  
♥

Look Mama I Made it!  
- J.J.

UTEP BSW CLASS OF 2020  
Thank you to my family & God!  
- Jisselle Gallardo

THANK YOU TO MY FAMILY, FRIENDS FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE I MADE IT!  
GERARDO PEREZ

THANK YOU MOM & DAD, Especially you Monica. Love Always Mario

Thank you to my husband & family for supporting me through this journey! allowing me to start and finish & succeed  
- Mandy

Gracias a mi mama Papa y Lo logramos!  
Leticia Sosa UTEP 2020

Gracias a mi familia y amigos por su apoyo! Proud to be first gen class 2020  
- Jaloma Sanchez

UTEP CLASS OF 2020  
Thank you Mom, Dad, and family for your support!  
- Micaela

Se lo debo todo a mi familia y amigos! Gracias por su apoyo!  
- Gabriela Punzate

Thank you to God and my incredible family! Greg, Carmel, Mom, Dad, Papa, Bay

Thank you mom for never letting me down. Thank you for waiting for me.

I thank God, my husband, and my family for always supporting me! I couldn't do this without them.  
- Ally

Thank you family for always sticking by my side through thick & thin!  
- Nataly

Gracias a mi familia y amigos que me acompañaron en este viaje tan largo y difícil. Aun me falta así que espero contar siempre con todos y cada uno de ustedes.  
- Victor Herrera

Thank you love. Love you both! GRACIAS FAMILIA ERES GRANDE!  
- Mercedes Jimenez

Gracias a toda mi familia, pero especialmente a mi mama UTEP 2020.

Thank you Mom, Dad, Miriam, Crissy. I love you and this is for you.  
- R4

Thank you to my family for being my support through it all. I made it!  
- Blanca D.

What's up Briana? I am finally getting to see you graduate! CONGRATS!!

Gracias a mis padres por todo el apoyo! Esto no seria posible sin su apoyo, los amo y a mi hermano!  
- Diana UTEP 2020

Gracias a mi familia que siempre me apoyaron. Dios por esta oportunidad y gracias a mi mama.

This one's for you dad! - Angela Maldonado

Big Thankyou to my family and friends! Love you!  
- Matthew Gonzalez

Gabriel Montellano - Thank you Mom & Friends & Family

Now/has all the accomplishments you have done our progress. GO UTHERS!

Gracias a mis papas, hermanos, novio y familia por apoyarme en todos mis sueños y aspiraciones! Esto es para ustedes...  
LOS ANJO - Jazmine LT

Maribel - Thank you, Mom & Dad & Tessa

Thank you to all my family and friends for all your support.  
- Matthew P. Gonzalez

To my loving parents & forever supportive family. I am who I am because of your love & guidance. I love you!  
- Zayna V.

To my family! Alberto, Matteo, Isabella, Olivia. This one is for you! My degree is for your future!  
- Melissa Pacheco

gracias a mis papas por siempre tener fe en mi  
- LULUA MONTALVO



# TEXAS AT EL PASO

UTEP  
Class 2020!  
- Thanks Mom &  
Dad  
Claudia  
Romero

Good job!  
- Mera

UTEP  
2020  
I Didn't  
think I would  
Make it!!!  
- Daniel Torres  
Ps. Thanks  
Mom & Dad  
I made  
it! Thanks  
to all my friends  
& Family of  
Love you &  
Social Worker  
in the Worker  
making!  
- Norma

Thank  
you Mom &  
Dad  
- love Sheila

Mom &  
Dad - We  
Did it! You  
LOVE  
SAV, EDD

Mom,  
Dad, April,  
Angie, Eddie,  
I love you!  
Thank you!  
We Did It!  
Valerie  
Carrillo

Class of  
2020! Thank  
you to all my  
family & friends for  
always being there.  
Daisy  
Barrera

Finally  
made it! Thank  
you to all my family  
Love you all  
- Kvised

It was a long  
road with many  
challenges but  
we did it  
- Amanda

You made it  
Congrats  
DR. LOPEZ  
"

Thanks  
to everybody to  
support me to make  
my best effort!  
I made it!!!  
Kisses to heaven  
- Anamari  
P.

Thanks UTEP  
for the support!  
- Robert

Gracias a dios  
y a mis papas  
por su inmenso  
amor y apoyo!  
Este logro es por  
ustedes!  
- Christian  
Valderrama

This ones for you  
Mom! thank you for  
all your wisdom.  
It is an honor to  
share this moment  
with you. Thank you  
dad, Adna, Amans,  
Anwen, and Caleb  
- Alexaservin

I made  
it!  
#GirlWhoCodes  
Latina Engineer  
- Zayra  
Padilla

Querer es Poder!  
I would like to  
thank my mom  
& dad for all  
their sacrifices.  
Los amo!  
- Vanessa

Could't have  
made it without  
my family and  
all their support!  
Class 2020

Family -  
we did it!  
Thank you for all  
your love and  
support.  
- Chrissie

I  
made it!!!

Thank you for  
pushing me! I  
could not have  
done it without  
your love!  
I love you, Mom &  
Dad!  
- Serina  
Batson

Esto es por  
ustedes Mama  
y Papa!  
Thank you Dr.  
Love!  
- Cynthia  
Morales

Thank you  
Computer Science  
department!  
#SoftwareEngineer  
- Erik  
Morat

C/O 2020  
MUMMA I did it!  
ROMANS 8:28  
- Pam

May God  
Guide us through  
our journey  
We Made it!

Thank you,  
Amen!  
Diana L.  
Padilla

BSW  
Class of 2020  
WE MADE IT!  
Thank you mom,  
grandma, family &  
friends  
& GOD  
- Anna G

Thank  
you Mom, Dad,  
and Olivia  
for being there  
for me!  
- Sasini  
Santana

Thanks to  
all my teammates  
and staff for  
the four great  
years  
- Danielle  
Carrion

"You are  
who you choose  
to be"  
Priscilla  
Mendoza  
#Cyber Security Engineer

Thanks to the  
Li Lab for  
supporting  
me! Building  
Scholars as  
well - Yonset

Grandma  
& Welo,  
I owe you two  
everything!  
- Jessica

## Congratulations Class of 2020!



Daisy Pricilla Marquez  
 Diana Marquez  
 Leslie Martinez  
 Mario J. Martinez Jr.  
 Mayra Lizet Martinez  
 Paola Martinez  
 Sindy Martinez  
 Annel Alejandra Mena  
 Carlos Mendoza  
 Hector R. Mendoza  
 Kaelin Renee Mercado  
 William Lee Miller  
 Destenie Miramontes  
 Marilyn A. Moctezuma  
 Kimberly Molina  
 Alejandra Molina Baca  
 Lucia Montalvo  
 Adrian Montenegro  
 Daisy Montes  
 Christopher Sean Morales  
 Lorenzo Saul Morales  
 Yasmin A. Morales  
 Leila C. Moreno  
 Gil E. Moreu  
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 Araceli Muniz  
 Leslie Guada Munoz  
 Jose Ramon Murillo  
 Naomi Marie Muro  
 Maria Fernanda Najera Chacon  
 Vanessa S. Nava  
 Alexis M. Navar  
 Natalie Nunez  
 Maria Fernanda Nunez-Perla  
 Kayode Omoniyo Ojo  
 Westley J. Oleary  
 Raymond Oliva  
 Bernice Arlene Olivas  
 Destiny Nadine Olivas  
 Pablo Patricio Olivas  
 Avery Alexandria Oliver  
 Caroline Odessa Orozco  
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 Donivan J. Ortega  
 Jaziel Ortiz  
 Sergio Ortiz  
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 Kenia L. Parra  
 Lynna C. Pedroza  
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 Daisy Perez  
 Danielle Cherie Perez  
 Diveli Y. Perez  
 Isaiah J. Perez  
 Jacobo Perez-De la Rosa  
 Christopher Adam Pinones

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 Elizabeth Ponce  
 Fabiola Pongratz  
 Stephanie Marie Poore  
 Jorge Ivan Portillo  
 Ashley Prat  
 Andres Prieto  
 Carla P. Prieto  
 Nathalie Prieto  
 Alicia Ramirez  
 Graciela Ramirez  
 Paulina Ivonne Ramirez  
 Grecia Ramos  
 Yahaira Alejandra Ramos  
 De'Andre Zee Reckelbus  
 Michael John Resmondo Jr.  
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 Julian Paul Robinson  
 Sean Michael Robledo  
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 Edna Bianney Rodriguez  
 Gustavo Javier Rodriguez  
 Isaiah Rodriguez  
 Justin Ray Rodriguez  
 Priscilla N. Rodriguez  
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 Vianney Ronquillo  
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 Marjorie R. Rouse  
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 David Alonso Ruiz  
 Troy Saenz-Padilla  
 Elizabeth Saldana  
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 Jonathan S. Salgado  
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 Grecia Sanchez Blanco  
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 Paul Anthony Cruz Sandoval  
 Selina Marie Sandoval  
 Aimee Adriana Santillan  
 Rodrigo Enrique Santos Legaspi  
 Leslie Sarinana  
 Cole Daynae Seal  
 Alexa Vianey Servin

Kellyn Jessica Shute  
 Deanna Renee Sianez  
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 Bobbie Silva  
 Leonardo Silva  
 Breanna Singleton  
 Betty Smith  
 Kaitlin Marie Smith  
 Nia Marie Smith  
 Carlos Samue Solano  
 Melissa Solis  
 Michael J. Soria  
 Michelle Sotelo-Avila  
 Neil Fredric Stemerhan  
 Sylvia Stevens  
 Cayleb Bryant Stives  
 Antonia Natasha Taylor  
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 Daisy Ivonne Terrazas  
 Roberto Mariano Terrazas  
 Marc Elias Terrones  
 Andrea Elizabeth Torres  
 Andrew James Torres  
 Eliot Torres  
 Hector Baltazar Torres  
 Jesus Alejandro Torres  
 Lorne Orlando Torres  
 Paulete Guadalupe Torres  
 Jaqueline Torres Sandoval  
 Mikayla Dejanee Tucker  
 Josue Urrutia  
 Carlos Andres Valadez  
 Alberto Valdez  
 Gabriela Jacqueline Valdez  
 Ernesto Valenzuela  
 Angel Jesus Valles II  
 Diego G. Valles  
 Issac D. Vara  
 Angel Troy Vargas  
 Enequina Arely Vargas  
 Zayra V. Vasquez  
 Armando Amed Vega  
 Giuseppe Ven Velasquez  
 Kenneth Venzor  
 Grecia Y. Villa  
 Jorge Villa  
 Esequiel Villarreal  
 Jacobo Villegas  
 Adren Darius Warling  
 Vanessa Lauren Welch  
 Creslan Troy Williams  
 Cynthia Witcig  
 Maria L. Wood  
 Jennifer S. Young  
 Faviola S. Zamora  
 Clarissa Renae Zanudo  
 Aaron Joseph Zozaya

## Bachelor of Fine Arts

Miguel Antonio Aguilar  
 Alejandro Almodovar  
 Leonel Martin Avila  
 Mariana Baidon Carrillo  
 Brian James Barton  
 Andrea Betancourt  
 Vicente Delgado Jr.  
 Irvin Diaz  
 Melanie Rose Elliott  
 Lorena Fierro  
 Olivia Isabel Fuentes  
 Kassandra Garcia  
 Alexa I. Guerrero  
 Lindsay May Hearon  
 Marissa Gabriella Nichole Herbig  
 John David Ibarra  
 Nichole Marie Licking  
 Itzel Paola Martinez  
 Romanti-Ezer Mata  
 Christian Meraz  
 Yazmin Norris  
 Estefania Luciene Ortega Jaramillo  
 Alfredo Ortega Marquez  
 Gustavo Ramirez  
 Constanza Beatriz Romero  
 Jazmin Sanchez  
 Bianca Chauntell Taylor  
 Molly Zamora

## Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies

Isabel J. Acevedo  
 Lilian Acosta  
 Antonio Aguirre  
 Carissa Araceli Alvarez  
 Ellen Margarita Barriga  
 Laurie Baughman  
 Fernando Brown  
 Raquel Brown  
 Jacob Paul Brown-Parrish  
 Caleb Daniel Calderon  
 Ountae A. Campbell  
 Ashley Rae Canfield  
 Jasmine Wyne Carty-Velarde  
 Jessica Chavarria  
 Daniel Chavira  
 Brianne Misty Cookson  
 Luis Cordero  
 Pastor Crespo Jr.  
 Richard Matthew De Haro  
 Thomas Joseph De Santos  
 Maria Elena Delgado  
 Elizabeth Carol Drake  
 Phillip Allen Ellis  
 Sandra Enriquez  
 Maria Victoria Escamilla  
 Alyssa Renai Estrada  
 Cynthia Estrada

Adrian Felix  
 Sefora L. Gaglione  
 Iris Yvonne Gardea  
 Benjamin Stewart Getman  
 Ella Gonzalez  
 Myrna R. Gonzalez  
 Kalaii Kano Griffin II  
 Samantha Dominique Guerra  
 Leo Hapeman Jr.  
 Rebecca A. Hernandez  
 Deborah Ann Herrera  
 Darren T. Hunt  
 Jorge Q. Jimenez III  
 Christian Anthony Johnson  
 Tedric Lorenzo Johnson  
 Kristian Brandon Jones  
 Britany Christine Joyce  
 Christine Rebecca Komassa  
 Rebeca Sophia Kownacki  
 Michael Roy Lewis Jr.  
 Angelica Lomeli  
 Ruperto Aaron Lujan  
 Yvette Magallanez  
 Miguel Angel Manriquez Jr.  
 Almicar Marquez  
 Veronica J. Mendoza  
 Crystal Lynn Cloud Meyer  
 Mara Nicole Miller-Carrejo  
 Daniel Aaron Navarro  
 Eloisa Padilla  
 Courtney R. Paredes  
 Robert Daniel Perea  
 Daniel E. Ramirez  
 Jorge Manuel Ramirez  
 Chris E. Richardson Jr.  
 Rosina Jeanette Rivas  
 Marisol Maria Rivera  
 Mariana Robles  
 April F. Rodriguez  
 Diana Rosales  
 Melody N. Samifua  
 Jaclyn M. Sarabia  
 Guadalupe Silva  
 Kylie Siqueiros  
 Felicia Rae Smith  
 Isaiahs Sosa  
 Beth Ann Sturges  
 Anthony Shey Tarke  
 Heather Marie Tellez  
 Tiano G. Tialavea  
 Michelle Marie Trevizo  
 Bernardo K. Velez  
 Angela Kassandra Villasenor  
 Matthew L. Walter  
 Cecil Mercedes Yanez

## Bachelor of Music

Andrea Aguirre  
 Nolan A. Ancil  
 Erika Elizabeth Araujo

Selena Faith Diaz  
 George Michael Guzman  
 Miguel Martinez Jr.  
 Jessica Alexia Moore  
 Antonio Motta  
 Elijah Isaiah Ontiveros  
 Alejandra Ortiz  
 Anthony Samuel Palomino  
 Jesus Josue Perez  
 Isaac Melch Ponce  
 Bethany Portillo  
 Jesus A. Portillo Jr.  
 Christopher Terrazas

## Bachelor of Science

Manal Faraj Aboargob  
 Amanda Morgan Alfsen  
 Karen Susana Arredondo Felix  
 Esmeralda Lizette Carrera  
 Eternity Lynn Castaneda  
 Mariana Cervantes  
 Kennedy Cordero Corichi  
 Amber N. Cortez  
 Renato Diaz  
 Anthony Rafael Diaz De Leon  
 Nora Gonzalez  
 Chelsea Lynn Joralmon  
 Christopher Steven Marquez  
 Samantha Martinez  
 Gabriela Alexandra Nazario  
 Gloria A. Ortiz Gamboa  
 Alexandra Pineiro  
 Josie Galaxy Ponce  
 Erin M. Portillo  
 Indra Sofia Quintero  
 Jennifer Mariel Reyes  
 Susana Ines Sanchez  
 Yassel Sanchez Romero  
 Andrea Gabriela Seanez  
 Ivana Trillo Cruger  
 Isabella Maria Vazquez  
 Michelle Alejandra Walter  
 Rachel Lauren Wells

## College of Science

### Bachelor of Arts

Jacqueline Amador  
 Delaney Hattie Kuehnel

### Bachelor of Science

Yousef B. Abugalyon  
 Neetu Acharya  
 Anna S. Acosta  
 Melissa Acosta  
 Carrie A. Adams  
 Kasandra D. Aguilar  
 Gabrielle Susana Ahumada  
 Alexa Rae Alawneh

Jenny Stephanie Aldape  
 Hira F. Ali  
 Ana P. Almaguer  
 Joshua Alonzo  
 Amarette R. Alvarado  
 Yashaira Stephanie Alvarado  
 Paulina Alejandra Ambert  
 Jessica M. Andrade  
 Karla Arellano  
 Marcos Armendariz  
 Abraham Arzola Jr.  
 Nubia Aylin Ballesteros  
 Humberto Barboza Jr.  
 Miguel Barrientos  
 Serina Allyson Batson  
 Iliana Vianey Blancas  
 Andre Raymundo Borrego  
 Sabrina Alexis Briley  
 Elida Stephanie Cabada  
 Michelle Adriana Calleros  
 Bryanna Alexandria Candelaria  
 Jose L. Candelaria  
 Rachel Candelaria  
 Cady Leigh Carpenter  
 Ramon Carrasco  
 Karla Carrera  
 Nathalia Carrillo  
 Denisse Castaneda Rivera  
 Bianca Castillo  
 Jonathan Cedillo  
 Angelica A. Chacon  
 Stephanie Annette Chavez  
 Shannan Chen  
 Carolina Elizabeth Cisneros  
 Raul Adria Coba  
 Elisa J. Contreras  
 Priscilla Ilene Contreras  
 Paola C. Correa Alfonso  
 Amber L. Cortez  
 Adrian Wayne Cox  
 Sheila Delin Cuellar  
 Katherine Davalos  
 Jennifer Annette Davila  
 Irma Valeria De La Pena  
 Melissa De Leon  
 Nataly Marie Delgado  
 Leslie Alejandra Diaz Aguirre  
 Daniela Dominguez  
 Natalia Isabel Duenas Rodriguez  
 Blanca E. Duran  
 Claudia Mariel Duran  
 Adeline Nicole Duron  
 Crysta Alisha Eby  
 Ana E. Edwards  
 Elena Eguarte  
 Selena Escobedo  
 Rocío Estrada  
 Sagrario Isabel Flores  
 Ryan Anthony Floresca  
 Isaac Noel Gandara

## The Student Engagement and Leadership Center

Congratulates the  
 Graduating Class of 2020!  
 May you keep reaching your goals as you  
 embark on the next journey in your life.  
 Go Miners!



## UTEP Athletics would like to congratulate our Spring 2020 graduating student-athletes!

Thank you for choosing to be a Miner and best  
 wishes in all your future endeavors.



The Division of Student  
 Affairs congratulates each  
 of you on your achievement.

Go Miners!



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

Office of the Dean of Students



CLASS OF 2020

Jacquelyn Garcia  
 Jessica Garcia  
 Marcos Adrian Garcia  
 Raul Garcia Jr.  
 Madison Gabrielle Gibson  
 Priscilla Giner  
 Megan Marie Gonzales  
 Monica A. Gonzalez  
 Paula Sofia Granados  
 Viviana Guereca  
 Daisy Guerra  
 Andres B. Gutierrez  
 Priscilla Gutierrez  
 Jamie Cathleen Hamilton  
 Sumi Han  
 Aimee Angelica Hernandez  
 Dominique Liann Hernandez  
 Efrain Emilio Hernandez  
 Evelyn Hernandez  
 Pedro Hernandez  
 Sabina Erika Hernandez  
 Sahlma Gisselle Hernandez  
 Angelica C. Hernandez Ceballo  
 Estefania Itati Herrera  
 Victor Alfonso Herrera  
 Genesis Nicol Hinojos  
 Corey S. Howard  
 Abril D. Huerta  
 Maria Jose Ibarra Rivera  
 Jacqueline Javalera  
 Jennifer Jimenez  
 Ana Karen Jimenez Enciso  
 Kennedy E. King  
 Aaron Roman Lechuga  
 Melissa Lerma  
 Ronaldo Lopez  
 Nohemi Lopez Valdez  
 Pablo J. Lucero Jr.  
 Alexandra W. Lujan  
 Kristofor Richard-Elton Lyddane  
 Jennifer Macias  
 Samantha Denise Mancha  
 Mar Isabella Medina  
 Stephanie Medina  
 Vanessa Judith Meraz  
 Klarissa Meza  
 James Stephen Milam  
 David Daniel Molina  
 Ischack S E Morales  
 Stephen Ibrahim Morales  
 Artemio Munoz  
 Norma Guadalupe Najera  
 Samantha Nieto  
 Crystal Noriega  
 Austin Odhiambo Ondijo  
 Erin Malenie Ornelas  
 Jacob Oropeza  
 Maria Alondra Orrantia Muela  
 Daniela Ortega  
 Danika Ortiz

Shaun Patrick Perches  
 Isabela Danielle Perez  
 Julian Daniel Perez  
 Gilbert Portillo III  
 Andre Ricardo Prieto  
 Paloma Quezada  
 Christian Servando Quinones  
 Andrea Lorena Ramirez  
 Diana Ramirez  
 Sinai Ramos  
 Juliana E. Ratton  
 Carla Judith Reyes  
 Luis Pablo Reyes De La Riva  
 Audrey Calixta Rodriguez  
 Kassandra Rodriguez  
 Ricardo J. Rodriguez  
 Sheila Montserrat Rodriguez  
 Deborah Cleone Roen  
 Kirstien Lynn Rosales  
 Carolina Rubio  
 Cristian Rueda  
 Rogelio Ruiz-Alvarez Jr.  
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 Ricardo Saenz Arana  
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 Ruby Trujillo  
 Monica Valadez  
 Christian Enrique Valencia  
 Vanessa Valles  
 Henk Steven van den Bogaard  
 Rebecca Anne Vasquez  
 Audree Nicole Veilleux  
 Paris Madison Velasquez  
 Alexis Lee Wilson  
 Aline Loren Zamora  
 Katarina Zec

## College of Education

**Bachelor of Arts**  
 Victoria Hope Alvarez  
 Adrian Arana-Hurtado

Citlali Avalos  
 Jacqueline Ballesteros  
 Bryn Ireland Birdwell  
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 Raquel Iliana Cantu  
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 Shanay Caroline Cattle-Perry  
 Valerie Lorraine Chavez  
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 Adan C. Contreras  
 Daniel Thomas Crunclenton  
 Alexandra Cruz  
 Amy R. Dominguez  
 Ashley Lina Donacio  
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 Juan Daniel Flores  
 Robert Flores Jr.  
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 Daniel Alejandro Garcia  
 Erika J. Garcia  
 Vania B. Garcia  
 Stormie C. Gomez  
 Alyssa Renee Gonzales  
 Janet Itzel Quiroz  
 Jacqueline Danielle Gonzales  
 Josie Ann Gonzales  
 Brandi C. Gonzalez  
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 Paige Elaine Harm  
 Valeria Herbert  
 Laura Sofia Hernandez  
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 Alejandra Juarez  
 Cindy Kolasa  
 Crystal Lozano  
 Amanda Diane Martinez  
 Ismael Martinez  
 Sean Gavin Midea  
 Onix Abelardo Morales  
 Irma Navarro  
 Yvette Iliana Navarro  
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 Jay Andrew Perez  
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 Armando Ramirez  
 Priscila Ramirez  
 Samantha Arlen Ramirez  
 Carmen Magdalena Ramos  
 Danna Cryst Ramos  
 Hannia Itzel Rodarte  
 Karla Letticia Ruiz  
 Cassandra Yvonne Ruvalcaba  
 Issac Salomon

Deanna Nicole Sepulveda  
 April Georgette Torres  
 Jessica Valdez  
 Lorenzo Vargas  
 Monica Angelina Vargas  
 Anais Ilen Verastegui  
 Amanda Ann Walker  
 Destine Lauren Wilson

## Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies

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 Cierra Renee Fernandez  
 Melissa Franco  
 Edna Patricia Gonzalez  
 Stephanie C. Hobeck  
 Muriel Holguin  
 Zuhey D. Mendoza  
 Carolina Munoz  
 Nancy Padilla  
 Carolina Perez  
 Janet Itzel Quiroz  
 Carolina Rojas  
 Sofia A. Rojas  
 Beatriz A. Romero  
 Alejandra Saavedra  
 Randi Santaella  
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 Daisy Berenice Vargas Montoya  
 Sonia L. Vazquez  
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## College of Business Administration

### Bachelor of Business Administration

Esber About  
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 Darrien Aguirre  
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 Alexandra Lenora Alvarez  
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 America Alvililar  
 Jose Eduardo Anaya  
 Zachary William Anderson  
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 Rafael Armendariz Jr.  
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 Joshua N. Aun  
 Jose Baca  
 Giselle Balderas  
 Daisy A. Barraza  
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 Bruno Castillo  
 Karina Alejandra Castillo  
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 Mallory A. Cates  
 Riley Dalto Cates  
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 Vianey Chacon  
 Armando Chaidez Jr.  
 Melissa Chaidez  
 Naila Chairez  
 Laura Camila Chavez  
 Monae Jonique Chavez  
 Monique L. Chavez  
 Ricardo Antonio Chavez  
 Maria Genoveva Chavez Muela  
 Irvin Chavira  
 Emily Chen  
 William Charles Chenuasky II  
 Zachary Chenoweth  
 Alejandra Cinco  
 Javier Aldai Cisneros  
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 Frida Alejandra De La Torre Hernandez  
 Kimberly De Los Santos  
 Melissa Delgado Aguirre  
 Anahi Diaz  
 Ashley Diaz  
 Briana Alejandra Diaz  
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 Cecilia T. Dominguez  
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 Gema Paulina Esparza Jaime  
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 Kevin Estrada  
 Kelsey Daphne Farrell  
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 Maria Fernanda Fierro  
 Emilio Fierro Gonzalez  
 Sheila C. Figueroa Mendez  
 Hugo Alberto Flores  
 Travis F. Fox  
 Ailyn Fraire  
 Mike Franco  
 Diego Alejandro Fuentes Macias  
 Sandra Daniela Ganem Chee  
 Eric Rodolfo Garcia  
 Noah C. Garcia  
 Ruben Garcia  
 Javier Alfonso Garcia Ramos  
 Julia Garcia-Gonzalez  
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 Gustavo Gonzalez  
 Michelle Stephanie Gonzalez  
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 Sohee Kaley Hansen  
 Carla Hareg  
 Alexis Hernandez  
 Benjamin Ruben Hernandez  
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 Cleo Hernandez  
 Daniel Hernandez  
 Daniella Hernandez  
 Diana Ivette Hernandez  
 Laura C. Hernandez  
 Luis A. Hernandez  
 Stephanie Hernandez  
 Maria Isabella Herrera  
 Valeria Guadalupe Herrera  
 Mario Hinojos  
 Paul James Hinojos  
 Vivian Nicolle Hoffman Martinez  
 Jhovani Alexis Houseman  
 Sebastian Jimenez Juarez  
 Kun Lee Kim  
 Jessica Rachel Larriva  
 Sara Lespron  
 Yeshey Lham  
 Hector Adrian Limas  
 Carlos Issac Lopez  
 Dominic Isaac Lopez  
 Magdalena Lopez  
 Maximiliano Lopez  
 Michelle Lopez  
 Paulina Lopez  
 Aaron Michael Lozoya  
 Ana Laura Lugo Saldivar  
 Alessa L. Lujan  
 Sebastian Aric Machado Estrada  
 Victor Marcos Hyslop  
 Tania Pamela Mariscal Quintana  
 Diego Marquez  
 Fabiola Marquez Fong  
 Christian Martinez  
 Jose Antonio Martinez  
 Juan Salvador Martinez  
 Erick Martinez-Maya  
 Jessica Ariana Mathis  
 Isabel Mayagoitia  
 Jamie M. Mcelvany  
 Alexis L. Medina  
 Iliana Sarai Medina  
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 Stephanie Mendez  
 Talon Mason Montoya  
 Eleazar Montoya Tostado  
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Isaac Munoz  
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Patrick Karl Najera  
Priscilla Nana  
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Sandra Navarrete Meza  
Itzel Yadira Nevarez  
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Abraham Palma  
Emmanuel Pedraza  
Samantha Victoria Pedregon  
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Suzette Perea  
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Francisco A. Portillo  
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John-Luke Prystayko  
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Jesus Eduardo Ramirez Jr.  
Marisol Ramirez  
Azalea Maite Ramirez Martinez  
Aaron Ramirez-Guzman  
Alejandro Ramos  
Francisco Antonio Ramos  
Victoriano Ramos  
Genesis Rangel  
April Rendon  
Jacqueline Ruth Renteria  
Tania Nohemi Renteria Jr.  
Edgardo Rey  
Daniel Eduardo Reyes  
Mario Alonso Reyes  
Mario Reyna  
Denise Reynosa  
Alexis Anahi Rico  
Sarah Elena Riebeling Chavez  
Diana Rincon  
David Rios  
Alonso Rivas  
Samantha Rocha  
Christian J. Rodriguez  
Hugo Alberto Rodriguez  
Jorge A. Rodriguez

Mario Andres Rodriguez Canales  
Juan Manuel Rodriguez Mota  
Grisel Rojas  
Jose L. Rojo  
Alan Patricio Romero  
Ximena Armida Romero  
Ricardo Rosales  
Luis E. Rosas  
Jorge Ross  
Melissa Paola Rubalcaba  
Armando Roberto Salas  
Arturo A. Salazar  
Ruben Alejandro Salazar Jr.  
Karina Salinas  
Sam Bassam Salloum  
Edgar Sanchez  
Oscar Angel Sanchez  
Yulissa Sanchez  
Paola Sanchez Esparza  
Jose Adrian Santacruz  
Nataanael Santillana  
Genesis Saucedo  
Ivan Saucedo  
Mengyao Sherren  
Douglas Micheal Sigmon  
Jacob Dylan Clinton Smart  
Cheyanne Mercedes Smith  
Annik Sobing  
Leslye Judith Sosa  
Jose Emmanuel Soto  
Veronica Adriana Soto  
Zachary Isaac Spivey  
Anh T. Tang  
Estefania Alejandra Torres  
Jonathan Torres  
Vanessa Torres  
Viviana Edith Torres  
Brenda Liliana Tovar Felix  
Eduardo Alejandro Valadez  
Estepan R. Valencia  
Andres M. Valenciana  
Jasmin Vargas  
Daisy Vasquez  
Elizabeth Vega  
Wilmarie Velazquez  
Christian Joseph Vidales  
Margarita Villegas  
Charles Howard Walters III  
Scott J. Wehrfritz  
Shasha Wei  
Perry Talbott Wolfe  
Antonio Nahum Yanar Jr.  
Tshetrim Yangdan  
Francisco Yepo

## College of Health Sciences

### Bachelor of Science

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Alejandra Armendariz  
Luis Alfredo Arnal Ortiz  
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Jessica Virginia Bolanos  
Noe Borunda  
Andrea Fabiola Cabada  
Jason Calzadillas  
Paulina Caraveo  
Victoria Cardenas  
Jeremy Caro  
Melyssa Rose Caro  
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Stephanie Castillo  
Vanessa Karime Castillo  
Ruby Castro  
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Andrew Cory Cereceres  
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Hye Sun Choi  
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Cristian Cortez  
Lauren Jade Crenshaw  
Liliana De Castro  
Alvin Delgado  
Irma Delgado  
Jacob Delgado Ortiz  
Valeria Duenas  
Miguel Angel Duran  
Sandy Lucero Elizalde Centeno  
Angelica Espino  
Aleli Dominique Fernandez  
Mayeli Ivette Fernandez  
Lauren Elizabeth Flores  
Corinthia Fraire  
Nayeli Itzel Franco  
Gabriel Fuentes  
Abraham Gamboa  
Celina Raeann Garcia  
Melissa Garcia  
Samantha Marie Garcia  
Willie Garcia Jr.  
Irving Garza  
Benjamin R. Gilson  
Manuel Gomez  
Amanda Nicole Gonzalez  
Gerardo Gonzalez  
Kevin Christian Guereque  
Mariana Guerrero  
Lisa Nicole Guzman  
Kimberly Hernandez

Diana Ivonne Hernandez Vega  
Diana Herrera  
Charles DeeDee Hesse IV  
Shannon C. Hillery  
John Cody Huguley  
Karla A. Irigoyen Torres  
Samantha K. Jones  
Aaron Alber Keller  
Amber Marie Kincaid  
Winny J. Koech  
Manuel Andres Lamasanguiano  
Alexandria Raquel Licon  
Alexandra Guadalupe Lopez  
Maria Clarisa Lopez  
Aaron Lee Lovins  
Victoria Cardenas  
Oscar Lynn Maddox  
Aileen Manzano  
Rosanne Elena Martinez  
Jacob R. Mendoza  
Stephanie Castillo  
Christina Isabel Mora  
Janet Mora  
Melinda N. Morales  
Brittany Moreno  
Shane W. Mota  
Victoria Saman Navarrete  
Pamela Ariadne Necoechea  
Jennifer Dawn Nolen  
Martha Elizabeth Ochoa  
Fatima Ornelas  
Brooke Lauren Ortega  
Jaime A. Perales  
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Rocky Ramos  
Jozelyn A. Rascon  
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Angelica Raygoza  
Leslie Reveles  
Alejandro Rincon  
Arlene Yvette Rodriguez  
Robert S. Roman  
Genesis Romero-Hernandez  
Christian Arturo Ruvalcaba  
Irving Garza  
Bianca Sanchez  
Paloma Carolina Sanchez  
Daniella Saucedo  
Erich Schaefer  
Meagan Ann Smith  
Enrique Alexis Sosa  
Laurie Rachel Spinks  
Aliyah May Subia

Jessica Alexandra Tarango  
Christopher Torres  
Alondra Nohemy Trevizo  
Elizabeth Trujillo  
Sione Tupou  
Hector Alfon Uribarri  
Kaylee Michelle Vasquez  
Julissa Vazquez  
Dominic Richard Veliz  
Adrian Vicencio Jr.  
Brady Lee Viles  
Stephanie Villalva  
Saul A. Williams  
Margaret I. Zeller

### Bachelor of Social Work

Krised Yolanda Arriola Jr.  
Emmanuel Avila  
Socorro Avila Sanchez  
Kassandra Suhey Borrego  
Natalia Eileen Cardona  
Dayna K. Chairez  
Rosemarie De La Hoya  
Jaime Armando De La Paz Jr.  
Diana Michelle De La Rosa  
Jisselle C. Gallardo  
Yarenn Garcia  
Anna Melina Gonzalez  
Becky Gonzalez  
Joshua Green  
Melissa Gutierrez  
Jimena Jaque Maciel  
Roberto Martinez Jr.  
Rebecca Medrano  
Priscilla Mena  
Jerry Hernandez Montoya  
Victoria Rose Moor  
Carlos Alberto Morales Jr.  
Victoria Lee Morales  
Gibranna Munoz  
Briza Celeste Ortega  
Iskra Noriky Pichardo-Gonzalez  
Norma Alexis Porras  
Josephine Guadalupe Roque  
Marleen Roth  
Tiana Renee Sias  
Yajaira Tarango  
Julie Ann Tirrell  
Edwin Fabian Vazquez  
Shawn Stanley Vosburg  
Mitsue Yoshimoto  
Denise A. Zuniga

## School of Nursing

### Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Josue Acosta  
Annette Patricia Alba  
Lucia F. Aldaba  
Laura Erica Alvarez  
Yanika Anahi Anaya  
Ijezie Gideon Anozie  
Yazmin Soledad Apodaca  
Steven T. Applegate  
Andrea Aragon  
Mason James Arbogast  
Tannya Armenta  
Fernanda Arredondo  
Helena Arvilla  
Jay Attar  
Yazmin Alejandra Avalos  
Maria Isabel Avila  
Manuel Ayala Jr.  
Ashley Beltran  
Adriana Bojorquez  
Chanel Briceno  
Jessica Carreon  
Annabelle Felices Castillo  
Alexa Gissell Cervantes  
Marianna Chavez  
Brandy Nekedia Compton  
Victoria Josette Dejesus  
Abraham Diaz  
Matthew Allen Engle  
Albien Paul Badana Estavas  
Vanessa Beth Ficke  
Melissa Anne Fraher  
Sofia Alexandra Frias  
Alondra Garcia  
Kristian Arturo Guerra  
Iliana Hall  
Amanda Elisa Hernandez  
Madelynn Rae Herrera  
Diana A. Hipolito  
Stephanie Jean Howell  
Ana Victoria Irigoyen Manzanera  
Osagie Michael Izevbigie  
Shannon Elizabeth Jacobson  
Michael Juarez  
Yoko Nayelli Kato  
Junho Kim  
Lizette Lambert  
Louie Aaron Leyva  
Alexandra Lindquist  
Natassia Thierry Lozano  
Yasmine Lozano  
Daniela Lucero  
Lessly Lugo  
Jocelyne Itzel Madrid

Alejandro Magallanes  
Denisha Trenae Manning  
Victoria Michelle Marioni  
Rebecca Noemi Marroquin  
Jessica I. Marrufo  
Iris Crystal Martinez  
Lindsay Sue McMillon  
Aaron Michael McTague  
Sandy Marie Medrano  
Dori Leeann Merryman  
Anaiza Jasai Mireles  
Michael R. Moraza  
Justin Allen Morris  
Karla L. Najera  
Ashlyn Noel Lehaulani Napihaa  
Kimberly Arely Nunez Enriquez  
Albert Afolabi Oyefusi  
Aaron Perez  
Karen Ruby Perez  
Maricela Perez  
Ruth Prieto  
Cessna Anais Ramirez  
Ruth Jazmin Ramirez  
Irmalinda Reyes  
Christi Dawn Ricks  
Jonathan Robles  
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Nashara Shaquawn Sims  
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Louise Cristina Teixeira Pinheiro  
Alicia N'Kimi Thompson  
Belen Torres  
Laura Torres  
Infinity Carolyn Tucker  
Erica Sayuri Uratsu  
Samantha Christina Vasquez  
Brianna Marie Vera  
Erika Caroline Warren  
Lauren Michelle Watson  
Nou L. Whitehorse  
Selene Yu



### Counseling and Psychological Services

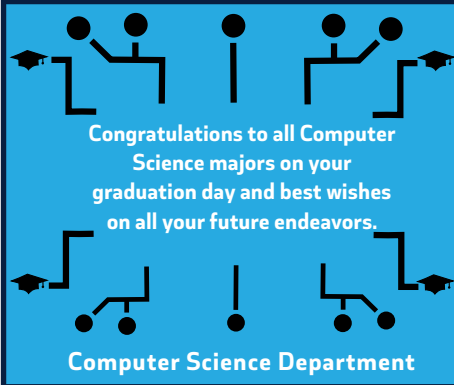
Congratulations to all graduating UTEP students for a job well done. Best of luck with your future careers.

Class of 2020



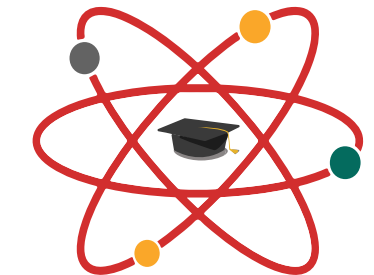
Congratulations to all Computer Science majors on your graduation day and best wishes on all your future endeavors.

Computer Science Department



We hope you do well in your professional endeavors and we urge you to do good for your community!

- COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION -



Congratulations, Class of 2020!  
from the Physics Department

# COVID-19 won't stop this graduating senior

## Lindsay Hearon forges a path for herself in the theatre industry

**Exodis Ward**

The Prospector

Lindsay Hearon is a theatre arts major graduating this spring from the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) and she's always had a burning passion for theatre.

"Theatre is my entire life. I love working in any aspect of the industry because there is a true magic to live theatre that can't be found anywhere else and I love sharing the magic," Hearon said. "I have also been amazed at how we are being able to continue to share the magic even in the midst of a pandemic. Nothing can stop us from creating our art, we will always find a way."

Hearon's passion for theatre lies in the art of set building and this flame inside of her was sparked when she was a young child.

"The very first show I saw was when I was three years old. My mom took me to see 'The Fantastic Mr. Fox' at the local community college where my grand mommy was working in the theatre department," she said. "The first show that I have a vivid memory of was in kindergarten; my mom took me to see a puppet show version of 'Hansel and Gretel.'"

Growing up, Hearon spent lots of time around her grandparents' business, Palco Specialties, a set-building company that builds sets for high schools throughout the nation. Although she's been around theatre culture since she was a young child, it wasn't until her high school theatre group performed "The Pirates of Penzance" which is what ultimately inspired her to start building her own sets.

"I asked my granddaddy if he could help me build a giant pirate ship for the show and I've been building sets ever since," Hearon said. "The first time I saw my completed boat roll across the stage, it was amazing to see something that I created up there. After that, I realized that I really love theatre as a whole."

Hearon has a keen eye for detail and finds ways to incorporate it into every show. For example, if she's working on a show with a family, she'll take "family pictures" of the actors or include baby photos of the actors on set.

"Whenever I am designing a show, the director's concept and vision is a huge part of my inspiration, as well as the script," Hearon said. "My favorite part of creating a set is the first time the actors get to see it. It is amazing how much a set can do for an actor and it's a beautiful process

to watch them explore the world you've given them."

Hearon's attention to detail was recognized in 2018 when she was a national runner-up for The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Region 6 award for Meritorious Achievement in Properties Design. The festival celebrates the top 18,000 university theatre students from across the country. She also received the Honors Convocation award from UTEP in 2018 for her involvement in the production "Lydia" which won the Director's Choice award, the highest recognition possible at UTEP. She also received the SPAM Award for Excellence for her properties design in Lydia.

"I was extremely proud of myself, but also of our production as a whole. Theatre is a collaborative process and it takes every single person to create a beautiful successful show," she said.

Hearon intends to take her craft as far as she can. She has a job offer with the Santa Fe Opera this summer as a properties craftsman. Her goals include working for an independent theatre company to provoke change with art. She eventually would like to start her own theatre company or work as an artistic director at a regional theatre.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIST J. MORERE  
HEARON HAS A KEEN EYE FOR DETAIL AND FINDS WAYS TO INCORPORATE IT INTO EVERY SHOW.

For Hearon, the first steps to her dreams are working in the shop, learning new skills and watching videos to further her art form.

Exodis Ward may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu)

## Birthday celebrations in the era of social distancing, El Pasoans get creative

### Zoom parties and virtual bar hopping now the new normal as folks remain at home

**Jaqueline Martinez**

The Prospector

While party celebrations and gatherings of 10 people or more are strictly prohibited due to coronavirus restrictions, people have been determined to celebrate through creative, quirky ideas while following social distancing protocols like virtual celebrations using Zoom or Animal Crossing, drive-by celebrations and "bar hopping" at home.

El Paso resident Valeria Hernandez turned 28 on April 9, and although the pandemic prohibited her from fulfilling her plan to go camping with her friends this year, Hernandez saw this as an opportunity to be creative.

"My husband and I have always loved to drink at different bars on the same night, so we were thinking about a fun way to celebrate the birth-

day at home, something different," said Hernandez, who did not let quarantine prohibit her from a good time.

Hernandez and her husband decided to decorate each room of their house based on a bar they both enjoy.

One of the rooms had a sushi bar, which was decorated with a hanging sign that read, "Vale's sushi place," where everyone in the household was able to enjoy a plate of sushi and a glass of wine. The kitchen was a cocktail bar named "Fabian's," where the couple drank Smirnoff and wine while jazz played in the background.

The living room was decorated with Mexican fabric and decor to resemble a cantina, where they drank beer and shared a shot of tequila. Hernandez was able to bar hop at home and stay connected with her loved ones and was also able

to share a virtual toast through the video platform Zoom.

Ruby Franco also celebrated her 26th birthday on April 19, at home with her family. The UTEP alumna ordered her birthday cake through delivery and allowed her friends to be a part of the celebration virtually, through Zoom.

"Even though they weren't physically here, it was still nice to see their faces," Franco said. "I also made my favorite veggie burgers and had a second virtual birthday party through the video game, Animal Crossing."

Franco managed to make it a good birthday regardless, and her friends were able to sing happy birthday to her as she blew out the candles.

"I think the greatest gift of them all is being healthy, I could not have asked for a better gift," she added.

UTEP senior Andi Tiscareno was also able to be a part of her niece's second birthday on April 26 through a virtual celebration on Zoom.

"We sang 'Happy Birthday' to her and she opened her gifts which most of us had delivered to her or had shipped to her," said Tiscareno. "Later, my parents, boyfriend and I drove by with a sign and balloons to surprise her, she was so happy she ran out to the doorstep."

People are also sharing their birthday celebrations on social media, with humorous and quirky, COVID-19 inspired décor and toilet paper and Lysol inspired cakes.

Jaqueline Martinez may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu)

# UTEP's 2020 annual juried art exhibit to take place online

**Jaqueline Martinez**

The Prospector

Like everything else, the Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts at UTEP closed its doors because of the coronavirus pandemic, but its 2020 Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition is still moving forward — except virtually and with a new set of guidelines.

Each year, UTEP Department of Art undergraduate students are required to purchase an entry form where they can submit up to five works that have been completed within the previous year.

This year, the visual art students won't be charged for their entries and are required to submit their work online by May 14. The artwork will be juried from May 19-22. All winners will be announced via the Rubin Center's Facebook page at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 28.

The categories include all concentration areas taught in the department like metals, drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, printmaking, graphic design and photography. This year's prizes include the Arlene Smith McKinnon Endowment Purchase Award for Overall Best of Show and the Sarah and Tom Lea Purchase Award for Best Life Drawing or Life Painting, as well as for best award in each category.

The Rubin Center has provided students with a link for the entry forms and guidelines for photographing their artwork. Some students felt discouraged since not many have access to proper photography equipment.

"I think this year's student exhibition is completely different from the rest not only because it's online, but a lot of students don't necessarily have the equipment to photograph their artwork at home," said UTEP ceramics major Roxana Rodriguez. "You don't necessarily grasp what certain pieces look like because they'll be judging from photographs instead of being physically in front of them."

The ceramics student will be submitting four works of art including her piece, "Indispensable creator" which is a three-foot-tall clay sculpture that was part of the Metals, Sculpture and Ceramics Union gallery exhibition "Milagros."

The clay sculpture represents her own personal "milagro," which stands for miracle in Spanish, of her hands that allow her to create art.

"I struggle with Rheumatoid arthritis, which keeps me from working as it becomes painful to move and shape clay in my hands," Rodriguez said. "The main focus of this sculpture is the hand which are the creators of my artwork, without them I would not be able to continue my work."

Although hosting an art exhibition online is a different experience for many, some students are nonetheless glad that the exhibition is still taking place.

"I am glad they were able to find an alternative solution, students in the art department have worked diligently on their works this year," said art education student, Gabriel Reyes.

“  
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gently on their  
works this year.”

— ISAIAH RHYANES  
UTEP senior

Reyes will submit five pieces that range from watercolor drawings and stop motion animation to ceramic pots. Reyes' work addresses threats to the environment such as pollution, through whimsical figures and dark humor.

Other participant students include ceramics and painting major Mathew McIntyre, who will submit four pieces under ceramics, painting and drawing. The artist was also concerned whether the artwork would still have the same impact as it would physically.

"Still, I'm thrilled to have the opportunity," he said. McIntyre's submissions include a drawing titled "Solo Climber," which is a collage made of paper, fabric and graphite.

Jaqueline Martinez may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu)



PHOTO COURTESY OF UTEP  
MARISA SAGE, DIRECTOR AND HEAD CURATOR OF THE NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM, AS FINE ARTS JUROR.



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My advice is always the same for any and every Art graduate. Work hard and follow your passions - if you remain true to yourself, and to your art, craft and creative nature, the opportunities and achievements will make themselves available to you. Reaching your goals requires motivation and self-discipline. It sounds a little cliché, but it is the simple and plain truth.

The 2020 DoART graduates are a very talented and resourceful group of distinct individuals who I believe are very well-poised to work through any of the unknown challenges of the future. Art, by its nature, is an exploration of self that is then translated into visual interpretation through the use of various media that relates the concept to the public and makes that most important of human connections. Regardless of economic or social uncertainty – now or any time, as there are always going to be challenges that arise in life – the ability of creative individuals to adapt and adjust is our signature trait. My advice to our DoART students and graduates is to trust in and use your talents and skills to work through the problems just as you did for your DoART faculty and the problems they presented to you in class. You successfully found multiple creative solutions to those problems, moving forward is no different, continue to explore and push your ideas and solutions to move yourself forward in your careers.

The DoART is very proud of you and we look forward to seeing and hearing about your achievements as you excel.

”

-DAVID GRIFFIN

UTEP's Department of Art Chair

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**Good luck on finals and congratulations to all the graduating seniors!  
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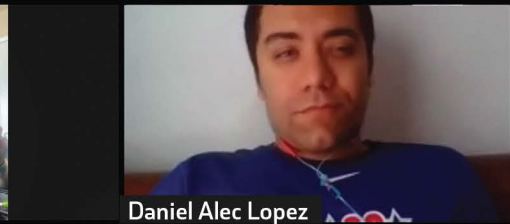
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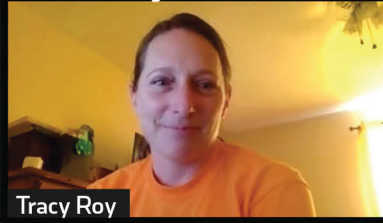
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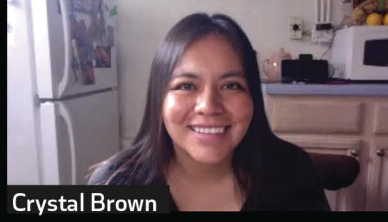
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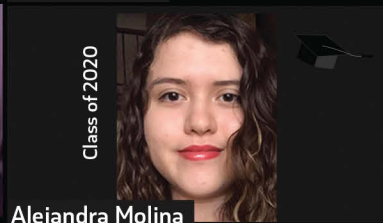
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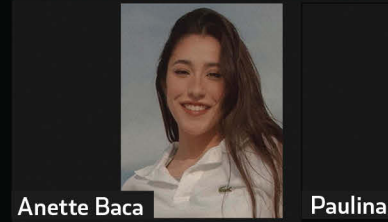
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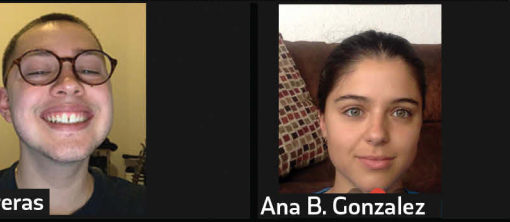
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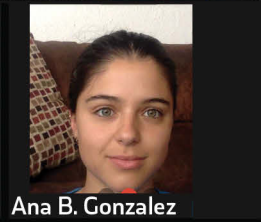
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Angela Grijalva



Natan Contreras



Ana B. Gonzalez

Not pictured:  
Sven Kline, Sasha Minjarez, Enrique Rangel, Antonio Villaseñor-Baca

# Katarina Zec leaves behind lasting impact at UTEP

Isaiah Ramirez

The Prospector

Leadership is not an intangible that can be developed in a short period when it comes to the sport of basketball. In Katarina Zec's UTEP basketball career, she emerged as a leader and a player that is not only etched in the record book but the minds of Miner Nation.

After her Miner career, which spanned from 2016-2020, Zec piled up 1,1128 points, 3,371 minutes played, and 136 3-point field goals made, placing her eighth, fifth and sixth-best in program history, respectively.

The Belgrade, Serbia native made her way to the city of El Paso with quality international basketball experience playing with the under 20 Serbian National Team in the 2016 European Championships averaging six points and three rebounds in the event.

At the conclusion of Zec's first-year season in which she played in 25 games and averaged five points a contest former Miner head coach and 2016 Conference-USA(C-USA) Coach of the Year Keitha Adams resigned from the program.

"There were some really tough challenges, I had a knee injury just games before conference play and losing Coach Adams my freshman year kind of threw me off and made me start over with Coach Baker," Zec said.

Kevin Baker was hired as the new head coach April 24, 2017, and has since accumulated the most wins by any Miner coach in the first three seasons of their tenure with 42.

In Zec's sophomore season and the first under Baker, she started all 31 games while averaging 9.2 points per contest and led the team in 3-pointers made with 39.

"Immediately what you learn about Kat as soon as you meet her is she is a very driven young lady and she wanted to be really good and we knew she was willing to put in the extra work to be good," Baker said.

The Miners 2018-2019 season and Zec's junior year was derailed with injuries. Zec felt this was one of the toughest obstacles she faced in her Miner career.

At one point in the season, the squad had seven active players on the roster and Zec played four games with over 40 minutes.

"My junior year was my toughest season ever, mentally and physically, because not only we had to keep going through adversity but I played 40 minutes game after game and practicing and studying full time," Zec said.

Zec's final season was her career coming full-circle as she was relied on as a leader being one of the only two seniors on the team and a player that could be counted on not only on the court but off the court.



SENIOR FORWARD KATARINA ZEC PUSHES THE BALL UP COURT IN WIN VERSUS FLORIDA ATLANTIC JAN. 4 AT THE DON HASKINS CENTER.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UTEP ATHLETICS

"I felt her career all came full-circle because she finally put everything all together from being a player to be a leader and she put it together to have a great senior year," Baker said.

The Miners surpassed the previous season's win total by seven games and conference wins by three while earning a win in the Conference-USA tournament as the seventh seed.

A career-high in points, rebounds, and minutes per game for Zec (12 ppg, 5 rpg, 31.8 mpg) also included an All-Conference-USA second team selection

"Finally, everything paid off during my senior season and I was genuinely happy and enjoying my time with my teammates," Zec said. "I already miss them, and I'll be forever grateful for those moments.

"Kat is probably the senior I looked up to the most because we play the same position and she's a great leader on and off the court," freshman guard Avery Crouse said following the Miners 80-72 win on Senior Day.

The talented freshman core of Katia Gallegos, Avery Crouse and Ariona Khlopikova has a lot of Miner fans excited for the future of the program after a standout debut season with Zec as a mentor to the group.

"Avery got the most out of it, especially because we have the same major and I was taking the same classes in my freshman year," Zec said. "On the basketball court they just do what they do and I cannot tell them how to play but I can

advise them what options to look for and how to read the situation and I am happy how Katia grew in that segment."

Zec accumulated 21 double-digit scoring performances in her senior season and tied a career-high in points with a 22-point outing versus Old Dominion Feb. 8, 2020.

"Her first couple of years she was good player and she did well but this last year she became our leader and the glue that held our team together," Baker said. "That was the biggest show of growth and she made a huge impact on the team and program on her ability to lead.

Due to the novel coronavirus pandemic, the C-USA tournament which was held in Frisco, Texas was canceled as the Miners were coming off a dominant 95-67 win in the quarterfinal round versus Florida Atlantic.

UTEP was slated to take on Old Dominion in the next round with momentum brewing in the Miners arsenal.

"I didn't really process the situation at first," Zec said "Moments later I cried a little. I have to admit I was reflecting on the game against Florida Atlantic and the whole season to be honest," Zec said. "It didn't really hit me in Dallas but once we got to El Paso and I came to realization that my career is really over that's when I started missing it."

A three-time C-USA Commissioner's Academic medalist and Honor Roll selection Zec will graduate with a major in biochemistry.

A talented all-around game that has evolved throughout her career may propel her to a professional career.

"As of now the plan is to play professionally," Zec said. "However, I am not sure how this situation with the coronavirus is going to unfold because there is a huge economic crisis around the world."

Zec has returned to her hometown to prepare for her future and stay ready for her next steps in her basketball career.

"Currently I am in Serbia working out just staying active and preparing for whatever comes next and I will update everyone on my next destination over my social media accounts," Zec said.

"There's absolutely no doubt that her game will translate to the professional ranks," Baker said. "I really think her best basketball is still in front of her and she can still improve and elevate her game and she has the work ethic to do so.

The UTEP basketball career of Katarina Zec will be remembered as a guideline for what it takes to succeed as a Miner on and off the court and Miner fans will remember just how much of an impact she had during her four years on the program.

"Miner Nation you will forever be part of me, Thank You."

Isaiah Ramirez may be reached at [Prospector@utep.edu](mailto:Prospector@utep.edu)

# Isaiah Rhyanes: Fulfilled dreams of playing basketball in college

Michael CuvIELLO

The Prospector

As in many young men that play sports, Isaiah Rhyanes dreamed of playing basketball at the college level. The odds of being able to play college basketball are not very good for most people, but as a bench player for a high school team, it is an even longer shot. Rhyanes was an essential backup for the Andress Eagles as a junior and a senior in High School locally in El Paso. Winning back to back district titles for the local school as well as making it to the state final four in his senior year were significant achievements in for any player. Academically, Rhyanes excelled by being a member of the National Honor Society.

With his high school career over and no college offers, Rhyanes decided to attend El Paso Community College (EPCC) and pursue a degree in Culinary Arts with an eye on transferring to UTEP soon. Although he still thought of continuing his basketball career, there was no clear path to make this happen. After getting his associate's degree from EPCC, Rhyanes was convinced to try out for the UTEP basketball team by a local business owner that knew UTEP Head Coach Tim Floyd.

During the 2017 academic year, Rhyanes transferred to UTEP, changing his degree to multidisciplinary Studies. Rhyanes was able to get a tryout along with two other players in the fall of 2017. Given a chance to make the team, Rhyanes gave everything that he had trying to earn a spot on the roster. When he found out he had made the team, his excitement to being able to continue playing brought tears to his eyes.

For a hometown kid to be able to play for a University with the rich basketball tradition of UTEP, it was a dream come true regardless of where it took him.

"Obviously Tim Floyd had coached at great colleges and the NBA it was a great experience getting a chance to play for him," Rhyanes said.

That very same season, Floyd would resign, creating a new challenge for Rhyanes, he would again have to prove that he belonged on the team.

"When Coach Terry came in, I felt like I would have to try out all over again; this would not be a walk in the park. It was very hard," Rhyanes said. "I told myself there would be a light at the end of the tunnel."

After two seasons of being a scout player for the Miners, Rhyanes was consistently praised for his hard work but did not garner any play-

ing time. Rhyanes remained humble and did his best to help the team prepare for every game. There was a major influx of transfers when Terry came aboard, so staying on the team was going to be no easy task for his senior season. Nicknamed "Juice" for his effort in practice, Rhyanes

“  
UTEP basketball did alot for me, took me places where I have never been.”

- ISAIAH RHYANES  
UTEP senior

worked as hard as he could to contribute in some small way.

Early in the season, Rhyanes got the first playing time of his career in a blowout of Eastern New Mexico University Nov. 15, 2019, in the final minute. The Don Haskins Center crowd of 4400 fans were all on their feet, cheering as Rhyanes entered the game. It was almost like the scene from the movie Rudy when he took the court. Much like the Hollywood film, Rhyanes actually got his showtime moment delivering a monstrous two-handed dunk in the games final minute. The only shot of his career would be a dunk that brought the loudest cheers of the season from the home crowd. The sheer look of joy and excitement displayed as he slammed the ball through the hoop was an iconic moment for all in observance.

On senior night Rhyanes would get his first and only career start against Southern Mississippi. As the season ended, Rhyanes was named to his second C-USA All academic team for his hard work in the classroom. As a tribute to his community service, Rhyanes was also called a Spirit of Service award winner for C-USA.

see RHYANES on page 23



UTEP SENIOR FORWARD ISAIAH RHYANES WALKS OFF THE FLOOR AT THE DON HASKINS FOR THE LAST TIME IN VICTORY OVER SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI MAR.1.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UTEP ATHLETICS

RHYANES from page 22

“UTEP basketball did a lot for me, took me places where I have never been,” Rhyanes said. “That’s the beauty of playing college basketball, once you make the team you get a chance to see things you never dreamed of seeing as you travel to new locations and meet different people.

Rhyanes said the opportunity to go to Hawaii was his favorite destination and he relished the chance to see the beautiful beaches that he had only seen on television.

Rhyanes is now a graduate student that is working toward his advanced degree in Leadership Studies. Choosing that discipline, Rhyanes feels it is a fascinating discipline that will help him in his future endeavors of teaching or even coaching at some point. Giving back to his community and a career in education are ambitions of Rhyanes.

“I want to be a mentor, coach and teacher in the El Paso community,” Rhyanes said. “My time at UTEP has been amazing, to be able to stay in my community to play for a storied program like the Miners has been a dream come true.”

Michael Cuvillo may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu)



UTEP SENIOR FORWARD ISAIAH RHYANES THROWS DOWN A TWO HANDED SLAM FOR HIS FIRST CAREER BASKET VERSUS EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY NOV. 15, 2019.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UTEP ATHLETICS

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# Lauren Crenshaw: UTEP loses top defender and leader

Michael Cuvillo

The Prospector

UTEP soccer loses defender Lauren Crenshaw to graduation, one of its best players in recent history. Crenshaw finishes her career with 16 goals, 10 assists and 42 points for the Miner program. As a four-year starter, Crenshaw was



PHOTO COURTESY OF UTEP  
UTEP SENIOR DEFENDER LAUREN CRENSHAW STEALS BALL FROM SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI PLAYER FEB. 10, AT UNIVERSITY FIELD.

in the opening lineup for 75 of 77 games for UTEP.

Originally from Gilbert, Arizona, Crenshaw started playing soccer at the age of four, along with her older sister, who was also keen on the game. As a freshman, Crenshaw was part of the Campo Verde High School 3A state championship team in Arizona.

To further refine her skills, Crenshaw attended Shattuck Saint Mary's Preparatory School for her junior and senior high school seasons. The school located in Faribault, Minnesota, has one of the most prestigious soccer residential programs in the nation and is the only one that combines academics with sports. Producing more Division I soccer players than any program in the

country, it can count Crenshaw as one of its many success stories.

Crenshaw chose UTEP during her high school sophomore year due to the level of financial assistance that she was offered. She also admired the focus of the coach that was recruiting her.

"Kevin Cross's communication as far as playing his players and his stressing of academics were big factors in coming to UTEP," Crenshaw said. "My parents liked that he put life outside of soccer first, not just the whole athlete part like many coaches."

"What really attracted me to El Paso is the diverse cultures and its proximity to the border," Crenshaw said. "I really liked what the area of El Paso had to offer."

Gaining a new coach her senior year presented new challenges to Crenshaw, who had played under Kevin Cross for most of her career.

"It was very, very different having a new coach with a totally distinctive style than the previous coach," Crenshaw said. "It gave me a challenge my senior year to deal with the adversity. Having a female coach was also incredibly unique since, at almost every level, I have had male coaches."

Crenshaw felt that new Head Coach Kathryn Balogun played more of the roster than the pre-

vious coach, which changed the dynamic of how the team played this season.

For the 2019 season, Crenshaw was named second-team C-USA All conference for her efforts and finished second on the team in scoring. Three of her four seasons, Crenshaw was honored on some level of an All-Conference team and twice made honor roll.

Graduating with a bachelor's in Kinesiology, Crenshaw, has aspirations of coaching soccer, especially in the development of younger players who are still honing their skills.

"Playing soccer growing up it is very costly to get proper training," Crenshaw said.

Crenshaw would like to play soccer in Europe but the COVID-19 pandemic has put that on hold. Enrolled for the fall semester in a graduate program at Arizona State, Crenshaw looks forward to when she will be able to play soccer again.

"I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to play at the soccer program for UTEP," Crenshaw said. "I feel it helped me grow on and off the field. The teachers at UTEP really worked with me as an athlete."

Michael Cuvillo may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu)

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