5-3-2022

The Prospector, May 3, 2022

UTEP Student Publications

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Graduates Paola Garcia Hernandez, Adam Campos, Jordan Seth Dominguez and Andrea Cecilia Herrera Aguirre wave their caps at the Health Sciences and School of Nursing bridge. Photo by Annabella Mireles and graphic design by Hugo Hinojosa/The Prospector.

This issue is dedicated to all the graduates of the Spring 2022 semester. The Prospector congratulates you on all of your accomplishments and wishes you the best of luck in all of your future endeavors.

We hope you enjoy this special issue, and congratulations Miners!
Goodbye The Prospector and hello New York

BY ANAHY DIAZ
The Prospector

It would be difficult to summarize in 500-700 words the ways in which The Prospector has changed my life, personally and professionally. However, as I reflect back to my time at UTEP and the publication I cannot help but think my journey has been a compilation of goodbyes and hellos, just like Paulo Coelho author of the book, The Alchemist once said: “If you’re brave enough to say goodbye, life will reward you with a new hello.”

I said goodbye to my reporter position at The Prospector in 2019 to say hello to the position of copy editor. I said goodbye to copy editor to say hello to editor-in-chief in the spring of 2021. I said goodbye as high as the possibility of you succeeding. It is a fear I will never conquer, but I know I will always have to face. The Prospector, along with Veronica Gonzalez, Tracy Roy, Isabel Castillo, Amy Bocanegra, Kate Gannon and Angela Kocher, has taught me the best way to minimize this fear is by enhancing my professional skills and focusing on solutions.

It taught me these lessons by leading me the opportunity to cover exciting events like Cher’s “Here We Go Again” tour and interview local business owners reinvesting attractions in El Paso. I also prepared me to face difficult events, putting my understanding of ethical journalism to the test, such as covering the El Paso Walmart shooting and multiple Black Lives Matter movement protests. Each experience reinforced my passion for journalism and my commitment to writing honest and accurate news rooted in humanity.

Along the way I have also had to say goodbye and hello to journalists I am proud to call friends. I said goodbye to outstanding individuals like Victoria Almagro, Glenda Avalos, Maria Chavez, Bryan Mena, Valeria Oliveras and Paulina Spencer. I said hello to inspiring new faces like Alberto Silva Fernandez, Izel Giron, Maria Luisa Guerrero, Anahy Diaz, Annabella Mireles, Victoria Rivas, Alyson Rodriguez, Kristen Scheaffer, Daniel Lopez, Julia Lucero, Emily Autumn Velasquez and Karina Saldana. As long as journalists like them exist, I know our community’s voices and stories are in good hands.

I hope to make The Prospector, UTEP El Paso’s newspaper proud as I say hello to the NBC Page Program in New York City. I feel lucky to be surrounded by individuals and places that make saying goodbye and hello a beautifully difficult situation.

So with all the courage I can must, goodbye Prospector and here’s to hoping life continues blessing me with equally as adventurous hellos at the ones you gave me.

Anahy Diaz is the copy editor and may be reached at anahydiaz1@miners.utep.edu, @by_anahydiaz on Twitter and Instagram.

BY JULIA LUCERO
The Prospector

I do not think that I have had to make a goodbye as hard as this one. I will be leaving UTEP and moving on to the next part of my life. UTEP has become a second home to me. From working at the Union, working for The Prospector, meeting new people in my classes, and becoming a reporter, I do not think that I have had a school experience as great as this one. In fact, nothing comes close.

I did not have the best high school experience. I did not do meaningful connections with people or felt that I belonged at my high school. To tell the truth, I did not attend my graduation because I did not mean anything to UTEP. I am the only place where I genuinely felt that I belonged somewhere. I felt that I had found “my people” and “my tribe.” People with whom I could be my authentic self. People who wanted the best for me and brought it out of me as well. It is bittersweet, but it is nice to think of it as a place that is worth missing. I could go on and say UTEP was filled with so many memories and I am going to miss that. But the main thing I want to stress in this farewell letter is: undergrads, slow down. I too wanted nothing more than to rush out of here and “get it over with.” Well, that is what I thought I wanted. Yet, here I am staring at my cap and gown in the corner of my closet wishing it was mine. Of course, I am proud of myself for coming this far and obtaining my degree. It is awesome! But I also wish I had taken the time to enjoy the little moments, the big moments, the frustrating ones, the “That is it, I am dropping out” moments. I will never get those back. I will never be a college kid anymore. So, to all my underclassmen, please enjoy being a student. There are going to be times you want to give up. When you miss your 8am class and you are angry for yourself or it or you are up all night studying and wish you could go to bed. Enjoy those times, do not let it engulf you. Enjoy the things you hate about college and the moments you adore. The best way I could describe this feeling to you is through a song called, “You gonna miss this” by Trace Adkins. The song is about living in the moment. Stressing to not rush anything in life because you are too busy waiting for the future, you forget you are living in a time that you are going to look back at and miss. I really wish that I had known. I wish that I had taken a step back during the chaotic late nights writing, attending different events, hanging out in The Prospector and Union offices, and just allowed myself to look around. To capture the moment, to really be there.

I wish that someone had taken me by the shoulders and said “Stop! Stop worrying about the future and just be here.” There was a time where you couldn’t wait to be in college and have the experiences you are living through now. Enjoy them, before they’re gone,” So hide it in my closet on the shoulders you to Snap out see SLOW DOWN on page 3

Thank you, next

Hugo Hinojosa, Photo Editor

It may not have been for everyone, and it is certainly not a guarantee of a life of luxury or popularity — or whatever we think success is — but we must realize that it is not easy whatsoever. Now, add a global pandemic to the mix of misfortune. I will absolutely buy Jamba Juice on my way to therapy. Sometimes, I think that is the only way we can escape the everyday world, even if it is just for a few moments.

Don’t take the goodbyes for granted. Grant them the importance they deserve. They are going to be times where you are going to look back at and miss. A lifetime award for making decisions at all. I would stress that making decisions not mean anything to me. UTEP is the place where I genuinely felt that I belonged somewhere. I felt that I had found “my people” and “my tribe.” People with whom I could be my authentic self. People who wanted the best for me and brought it out of me as well. It is bittersweet, but it is nice to think of it as a place that is worth missing. I could go on and say UTEP was filled with so many memories and I am going to miss that. But the main thing I want to stress in this

SLOW DOWN and enjoy your time at UTEP

Julia Lucero

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PROSPECTOR STAFF REPORT

This photo gallery is meant to focus on a few of the many news stories that we covered during the Spring 2022 semester. It is a great way to look back on this semester and remember the many events that shaped it.

TOP LEFT: U.S Rep. Veronica Escobar sat down with Editor-In-Chief of The Prospector newspaper Alberto Silva Fernandez for a one-on-one interview in The Prospector office on Dec. 15.

BOTTOM LEFT: Representative Beto O’Rourke holds a campaign rally at DeadBosch Brewery Jan. 8. O’Rourke spoke to the crowd about his ideas for the State of Texas and matters such as women’s rights, weapons and school funding.

TOP RIGHT: $295 billion in damages resulted after Winter Storm Uri hit Texas and the eastern half of the U.S. Thursday, Feb. 3, 2022. 246 Texans’ lives were taken, two-thirds of which were caused by hypothermia. Gov. Greg Abbott released a press release Feb. 1 stating his preparation for future storms.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Back on March, UTEP was declared an R1 research university for the second time by The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, making it the only university in the U.S with this status while holding a 100% admission rate.

THANK YOU

to Teri Provost, I do not think I find myself leaving behind some of the best moments of my life. Before you are walking across that stage and it is too late. I was able to have met my most valuable friends. You all took the time to make us better students and workers. No one does it like you. Thank you, Professor Gannon and Professor Kocherga for reading, editing, and critiquing some of my most terrible stories. You both went above and beyond for your students and for that, I am eternally grateful.

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UTEP students trained in public health informatics thanks to $10M grant

BY ANAHY DIAZ
The Prospector

UTEP students will be trained for careers in public health informatics thanks to a new $10 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ (HHS) Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), according to a news release from UTEP Marketing and Communications.

The nine-institution collaboration, “Gaining Equity in Training for Public Health Informatics and Technology” (GET PHIT), is part of ONC’s Public Health Informatics & Technology Workforce Development Program (PHIT Workforce Program) which aims to strengthen U.S. public health information technology efforts and increase representation of under-represented communities within the public health IT workforce.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), public health informatics is the systematic application of information, computer science, and technology to public health practice, research, and learning. At UTEP, Amy Wagler, Ph.D., associate professor of mathematical sciences and director of UTEP’s Data Analytics Lab; Michael Pokojovy, Ph.D., assistant professor of mathematical sciences and director of UTEP’s Computer Science Data Analytics Lab; and Christina Sobin, Ph.D., professor of public health sciences and director of UTEP’s Master of Public Health Program, will help lead the opportunity.

These faculty members will coordinate curriculum development and introduce students to important concepts through camps and internships, according to the news release. Their aim is to increase student participation in topics subject to development of standards and clinical care guidelines that enhance electronic health records.

Wagler told UTEP Marketing and Communications that one of the main challenges in health informatics is the under-representation of Hispanic, African American and Native American groups in both the workforce and in the patient data used for research.

“As a result, these groups have not experienced equity in contributing to or benefiting from advancements produced by informatics research,” Wagler said. “For UTEP, this presents a valuable opportunity.”

UTEP will be joining the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Biomedical Informatics and School of Public Health, leading the effort, alongside Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, and the minority-serving institutions of Houston-Tillotson University, Prairie View A&M University, Texas A&M International University, the University of Texas at Arlington, The University of Texas Permian Basin, and The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

The universities’ goal is to provide training, educational services and career development resources to about 1,900 students and professionals over a four-year period.

“Our students will be able to contribute to the development of easily accessible, real-time health data to address the health care challenges present in our region’s Hispanic population,” said Robert A. Kirken, Ph.D., dean of UTEP’s College of Science in the news release. “Through this partnership, we will play a major role in how this public health infrastructure will be delivered to communities.”

As part of the GET PHIT program, an interdisciplinary team of UTEP researchers will help coordinate a pair of two-week GET PHIT boot camps each summer from 2022 to 2025, to help a minimum of 125 students receive public health education. The bootcamp curriculum is a compilation of various training including an introduction to public health informatics, data standards, public health analytics, and public health surveillance.

In addition, according to UT Health Houston, each summer students accepted into the program will be supported by a stipend of $1,500. Stipends will be allocated on a first applied, first accepted basis.

Paid internships within health departments, nonprofits and health systems are also available for eligible students. The GET PHIT internship is a 160 hour part-time experience, where students also have the opportunity to receive a stipend ranging from $2,440 to $3,000 based on education and skill.

UTEP students interested in applying for public health informatics training opportunities can visit www.uth.edu/get-phit/index.htm#bootcamp.

A $10 million grant from the U.S Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), according to a news release from UTEP Marketing and Communications.
After 22 years, UTEP student body elected its first all-female executive team, Dream. The team from left to right, Cira Vera vice president of external affairs, Gabriela Muñoz as president, and Alyssa Martinez as vice president of internal affairs.

BY KRISTEN SCHEAFFER

The UTEP student body elected its first all-female executive team, Dream, since 1999. Starting June 1, the Student Government Association (SGA) will welcome Gabriela Muñoz as president, Alyssa Martínez as vice president of internal affairs, and Cira Vera as vice president of external affairs. Once appointed, they will have the opportunity to appoint an executive assistant whom Muñoz says will be made up of women as well.

“It’s like an honor to be in a position like this, because ultimately at the end of the day, I don’t think we ever realized the impact that we would have on other students. It’s crazy to see the span we had with this campaign considering we’re all women,” Vera said.

SGA was established in 1922 and is an organization that represents the UTEP student body. SGA shoulders the responsibility of protecting their rights and being the voice for students across campus.

“If students ever feel like they have any issues on campus that they need or want to bring to light or we have events they want to see on campus, or they need help with anything,” Muñoz said. “We’re here to go ahead and inspire that change and help them with that change as much as we can.”

Muñoz said that Dream will focus on the four main pillars: sexual assault awareness, campus engagement, connectivity, and student empowerment.

“At the end of the day, that is one thing that dream is really trying to change; people don’t know who SGA is, don’t know who represents them,” Muñoz said. “I feel a lot of the time these past SGAs have really relied on students coming to them and, even during this whole campaign, it’s something that we’re completely trying to reform. Students shouldn’t have to come find us; we need to go find students.”

Muñoz and Vera said that their top priority once taking office would be to visit the various organizations and introduce themselves, saying, they cannot do anything if the student body does not know who they are.

The creation of Dream was conjured one night at a coffee shop; the girls were talking about what they wanted to do in the future with SGA.

It was their campaign manager, Kyle Jacquez, who came up with their teams name. Muñoz said Jacquez put in a lot of work to help them win their campaign.

“Att the beginning, we didn’t really mean it for it to be all women or for that to be like, our catch. We just kind of knew that we were friends, and we were in SGA and we were together and we wanted more,” Muñoz said.

Muñoz and Vera said it was not easy but they pushed through it.

“We were all just three girls that wanted more for ourselves and people. We face a lot of adversity from people telling us no, like we were experiencing something, and we just decided to throw ourselves in there,” said Musotz.

Kristen Scheaffer is a staff reporter and may be reached at kmscheaffer@miners.utep.edu.

THE UTEP STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM (SSSP)

HATS OFF TO YOU!

Class of 2022

Spring 2022 Graduates
Karina Banuelos
Brian Gatewood
David Guereca-Berumen
Elia Licerio
Adrianna Martinez
Robin Medina
Italy Ramos
Alison Rivera
Dan Edgar Salvosa Xidney
Velia Valenzuela
Samantha Vargas
Laura Villalobos
Summar 2022 Graduates
Andrea Bordier
Sofia Carranza
Emilia Franco
Amanda Guevara

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Olympic gold medalist headlines UTEP 21st century conference

The last time the conference was held it was strictly online due to the pandemic. Members of SELC were eager for the conference to return in person this year and to see students develop their leadership skills.

“SELC is hosting this event to provide a leadership experience for students,” said Daisy Munzor leadership, inclusion, and advocacy coordinator at SELC. “A lot of our population who signed up for this event had never been to a conference. This is an excellent opportunity for students to learn how to navigate a conference.”

Other topics the breakout sessions covered included money saving strategies, mental health and imposters syndrome which is a huge thing especially for a lot of us first-generation students. I’m especially looking forward to listening to the awesome keynote speakers.”

The keynote speaker for Friday evening was Olympic gold in gymnastics, Laurie Hernandez. She was the winner of “Dancing with the Stars” season 23 mirror ball trophy. She is also a New York Times bestselling author with her first book, “I Got This: To Gold and Beyond.” Her presentation involved following your dreams and embracing who you are. Richard Montañez was the keynote speaker for Saturday. Before he retired, he led multicultural sales and marketing as vice president of all Pepsi North American divisions for 42 years. “I like taking opportunities to increase my leadership skills,” said UTEP multidisciplinary studies major Matthew Crawford. “I’ve learned so much already and I’ve only been to two breaks out sessions. I really enjoyed learning about the miner ambassador program, I didn’t know it existed before going to the presentation.”

Continental breakfast, lunch, and dinner were provided to attendees and presenters. Students got to enjoy having dinner on Friday night with keynote speaker Laurie Hernandez. President Heather Wilson joined in on the fun and joined students for lunch and activities during Saturday’s events. For many breakout session presenters who were students, this was the first time they were speaking at a conference. But they did not let their nerves get in the way of them spreading their knowledge to conference attendees.

“I thought this was a unique opportunity that the miner ambassador program provided that I had to jump on,” said Brooke Dorsey, one of the presenters for “The Miner Ambassador Experience: Creating Future Leaders” presentation. “There aren’t many opportunities in the program where you get to be the star of the show. This was my first time attending the leadership conference and I didn’t even know about this event before. Now that I’m here and looking at all of the amazing people and the effort put into it, it’s quite incredible.”

To learn more about SELC, visit www.utep.edu/studentaffairs/selc.

Photo courtesy of SELC.

Olympic gold medalist Laurie Hernandez was one of multiple keynote speakers for the Southwest Leadership Conference on April 22, an event hosted by UTEP’s Student Engagement and Leadership Center. Photo by Kristen Scheaffer/ The Prospector.

Congratulation, Graduating Class of 2022

Campus Advocacy, Resources and Education (CARE) is proud of all the students who are graduating this semester.

Thank you for making UTEP a great campus community.
Early college students prepare to join the work force

By Kristen Scheaffer

After completing the early college program provided by EPCC, Paulina Medrano will graduate, leaving them to receive their bachelor’s degree only two years after graduating high school.

“Early college high schools are opportunities for students in the public schools to earn their high school diploma and their associate’s degree during the time that they’re doing their high school work,” said Ivette Savina, assistant vice president for the AVP Student Outreach and Access. “So, in the end, they graduate with both, the high school diploma and a full associate’s degree.”

Students enroll into the program in eighth grade and work on their associates until high school graduation, leaving them the opportunity to receive their bachelor’s two years after their high school graduation.

“I kind of leaned into it because it was going to save me a lot of time and money,” said Itzel Torres, UTEP senior, when talking about why she chose early college high school.

Medrano said that she was persuaded by a close friend in the program and stuck it out, because it was something different.

Early college high school was started in 2006 in El Paso due to a joint effort between the Socorro independent school district and the El Paso Community College, according to Savina. Mission Early College High School was the first to open in El Paso expanding to add more colleges within the years, according to Savina.

Savina said that El Paso currently has 27 early college models with seven more due to open in the fall.

“I think it’s a testament to the ISD and through the community college, some of our students are able to complete their associate’s degree by the end of their junior year in high school,” Savina said. “And so, what happens after that is that the students then have the opportunity, or the option, continuing their college coursework at UTEP.”

Kristen Scheaffer is a staff reporter and may be reached at kmscheaffer@miners.utep.edu
Every year, UTEP students are presented as The Top Ten Seniors – 10 graduating or recently graduated seniors who are not only academic achievers, but have a combination of leadership, involvement, and service in both their community and on the UTEP campus, according to the UTEP Alumni Association website. For 2022 the Alumni Association picked 10 seniors who fulfill the requirements of being a Top Ten Senior but exceed the expectations. Ranging from all majors and different colleges, UTEP’s 2022 Top Ten Seniors are:

Adam Campos
Students are always encouraged to push themselves in multiple aspects, from community service to involvement in student events, Adam Campos has redifned the word service to his own terms. His involvement in the Medical Professions Organization, the Pre-Pharmacy Organization, the Texas Tech Double T Medical Honor Society and even assisting UTEP in their rollout of COVID-19 vaccines, Campos has always lent a helping hand.

Like every student at UTEP, every college experience is different in a multitude of ways, but for Campos service is the one word he would use to describe his time here.

“T would say service. Throughout, I have always been passionate about volunteering and giving back to the community and giving back to those who need it most,” Campos said.

Anahy Yoelyn Diaz
Arriving at UTEP as a prestigious Terry Scholar, Anahy Diaz has become a leader not only on campus but also at The Prospector. From being editor-in-chief to recently being multimedia editor, Diaz has made an impact on not just UTEP but many students. Her hard work and dedication have not only highlighted her work but displayed in her acceptance into the NBC Page Program in New York City.

Andrea Cecilia Herrera Aguirre
Like many here on campus, Andrea Aguirre is an international student who travels from Juarez to come to school. As an honors student, Aguirre graduated Summa Cum Laude from her undergraduate degree in English and American Literature.

“Since I started UTEP, I have gone to commencement ceremonies and I saw the top 10 seniors of that time; I didn’t even know what that was but once I saw the big honor, I just wondered what it would be like to be me,” Aguirre said. “Now that it’s actually me it feels very surreal, and it means a lot, especially people that have graduated to recognize something in me that they’ve seen in so many other special individuals.”

Paola Garcia Hernandez
Every college experience is different for every student, whether it be good or bad, it is up to the student to take the experience and mold it to push them further than they believe. For Paola Hernandez, sometimes the toughest battles a student can face are at home.

“Throughout my entire college career my dad has been battling cancer,” Hernandez said. “It is what got me into medical school but also the biggest challenge. Having to see him go through that because he’s always been my number one motivator.”

Destiny Alejandro Rodriguez de San Miguel
Starting as a ballet teacher in her second semester, Destiny credits this job for building her communication and leadership skills. Those valuable attributes helped her not only secure the prestigious Gilman scholarship, Honors Houston Endowment scholarship, but the Houston Professional and Leadership Development scholarship.

“Since I started UTEP, I have been very involved in the career center and in the Houston Endowment Office. They have really helped me get involved in the community and I think this is why they have chosen me as a Top Ten Senior,” Aguirre said. “I have been very involved in the community and I think this is why they have chosen me as a Top Ten Senior.”

Maximilian Gonzalez
As a first-generation student Maximo Gonzalez quickly fueled himself from the very beginning to become something bigger. Joining a local startup, Gamez hopes to make entrepreneurship opportunities more attainable to aspiring Hispanic innovators in the region.

“You’re provided with all the help and mentorship to make change (here at UTEP),” Gamez said. “Make something of what you see around you, build something out of nothing and help others in the process.”

Sophia Anastasia Androutsos
The path to a career in law for Sophia Androutsos started at UTEP, where she said her peers motivated her to work harder. UTEP’s Law School Preparation Institute provided Androutsos with opportunities for on-campus activities and competitive internships that have helped lay the groundwork for her career preparation.

From spearheading initiatives to encouraging voter registration efforts on campus to landing her dream internship at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., through the prestigious Arch Federation Program, Androutsos’ time at UTEP has prepared her to pursue her goal of becoming a civil rights attorney advocating for women’s access to equal rights and equal pay.

Kaelin Li Walker
Despite the challenging academic environment of a global pandemic, Kaelin Li Walker utilized and built her community skills as she worked at a UNIV 301 peer leader, guiding students as they took on new challenges. While studying dance as well as women’s and gender studies, the honors student was a Student Government Association Senator at Large, a Houston Endowment Scholar, and was recognized by the Student Engagement Leadership Center with the Distinguished Leader Award.

Walker’s academic path also helped her gain leadership skills and convey complex ideas through dance. She grew as a leader directing a team for her capstone dance production, which focused on the role of gender and race in society. She hopes to continue raising awareness of important issues and grow as an advocate.

Information provided with the help of The UTEP Alumni Association website.
College of Liberal Arts

Doctor of Philosophy

Stephen Jantah Boakye
Nicholas Daniel Evans
Patricia Flores Hutson
Juan Moises Garcia Renteria
Suresh Lohani
Claudia Ilana Lopez
Carlos Portillo Jr
Aurelio Saldana Jr
Evelyn Sara Jimmy
Andres Marie Severson
Natalie Elise Taylor

Master of Arts in Teaching

Ana Maria Dolce Gheleora Portas

Master in Public Administration

Angelie Alman

Master of Arts

Anita Maria Allmold

Master of Defense & Strategic Studies

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Raul Rodriguez
Maria Elena Rubio
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Alhaji A. Savage
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Robert Michael Theus
Benjamin Eduardo Torres
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Laura Lisette Trejo
Lauren Elizabeth Uribarri
Alexis Gerardo Valerio Valdez
Maria Alicia Vonzaluskiowski
Rachel Lynn Williams
Melisha Karon Wilson
Michael Woolley
Sophia Conrine Wozniak

Master of Fine Arts

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Andrea Lora Castillo
Marlyn Noraya Coojouy
Jefferson Daniel De Los Rios Sr
Ana Mayela De Velazquez Farfan
Arturo Josue Fernandez Pozo
Ines Gallo De Urioste
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Yoshimar Gerardo Maceda
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Hugo Javier Moreno Sr
Bobi Page
Jason Michael Palomo
Adam L. Ramsey
Tania Maria Romero
Alaide Ventura Medina
Heidi Zeigler

Master of Music

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Benjamin Adam Crowder
Keith Alexander Morales
Matthew Isaac Pena
Jesus Jose Perez

Master of Science

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Justine A. Provencio
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Robert Matthew Sanchez
Jessica Lee Sumrall
Cresley Troy Williams
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Dahne Lorena Hernandez
Jaime Hernandez
Amallley Hernandez Sanchez
Celeste Kieffe
Claire Cecilia Kirkland
Whit Antoineo Mirre
Eduardo Marquez
Viridiana Hernandez Mascorro
Gabriela Maria Maynes
Marisela Melero
Gretchen Lorraine Olson Melo
Jazmin Gabriela Montanez
Naomi Sue Morales
Nidia Verónica Moreno-Holguitn
Gregory James Oates
Valeria Ordoque
Rosita Isela Orozco
Elizabeth Ortiz
Josue Israel Palomin0
Kathy Janet Pena
Elsa Melina Perez
Erich Pichardo
Jose Carlos Pineda III
Trisha Rae Reade
Andrea Rios Escobar
Cesar Romero
Estela Marie Ruiz
German Saez
Uniel Ernesto Saez
Lydia Sandate
Emma Alejandro Serrano
Jordan E. Sonora
Maria del Refugio Soto
Brenda Alejandro Terrazas
Ashley Danielle Thomas
Hilda Vanessa Turner
Raquel Kelly Watts

Master of Science
Melissa Mariel Bedolla
Sylvia Boeger
Eva Leticia Briones
Maria Isabel Castanon
Lilian E. Diosdado
Zuzanna Barbara Gromulska
Natalia Anali Murillo
Sasha Vanessa Ponce
Sarah Rouhani
Michelle Cordero Santana
Lydia Camina Sosa
Sharlene Marie Tandy
Maria Aracely Terrazas

College of Business Administration
Doctor of Philosophy
Adrian Joseph Tipitt
Yiu Wang

Master of Accountancy
Elizabeth Yvette Aguilar
Jeanette Nicole Alvarado
Lucy Angel Avila
Andrea Corral
Alfonso Guerrero
Mandy Michelle Henderson
Anisbel Hernandez Hernandez
Iris Jazmin Hita
Erika Alicia Hungate
Pamela Kuchle
Christian Laguna
Jesus Manuel Larrea
Ana Sofia Meouchi Madrid
Ysenia Molina
Adrian Angelo Ramos
Gabriela Lizbeth Rodriguez
Daniel Steven Seegers
Melissa Villanueva

Master of Business Administration
Oscar Manuel Alvarez
Manuel Adrian Alvarez Ramirez
Abrii Astrid Arzate
Tarek Moatasem Azzam
Elena Bariols
Walter Alfonso Bencomo
Paulina Alicia Caldera
Lucia Cardiona
Leticia Caro
Chihyu Chang
Jason A. Colon
Fabiola Diaz-Paz
Ricardo Miguel Dominguez Jr.
Edgard Estrada
Leslie I. Franco
Alejandra Sarahi Gamez Corral
Hector Arturo Garcia
Raquel Garcia
Sergio Miguel Gomez Baltazar
Miguel A. Loya
Jose Javier Loya Fernandez
Ivan Luna
Manali Arun Mahalungkar
Elizabeth Leonore Marquez
Rebeca Moreno
Leticia Munoz
Joseph Alfred Nava
Nathan M. Nguyen
Margarita Nieves
Evelyn Ortiz
Cynthia Carolina Perales
Liliana Maria Quevedo
Claudia Manely Ramirez Jaquez
Denise Reynosa
Alexis Rivera
Christian Tyler Rivera
Stephanie Michelle Rivera
Celia Maria Rodriguez
Victor Manuel Rodriguez
Karime Saad
Gema Aline Sanchez
Victor Serrano
Hector Gabriel Silva
William Anthony Vega

Master of Science
Adriana Carmona
Raul Estrada
Karla Janet Lujan Villa
Maria Priscola Vargas Fierro

College of Health Sciences
Doctor of Philosophy
Martin S. Dietz Hermosa
Salvador Dominguez
Patrick Vaughn Hopkins
Sheralyn Sarah Sanchez
Marri Elise Shoemaker

The Physics Department congratulates all students graduating this year.
We look forward to hearing about your success.
Go Miners!
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

Class of 2022

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

Happy Graduation Day from the Office of International Programs and Study Abroad!

Class of 2022

The College of Health Sciences is so proud of your achievements!
We can't wait to see you next steps, and we want you to stay connected to us!
Thank you for helping us to build our future together!

Office of International Programs and Study Abroad

Doctor of Physical Therapy
- Jesus Gabriel Altamiranda Molina
- Maria Isabel Avila
- Seles Raquelle Avila
- Gregory Steven Bell
- Jonathan Chase Britton
- Michelle N. Brown
- Larissa Castro
- Roger Ian Castro
- Michelle Constante
- Briana N. Dawkins
- Clarissa Katelyn Diaz
- Megan Myung Eckert
- David Gonzalez
- Alexandra R. Gutierrez Loya
- Kayla Harrell
- Josephine Supiny Hay
- Adrian Joshua Llanean
- Sebastian Joao Lopez
- Asha Marchant
- Oscar Alberto Martinez
- Nicholas Jacob Montoya
- Kenny Nguyen
- Jesus Roberto Ortegon Jr
- Anja Louise Parikh
- Natalie Marie Queñuel
- Julia Lynne Reegan
- Angel Rene Rodriguez
- Nora G. Salgado Chavez
- Rebecca Nicole Sharp
- Juan Carlos Torres
- James Thomas Watther
- Collin Robert Wigely
- Lauren Ashley Zoller

Master of Science in Nursing
- Lorena Marisol Martinez
- Emily Martinez
- Evelyn S. Madrid
- Melissa Machorro
- Ana Luisa Guerra
- Alexis Renee Garcia
- Viktoria Marie Calanche
- Simon Patrick Bejarano
- Annette Marie Barron
- Vibrianna Estrella Avila
- Ariadna Gisel Amparan

Master of Social Work
- Master of Science
- Monica Corin Alfaro

Master of Public Health
- Master of Rehabilitation Counseling
- William Campillo Terrazas
- Eduardo Elias Chaib
- Denise Nicole Portillo

Master of Science
- Mariel D. Alcala
- Monica Corin Alfaro

School of Nursing
- Doctor of Nursing Practice
- Maria Mercedes Acevedo
- Juan Emmanuel Anzuers Jr
- Bertha Lorena Conteras
- Maria Inez Crespin
- Lucia Belleza De La Paz
- Sutha Mervin Fernando
- Crystal Garcia-Martinez
- Marcia Watts Hammons
- Assumpta Feywina Iwe
- Azeb Haile Lemma
- Maria Magdalena Marquez
- Desiree Ann Medina
- Erika Victoria Meza Rodriguez
- Gabriela Mirambel
- Mariagayore Okuuzimuchne Nwiloh
- Raquel Okubo
- Angel Pineda
- Holly Powers
- Miguel Angel Rodriguez
- Lyndsey Marie Slape
- Alexis Rose Zak

School of Pharmacy
- Master of Pharmacy
- Erick Paul Alvarado
- Jasmin Aileen Amaya
- Marie Jacqueline Angayen
- Daniel A. Antunez
- Melissa E. Aragon
- Darcy C. Aranda
- Raul Banuelos Jr
- Heidi Noemi Barron
- Alexis Noelle Betancourt
- Daniel A. Betancourt Ascencio
- William Campillo Terrazas
- Brias Janee Chacon
- Leticia Cortez
- Amanda Ann De La Cruz
- Bianca Alexis Duran
- Andre Matthew Frigyes
- Abigail Gallegos
- Tsigie Gebremedhin
- Emily Teresa Hibbert
- Erik Christopher Holland
- Lilian Jepoo Koech
- Susana Y. Lopez
- Raymundo Javier Luna
- Leonardo Martinez
- Johanna Yvette Martinez
- Bianca Vanessa Mason
- Samantha L. Monloya
- Christian Martin Monzon
- Maite Moyers
- Elie Naddour
- Alejandro Omos
- Orelon Osei
- Vianca M. Padilla
- Abril Ramirez
- David Victor Ramos
- Murudula Rarapar
- Miguel Rivera III
- Sarah Ruth Salazar
- Gerardo Sanchez
- Salma Lorena Sandoval
- Javier Sarinana
- Clarissa Alexandra Soto
- Christopher Alexander Styles
- Luis B. Timoco Jr
- Samuel Urenda
- Priscilla Valle
- Eduardo Crist Vazquez
- Jasmine Yvette Velarde
- Ashleigh B. Williams
- Fernando Daniel Zambrana Vanzuela
- Ashlynn Mary Zeyer

Engineering Science/Interdisciplinary
- Doctor of Philosophy
- Md. Nurul Huda
- Anand Raj
- Rebecca Alexandra Romero

Dean of Students
Congratulations to our graduates.

We are very proud of you!

Department of English

Class of 2022

Wishing all our graduates the best on their future endeavors!

from the VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

You did it, Miners! Congratulations on your accomplishments!

2022 Graduates
Congratulations Grads!

Thank you for living on campus with us. We wish you all the best of luck in the future.

Class of 2022

Thank you for living on campus with us. We wish you all the best of luck in the future.
This degree is for my family! Thank you mom for all the love and support. Thank you to my beautiful daughter for your motivation. I love you real! I did it!

- Jasmine Lloyd

- Go UTEP, we did it!!
Good luck to everyone!

- Evelyn

Sheout to all my mines good! I'm super proud of us!

- Vale

Finally did it!

- Congrats to all

- Araceli

Congratulations to all graduates!

- Juan M.

Congratulations to all seniors of 2022

- Jessica Ramirez

Congratulations spring ’22 class.
We finally did it!

- Ana Victorino

You did it!

- Diana

To what the future holds!
Amie: yay!

I wish you all success!
Congrats)

- Adam J.

We did it!!

- Jacqueline Padilla

Finally!

- Ismael West

Yay! Go Miners!

- Sam A

Congratulations! Our hardwork paid off!

- Ana Patricia

Keep going no matter what!

- C.W.

Milca Morales
We did it!!!

- Omar Hernandez

Next to the real world.
Good luck.

- Ariz

It was tough but we did it!
Go Miners!

- Shalim

The sleepless nights were worth it!

- Trammy

Go Miners! We did it!

- Venirica Rodriguez

2022:

- Breanna Chavez

We finally did it!

- Richelle P.D.

We made it! No UTEP couldn’t do it.

- Victoria

Finally made it!

- Klaudia

Finally made it!

- Jannel Ballin

Congratulations to all graduates!

- Shurayl Cabral

Finally made it!

- Alex Chavez

Congratulations! Miners we did it!
Congratulation you did it!

- Jackie

It was worth the ups & downs, GO MINERS!

- Brayan

Finally, life can start

- Cyriel

We did it!!

- Vivian Flores

We made it!!!

- Leidy Torres

The sleepless nights were worth it!

- Trammy

We’re finally done! UTEP nursing MPS

- Carlos
Congrats Miners! We did it!

- Aislyns B

Go Miners! Congrats - Adam Carneo to all grads!

- Benjamin Vera

Finally, graduation congrats to everyone!

This is for me, my family, my boyfriend, my grandma, to the teachers and help along the way.

- Emelia

Si se pudo! Love

- Nikki Alejandro

Go Miners! Rip Fin.

- Anthony Ibarra

I did it!

- Mary

Congratulations Class of 2022

- Nathaniel

Go Miners!!

- Andres Roa

You can do it! It's worth it!

- UTEP

Go Miners!

-集团

Congratulations to all grads!

- Alyssa

Go Miners!

- Group R

Congratulations to all the west.

- Alex

Congratulations to all the west.

- Edward

You did it!

- pickle

You did it!

- Jennifer

CONGRATS!

- Jackie

We did it!

- Leon L. Williams

Finally, we did it!

- Jennifer

Finally we did it!

- Jennifer

Go Miners!

- Group B

Thank you for everything!

- Marla... Ambrose

Thank you for everything!

- Marla... Ambrose

Finally, congrats to everyone!

- Andrew

Finally, congrats to everyone!

- Andrew
The University of Texas at El Paso

Class of 2022

Congratulations!

Wishing All the Graduates the Best on Their Future Endeavors!

Graduates of the Class of 2022:

- Daisy Morales
- Hillary Morales
- Miguel Angel Morales
- David Moreno
- Robert Austin Morris
- Elisa Nicole Molton
- Jasmin Moya
- Esdras Elias Munoz
- Alyssa Danie Munoz
- Brian Steve Munoz
- Eduardo A. Munoz
- Alan Navarro
- Maribel Rosario Navarro
- Isaac Eduardo Nevarez
- Jojo Ngongo
- Ayana A. Noel
- Izyriana Marie Nunez
- Jamina Nunez
- Samuel Oniferos II
- Ruby Esmeralda Orduño
- Ernesto A. Ortega
- Andrea Ortiz
- Cynithia M. Ortiz
- Misael Ortiz
- Braedon C. Oshea
- Brittany Marie Padilla
- Jacqueline Padilla
- Manuel Padilla III
- Victoria R. Padilla
- Yami Alejandra Palacio
- Blanca Aurora Parra
- Cayla A. Payne
- Daniel M. Pedroza Jr.
- Alexia M. Perez
- Cassandra Perez
- Clarissa Perez
- Samantha Marie Perez
- Jesus Antonio Poncio Jr.
- Osvaldo Arturo Portillo Gaytan
- Rhianne Dawn Powers
- Esteban Prado
- Gabriela Prieto
- Joselyn Stephanie Puentes
- Erik Lee Quezada
- Brisa Quezada
- Emil Guillermo Quezada
- Seth Elias Fox Quinones
- Carolina Quiroga
- Carlos Ramirez Jr.
- Daniel Alfredo Ramirez
- Jacob Ramirez
- Melissa Ramirez
- Karen Ramirez Simental
- Adriana Ramos
- Amanda Nicole Ramos
- Daniela I. Ramos
- Andres Ivan Raya
- Mariana Paulina Reyes
- Melissa Reyes
- Miguel Rico Jr.
- Victoria Graciela Rios
- Alisa Rivera
- Maris J. Riveras
- Adrian G. Robles
- Ana Cristina Rodriguez
- Aracely Rodriguez
- Bryan D. Rodriguez
- Jonathan Rodriguez
- Jose Armando Rodriguez
- Mariela Areli Rodriguez
- Hannah James Romero
- Lynette Alyssa Romero
- Samuel Rosas
- Valeria Ruan
- Efrian Rubio
- Jacob I. Rubio
- Ari Alejandro Ruiz
- Isis Andrea Ruiz-Hurtado
- Ayv Nohemi Ruvalcabala
- Aitdyn Saenz
- Sarah Feras Salama
- Esmeralda Salas
- Gemma Gabriela Salazar
- Lizbeth San Martin
- Briana Nicole Sanchez
- Jonathann Sanchez
- Mariela Sanchez
- Nayeli Sanchez
- Yesenia G. Sanchez
- Daniel Antonio Santos
- Noah Anthony Sarabia
- Evelyn F. Schaffer
- Andrew Noel Shah
- Alejandra Rosa Sifuentes
- Javier Alejandro Sileno
- Fernanda Silva
- Samantha Renee Silva
- Anshuman Arul Singhhal
- Alexys Dreyanna Singleton
- Ivan A. Solano
- Elena Sotelo
- Diego Omar Soto
- Renee Lianne Soto
- Rodolfo E. Soto
- Evelin Soto-Ramirez
- Justirnay Darrin Spence
- Mary Katherine Springer
- Macaleb Adrian Stephenson
- Andrew W. Stokes
- Payton Rhoderick Street
- Diana Irene Taylor
- Danita R. Teague
- Albert Lee Teran
- Fabiola Ternazas Duarte
- Rebeca Tiburcio
- Bryan J. Tiscareno
- Andres Torres
- Ivey Mitchell Torres
- Jazmine Uzhet Torres
- Jorge Jesus Torres
- Lucero S. Torres
- Munise Z. Tosun
- Alejandra Trujillo
- Aylin Trujillo
- Austin Reece Rodrigo Unger
- Fernanda Xcaret Urbina
- Yesenia Valdez
- Sofia Denise Valenzuela Dominguez
- Daniella Martha Valles
- Jesus H. Vasquez Jr.
- Kaylee A. Alyssa Vasquez
- Karina Vazquez
- Stephanie Vasquez
- Mia Lin Vecchione
- Jacob Andrew Veileux
- Arturo E. Velez
- Lily Esmeralda Villalobos
- Evelyn Cecilia Villarruel
- Gabriela Alejandra Villegas
- Raven Milagro Warroquers
- Catherine Marie Washington
- Thomas Michael Weinheimer
- Cristina Zapata
- Irene Zarate
- Ashley C. Zeh
- Emily Zuniga
- Sandra V. Zuniga

Bachelor of Fine Arts

- Ruben Aguylo Jr.
- Jaime Armenta Jr.
- Katelyn Marie Behrens
- Mike B. Bombach
- Adrian Christopher Cuellar
- Andrew C. Cuelar
- Kassia Rene Curi
- Jordan G. Dodson
- Jennifer Gallardo
- Myrna Navil Garcia
- Roxanne S. Gonzalez
- Valeria Gonzalez Torres
- Andrew R. Lopez
- Alan Aaron Maguregui-Fuentes
- Jorge Edgar Martinez
- Zayra I. Mojica
- Jennifer Morales
- Nigeth Alexandra Preciado
- Luis A. Rios
- Crystal Lici Rodriguez
- Ruben Alonso Rohan
- Isabelle Urquiuz
- Judith Cristina Villalva
- Marcela I. Zacarias

Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies

- Erica Haide Acoosta
- Victoria Francisca Arruyo
- Abraham Bailon
- Dennis Keyshawn Barnes
- Autumn Beaty
- Kyndal L. Brasswell
- Jackie Vinson Cano
- Vanessa Carrasco
- Linda Carrillo
- Irma Cepeda
- Karla Alejandra Chavez
- Jordan Thomas Czarnecki
- Jessica Devlin

Congratulations on your well-deserved success!

Picks up, miners!

- Recreational Sports Department

[Image: Congratulations on your well-deserved success!]

[Image: Picks up, miners!]

[Image: Recreational Sports Department]
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

CONGRATULATIONS
IN REACHING THIS IMPORTANT MILESTONE.
GO MINERS!

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2022!
WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS.
CONGRATULATIONS, UTEP CLASS OF 2022!

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

Class of 2022

Yesenia Lopez
Diana Lujan
Bela Mahatabfar
Kristian Adriana Mancillas
Aparna D. Mangadu
Adan Mares Jr.
Mariana Marinellarena
Lyndsey Marie Marquez
Alondra Liliana Martinez
Crystal G. Martinez
Jaqueline Martinez
Juan Pablo Mata
Elais Medel
John Oliver Melby Jr.
Cecilia Melendez
Jacob Robert Melendez
Natalia Guadalupe Mendoza
Noelia Mendoza
Janeth Yvonine Meraz
Heather M. Minjares
Miranda Helena Miranda
Nataly Montoya
Ariadha Izzel Mora
Eduardo D. Moreno
Chandler Grant Morgan
Samar Alejandro Muniz
Anakaren G. Munoz
Vanessa Murillo
Heba Mustafa
Brandon Will Myers
Denise Alicia Nevarez
Desiree Nieto
Autum Reign Nunez
Jannarys Ivell Octcttaviani
Abraham Olivas
Mark Anthony Olivas
Raul Olivas III
Rebeca Orozco Sepulveda
Aaron Ortiz
Helena Elise Ostos
Christopher Paul Owens
Miguel Angel Padilla
Jixuan Pan
Emily Elise Perez
Zisley Perez
Alsawaya J. Pillai
Alexa Flor Pizarro
Lawrence Portillo II
Ryan L. Portillo
Francesca Antonella Pulisci
Carolina Quintana
Michelle Quiroz
Kayla Ragland
Annmarie Cruz Ramirez
Michelle Eliosa Ramirez
Stacy Ramirez
Victoria Ramirez
Serena Marie Ramos
Katherine Fatima Refaeli
Ciffali Reyes
Erik V. Ricker
Aranda Luz Rivera

Daniel Rivera
Susana Robles Jr.
Laura Michelle Rocha
Amanda Starr Rodela
Anissa A. Rodriguez
Ashley Giselle Rodriguez
Genesis Rodriguez
Jasmin Rodriguez
Rochelle Rose Rodriguez
Rachel Keely Russ
LeeTee T. Safakabkash
Samantha Marie Sakells
Wendy Salinas
Xinney Dan Edgar Sanglang Salvaso
Jaqueline Abigail Samaniego Castro
Alexandro Sanchez
Alexis Sanchez
Celeste Rose Sanchez
Evelyn Sue Sanchez
Maricela Sanchez
Samantha Denise Sanchez
Roberto Junior Saucedo Jr.
Sergio Saucedo
Blessing S. Savusa
Athennis Edith Seijas
Carina Serna
Azul Florencia Silveyra
Eduardo Tomas Soto
Karena Hidalgo Steele
Gerald Lee Strenke
Susana Tapia
Jorge A. Tarango
Itea Tarin
Jonathan Anieves Tipo
Melissa M. Torres
Paulina Rocio Torres
Lham Thising
Alexandra M. Turgeon
Annmarie Elizabeth Ugarte
Kareli Paola Valdez
Viyaney Vale
Veila Valenzuela
Rebeca R. Valle
Daniel Valles
Irene C. Valverde
Cosette Soraya Velasquez
Christian Alejandro Verdugo Del Hoyo
Viviana Alyssa Vidalez
Benjamín Viescas Jr.
Sophia Villegas
Zyna Villegas
Klinley Wangmo
Aline Loren Zamora
Sophia Lizeth Zepeda
Brianne Zubiate
Jacqueline Valerie Zuloaga
Norberto Zuniga

College of Education

Bachelor of Arts

Paulina Acosta
Kenya Ivonne Aguilar
Rocio Guadalupe Aguilar
Oscar David Alvarado
Monique Apodaca
Diana Ruby Araiza
Maria Jose Arredondo Santillan
Josefina Barraza
Cinthia Carolina Barrera Simental
Messiah P. Bryant
Barbara Bueno
Izzenia Maria Campos
Priscilla Campos
Klarissa Estela Cantu
Valeria Ruby Carlos
Adam C. Castillo
Paulina Graciela Chavez
Jennifer Cruz
Jacqueline Cuanda
Edwardo Alejandro Del Campo
Allison Nicole Dominguez
Katelynn Duarte
Blanca Aide Elias
Kara Lynn Englishlee
Juan G. Enriquez
Elizabeth Espinoza
Anna Rocio Flores
Maria Fernanda Flores
Paula S. Flores
Claudia I. Francis
April Kristine Frias
Taylor Alexis Fuller
Anika J. Galvan
Diane L. Garcia
Lannette Patricia Garcia
Danielle Ruth Gomez
Salma Gonzalez
Cynthia Liliana Gonzalez Silva
Karina Herald Hernandez
Angelica Teresa Hnat
Abigail Joy Jolly
Stephanie Elisa Jurado
Vanessa M. Lake
Gabriella L. Ledesma
Hannah Lynn Lemma
Damaris Linares
Aylin Lopez
Kimberly Loya
Manuel Antonio Luna
Jessica Macias
Isabella Maria Marin
Anahi Marquez
Kared Vianney Maving
Morgan Katherine McCammon
Claudia J. Melgoza
Abraham Mendoza
Edgar Ivan Mendoza
Elida Morales Jr.

Ariana Moreno
Nancy Jaymin Nava
America Ogaz
Natalie Padilla
Amy Partida
Guadalupe R. Payan
Irma Yolanda Perez
Isaura Yareni Perez
Jennifer Perez
Leslie B. Ponce
Olivia Ashley Pulley
Leiliari Quezada
Azucena Quiones
Jose A. Quintero Jr.
Denti Alexa Ramirez
Iris Melinda Ramirez
Ana Karen Robbins
Joelstine Marie Ruiz
Cynthia N. Samaniego
Ashley Rachel Sandoval
Enrique Santileseban
Vanessa Serna
Michael A. Sigler
Paloma Rodriguez Simmons
Lorena Soris
Naomi Celes Sosa
Juliana Quitero Torres
Blanca A. Urbina
Ivonne Urueta
America Azuce Valadez
Rosa I. Valdez
Maria Guadalupe Vicuna
Jessica N. Viesna
Laura K. Villalobos
Alyssa Marie Villanueva
Dana Marie Watson
Amber C. Williams
Stephanie M. Williams
Samantha Nicol Woodart
Emma Marie Zamora

Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies

Loraine Yvette Farcqes
Crystal Michelle Valdez

Bachelor of Science

Cory Lynn Ball-Gonzalez
Bryanna Bocchou
Vivian Alejandro Cigarroa
Cynthia D. Gutierrez
Iris A. Herrera
Melissa Janette Martinez
Melissa Morales
Joann Beat Perales
Lissete Rodriguez-Campos

Ariana Moreno
Nancy Jaymin Nava
America Ogaz
Natalie Padilla
Amy Partida
Guadalupe R. Payan
Irma Yolanda Perez
Isaura Yareni Perez
Jennifer Perez
Leslie B. Ponce
Olivia Ashley Pulley
Leiliari Quezada
Azucena Quiones
Jose A. Quintero Jr.
Denti Alexa Ramirez
Iris Melinda Ramirez
Ana Karen Robbins
Joelstine Marie Ruiz
Cynthia N. Samaniego
Ashley Rachel Sandoval
Enrique Santileseban
Vanessa Serna
Michael A. Sigler
Paloma Rodriguez Simmons
Lorena Soris
Naomi Celes Sosa
Juliana Quitero Torres
Blanca A. Urbina
Ivonne Urueta
America Azuce Valadez
Rosa I. Valdez
Maria Guadalupe Vicuna
Jessica N. Viesna
Laura K. Villalobos
Alyssa Marie Villanueva
Dana Marie Watson
Amber C. Williams
Stephanie M. Williams
Samantha Nicol Woodart
Emma Marie Zamora

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2022!

YOU WORKED HARD, YOU PERSEVERED TO ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS, AND NOW WE CELEBRATE YOUR SUCCESS AND PROMISING FUTURE!

PRESIDENT HEATHER WILSON
‘Into the Woods’ brings a twist to classic fairytales

BY ALBERTO SILVA FERNANDEZ
THE PROSPECTOR

Jackie Arellano and Josey Pickett act as Rapunzel and the Witch for “Into the Woods” April 11 at the UTEP Dinner Theater, inside Union Bldg. West, Room 207.

Photo by Annabella Mireles/The Prospector

UTEP’s Dinner Theatre premiered its newest production of “Into the Woods” April 22 with a story line including traditional fairy tale stories such as, Jack and the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, and Rapunzel but with a dark twist into the second act.

The musical is based on the original 1987 Broadway musical by Stephen Sondheim instead of the 2014 film adaptation. The play is dedicated to Stephen Sondheim, to honor his life and career as a composer and lyricist, who died Nov. 2021, and Ingeborg Heuser a longtime UTEP professor, who passed away Feb. 14, 2021.

The dinner theatre was originally set to perform “Something rotten” as its Spring production, but once the death of Sondheim was announced, they decided to switch to “Into the Woods” to commemorate the great lyricist and composer.

The costumes designed by Jamie Barba and makeup by Ican Cano help transport the audience into the magical world. The characterization of all the characters is immersive, and it is impressive to see the Witch and the Wolf come to life on stage.

The story follows a baker and his wife who cannot have children and later discover that it is due to a curse placed on their family. Throughout the play the audience can see a new perspective of fairy tale characters as they witness the interactions with the baker. The baker is responsible for giving Jack the magical beans, Cinderella loses her slipper to the baker’s wife and the baker helps Little Red Riding Hood kill the Wolf.

The opening number, “Into the Woods,” is not only incredibly catchy that will have you singing it as you leave, but also impressive with multiple overlapping parts of the main cast.

“Into the Woods” does an incredible job at highlighting each character’s personality and develops multiple backstories. The story is intertwined perfectly as all the characters’ stories cross paths when they all venture off into the woods.

The chemistry amongst the cast really shined through in their acting, especially with Rapunzel’s prince, played by David Herring, and Cinderella’s prince, played by Zaid Zavala, as they sing their duet “Agony.” The baker played by Bryant D. Webb, and the baker’s wife played by Mindy Escobar-Leanse, are the stars of the show as their story was heartbreaking and connected with the audience. Both actors played off each other very well and their duet “It Takes Two” was a beautiful heartfelt moment between the main protagonists.

“Into the Woods” is a serious yet funny show with themes about family, trust and relying on others. The play will run from April 22 through May 8.

A dinner performance ticket includes a three-course dinner for all spectators one hour before the lights go off and the show begins. Attendees can enjoy a dinner including chicken cordon bleu with béchamel sauce, wild rice, spring vegetables, garden salad with house dressing, coffee, iced tea, and tiramisu cake for dessert.

Tickets are available at www.utep.edu/utep-ticket-center/ or can be purchased at ticketmaster.com.

Alberto Silva Fernandez is the editor in chief and may be reached asilva36@miners.utep.edu; @albert.sf08 on Instagram; @albertosilva_f on Twitter.

Bryant Webb plays the Baker in “Into the Woods,” April 11 with a premiered show April 22. Photos by Annabella Mireles/The Prospector

The Baker and the Baker’s Wife are played by Bryant Webb and Mindy Escobar-Leanse. April 11 with a premiered show April 22. Photos by Annabella Mireles/The Prospector
Lights, camera, graduation! Get ready for your photoshoot

BY HUGO HINOJOSA
The Prospector

It is that time of the year when confetti becomes part of UTEP’s life, and seniors congregate in front of the Lhakhang temple. Graduation has arrived. Whether you are a first-year student dreaming of commencement or a senior rushing through finals, it is not a bad idea to plan your graduation photoshoot now. The Prospector compiled a few tips on how to run a meaningful graduation shoot (and do so smoothly).

First, be ahead of time
Give your photographers a break, especially if your photographer is a student just like you. Their time and dedication to their craft is limited. As a freelance photographer, I recommend booking your shoot weeks in advance. This will allow more flexible scheduling, and have time to visualize the overall aesthetic of the shoot.

Save bucks, have a budget
It is important to note that time and dedication is restricted. One should expect a significant increase in prices for graduation photo shoots compared with common important parts of the graduation. Now that your shoot is booked about, make sure to let your photographer know. Do you want a dark, old-school tone in the background? Don’t want to wear an elegant dress instead of your cap and gown? Will your family and pet be on the shoot? Will you be in a tux?

Have a mood in mind
Now that your shoot is booked and the budget is established, it is time to think about visuals. Do you want an inspirational, “I made it! flares in your photos? Do you want a dark, old-school tone in the background? Do you want to wear an elegant dress instead of your cap and gown? Will your family and pet be on the shoot? Will you be in a tux?

Some visual elements you may want to consider. In any case, whichever idea you think about, make sure to let your photographer know. In fact, do not be afraid to reach out and ask about aesthetics. Ask for recommendations from your photographer, since it is also part of the negotiation process.

Make it personal
As beautiful as the Lhakhang may be, you may want to prefer to stay away from the default locations and instead have a unique and personal- ized session. For instance, you may belong to a sports team, or you may want to visit a very cool place downtown.

Back to basics
There is a reason why The Lhakhang temple is appealing. So are the UTEP Pick in front of the bookstore roundabout, the Nursing Building bridge, and the Elizza Cuautia Tlalhotl at the Fox Fine Arts. These are all emblematic spots that represent UTEP beautifully.

The last tip photographers recommend is to be respectful of these spots. As beautiful as The Lhakhang may look on paper, it is rude to leave waste after using the spaces. Always clean up after yourself and be mind- ful that you may need to take turns.

Overall, the grad shoot is an important part of the graduation experience. Even if it is a simple portrait or a complete fashion state-time to think about visuals. Also, if you have zero clue about aesthetics, ask for recommendations from your photographer, since it is also part of the negotiation process.

 UT EP's Alumni Association assists UTEP graduates

BY ALISON RODRIGUEZ
The Prospector

As graduation ceremonies begin to ensue and graduates start to move on to the next step of their life, UTEP's Alumni Association is ready to assist future UTEP alumni.

The Alumni Association is a nonprofit organization that works in partnership with UTEP to celebrate alumni and provide meaningful engagement opportunities for students and alumni to maintain a lifelong relationship with their alma mater. The goal is to ensure that graduates maintain strong connections with the UTEP community and to help advance the university's mission.

"Our alumni continue to advance the mission of the university wherever they go," said Assistant Vice President for the Alumni and Donor Engagement Maifael Villalva. "They help recruit new Miners to UTEP and help create pathways for students to successfully attend UTEP by either contributing to scholarships or providing internship opportunities for students."

The Alumni Association provides a variety of services which include celebrations for alumni to com- memorate their academic achievements through many programs like the Distinguished Alumni and Gold Nugget awards, the 55 Under 35 Alumni Awards Series, the Golden Graduation Ceremony, and the Golden Graduation Scholarship.

Other events include Homecoming and the annual Alumni Aso- ciation Tournament of Events, which is held to raise money for student scholarships. The association also honors and celebrates exemplary students by hosting the Top Ten Senior Awards and hosts Grad Fair. The association also joined forces with UTEP's Career Center to create Grow with Google. They also have many programs, which current students can join, including Student Alumni Association, Miner Ambassadors, Bridging the Gap Mentoring Program, and the upcoming College of Engineering Alumni Network.

The alumni association plays a big part in students' graduation process by sponsoring a grad fair every semester with the UTEP Bookstore. This is a three-day event where graduating seniors can prepare for commencement in one place. Graduates can register for their graduation ceremony, purchase regalia, official class medalion, class ring, and diploma frames. They can also have their graduation portrait taken as well.

On commencement day members of the alumni association get the honor to present every graduate with a lapis pin, which signifies welcoming them into the UTEP alumni family.

"We would love to build stronger connections with campus partners so that we can begin engaging with students even before they enroll," Villalva said. "We want to stay engaged with them during their entire UTEP experience to ensure that they’ll remain engaged once they graduate. We already do a great job engaging with our seniors, but one of our main goals is to have all students identify the alumni association as an organization that is here for them while they’re students and will be here for them when they graduate.

There are many ways for recent graduates to stay connected with UTEP. Some of these ways include joining the Young Alumni Network which is open to all individuals who graduated within the last 10 years regardless of age. UTEP alumni are free to speak and share their stories at the 35 Under 35 Alumni Speaker Series and the Leadership After 5 series. Also inform the alumni association when you change jobs, addresses, and email address so they can send you news and to learn of your successes.

Graduates can join the Alumni Association for free. In 2020 the association decided to get rid of the annual membership fee and rather create the "Picks Ups" membership to every graduate of UTEP in order to activate this free membership. Alumni need to go to MinerLink and create their alumni profile at minerlink.utep.edu. In addition to the free membership, the association also has a premium lifetime membership for $500. Lifetime Members are invited to year-round members only events.

For information about UTEP Alumni Association or to become a member visit their website at or follow them on social media @utepalumni.

De-stress at ‘All Night’

BY ELSIS MAYNOR
The Prospector

To end the semester with a night full of fun and to de-stress before finals, UTEP’s Student Engagement and Leadership Center (SELC) will host “All Night All Night” from 6-11:45 p.m. Thursday, May 5 at Centennial Plaza, Hawthorne, across the building and the surrounding areas.

“IT’s important that we provide creative opportunities for students to engage (and) feel like they’re part of the wider campus community,” said Romi Dehler, assistant director of SELC. “I think one of the reasons we schedule it for the time frame that we scheduled for is because for students who stay on campus so most classes are done by that point.”

Students can enjoy a night filled with free activities, games, free food, and music. The gathering will also feature a late-night breakfast at 9 p.m. and the event will wrap up with a movie on the lawn. The event is open for all UTEP students and welcomes faculty or sponsors to volunteer.

“That’s really our mission as a center, to provide those opportunities that really enhance and engage students’ experiences,” Dehler said. “It’s a big collaborative event too, like we are the hosts of the SELC but we have lots of campus partners that are coming (to assist) us (and) be there to show their support for students during this time.”

There will be a range of activities and entertainment for the night. During the activities portion of the evening, from 6-9 p.m., students can participate in activities such as crafts, inflatables, and the Air Force band who are going to play a variety of music. The Air Force band will play for the first hour from 6-7 p.m. and afterward a DJ will take over and continue playing music for the rest of the night.

A donation drive will also be present at the event and attendees can donate personal care items, backpacks and more. In a couple of weeks, SELC will release a list including all items they will be accepting as donations. Students who decide to donate, will receive a pair of special, bright orange glow sunglasses.

“It’s definitely one of those experiences that students that attended to really bring the campus together, (to) really create a community (with) really engaged students in meaningful way,” Dehler said. “(SELC) has been doing this now for a good number of years and so, it’s something that the campus likes to engage with. I mean it’s something that we’ve been able to continue (and) actually do every semester, so we’re really excited for this this semester’s version to take place.”

Drugs, alcohol, and weapons are prohibited at any event involving music and alcohol consumption.
Celebrate loved one’s achievements with the best gifts

BY VICTORIA RIVAS
The Prospector

Graduation is around the corner, and families are ready to commemorate their graduates’ efforts and achievements. Gifting is a non-verbal expression used to celebrate a loved one’s accomplishments, and graduation is no exception. A celebration full of joy and anxiousness as graduates close a chapter of their lives and prepare to start a new one, whether it is by moving across the country, starting a new job or entering graduate school.

Finding the best graduation gifts to celebrate this significant milestone can be tricky. That is why we have created a top five graduation gift list.

Candles

Moving out of their hometown and leaving friends and family members behind is difficult. Can bring them closer to home. This small meaningful gesture can bring them closer to home. Candles cost $34 and can be purchased at www.homesick.com.

Jewelry

Whether you gift them a graduation ring or any other jewelry piece, it is something graduates will cherish forever. Gold, silver and rose gold jewelry are perfect for any occasion and match any outfit. Graduates can wear their jewelry anytime and always carry a piece of their loved ones close to their hearts.

Depending on the brand and item, prices can range for rings, bracelets, watches and necklaces. You could gift them a personalized jewelry piece with their favorite gem, their graduation date engraved on their initials.

For more information or to schedule a virtual appointment on graduation rings visit www.jostens.com/utep. To place an order call 505-264-8995 or email reneemartinez@jostens.com.

Portable printers/Instax camera

Graduation is a big milestone, and there is nothing better than being able to capture the moment forever. An Instax camera is perfect for graduates to capture their future endeavors after graduation. If they are moving out of town, the Instax camera will help them record all the new places they will visit or the new friendships they will form along the way.

A portable printer is also an excellent gift for graduates because they can print any picture as a Polaroid and as many copies as they want from their phone. Physical copies of pictures will allow graduates to cherish their memories forever.

Some portable printer options include the HP Sprocket 2x3 Instant Photo Printer for $79.99, the Canon - IVY Mini Photo Printer for $99.99, or the Polaroid Hi-Print Printer for $115.28 which are available in multiple colors and can be purchased at www.walmart.com.

UTEV Apparel

Nothing is better than being able to show Miner pride with UTEP apparel. Graduates can buy mugs that say “UTEP Alumni” with lots of different designs during graduation season.

The UTEP bookstore also sells T-shirts for alumni, and also offer other shirts that represent each college within UTEP.

During the commencement ceremony, UTEP sells T-shirts that say UTEP on the front, and on the back, it has all the names of the graduates.

To find all the different T-shirt designs for alumni visit UTEP’s Bookstore website at www.booker.com/texturestore/home.

Office Supplies

As graduates start their new jobs after graduation, office supplies are a great way to help them transition into a new chapter.

Paper clips, pens, journals, planners, and file organizers are a great way to prepare graduates to take on any task or job and help them stay organized.

All the gifts listed above are a great way to commemorate graduates’ accomplishments and celebrate their future endeavors. Whether it is a personalized gift or not, graduates will surely love the gesture.

Victoria Rivas is the arts and culture editor and may be reached at vrivas7@miners.utep.edu; @VicRivas_18 on Twitter.

CANDIDATES, CLASS OF 2022
from The Center For Accommodations and Support Services
(CASS)

We provide student accommodations to address issues associated with:

• Mobility and temporary disabilities
• Vision and hearing
• Learning disabilities
• Mental health
• Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
• Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
• Any disability recognized by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA) and the federal Fair Housing Act of 1968

We also provide resources and training for students, faculty and staff.
While watching the live performances, Viva El Paso enjoyed free pastries and drinks, to have a space where they feel they belong, “Tis is the opportunity to have students show their talents. The event was free and students enjoyed free pastries and drinks, while watching the live performances. The event was open to everyone, and many students took advantage of the event to show their talents.

Lourdes Jimenez. “Tis is the fourth one we hosted (and) I think we are making this event for them to have a space where they feel they can share their ideas and connect to the community.”

BY ELISHA NUÑEZ
The Prospector
From poetry reading to live rock music, UTEP’s Open Mic Night hosted by the Student Engagement and Leadership Center (SELC) provided fun and entertainment for students April 13 at the Union Plaza.

Students gathered around the stage to watch, listen and feel the various acts by different performers. Open Mic Night showcased the different types of talent the UTEP community has to offer. “We like there was a great opportunity to have students show their talents, like singing or poetry, or performing,” said SELC intern Lourdes Jimenez. “This is the fourth one we hosted (and) I think we are making this event for them to have a space where they feel they can share their ideas and connect to the community.”

The event was free and students enjoyed free pastries and drinks, while watching the live performances. The event was open to everyone, and many students took advantage of the event to show their talents.

“I feel like every time we have one of these, people come more and more often because they feel like they have somewhere they belong,” Jimenez said. “There’s also a lot of people within (the) El Paso community that come just to enjoy what the students are presenting.”

Multiple people attended the event and witnessed the great performances. From rap to stand-up comedy, everyone appeared to have a great time with laughs and live music. Numerous performers sang, played instruments, or even both at times. Covers songs and originals that made their debut at the Union Plaza echoed throughout the area. Some performers who sang their hearts out were Lauren Rincon, a UTEP student in the music department, and her band, Federal Offense.

“We had a really good time at the last event that was at the amphitheater, and we thought it would be a really good idea to (perform) again. This is probably going to be the fifth or sixth time we’ve played our originals in public, and hopefully, we’re going to record (an EP) in the summer,” Rincon said. “I’m actually in the music department, so (I have) to perform a lot (for that) too. (Our music is different), we play in a classic rock style kind of like a mix between Foo Fighters and Billy Idol, or No Doubt. There were a diverse set of acts for the night that drew many people into the acts. The crowd grew as the night progressed, with friends and family members sitting in the audience to watch students perform. One audience member was Mary Lou Cebollero, who attended with her daughter, Christy Rincon, to see Federal Offense’s performance.

“I was invited by my grandaughter, and she’s going to be singing with her band. We like to support anybody and everybody, especially people from UTEP or people that are from community college, or anything with students, but that’s why we came here. We were invited and we enjoyed this all the time,” Cebollero said.

From poetry reading to live rock music, UTEP’s Open Mic Night April 13 at the Union Plaza where students could watch poetry readings and live rock music. Photo by Roman Patrick Care/ The Prospector

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plans to add more drinking fountains and better landscaping to the El Paso Central Plaza. Photo by Salette Maria Ontiveros/The Prospector

2022 Summer Events in EP

BY VICTORIA RIVAS
The Prospector
Summer is approaching, and El Paso is ready to host families with a variety of eventful summer long. Below is a list of events happening during the summer:

Sun City Craft Beer Festival
The beer festival will be held May 21-22 at the Downtown Convention Center Plaza, located at Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, Texas 79901. Ticket prices range from $30 to $80.

To learn more about the festival visit suncitycraftbeerfest.com for tickets visit www.universe.com.

Downtown Fiesta de Las Luces
The annual Fiesta de Las Luces will take place 3-11 p.m. May 21 downtown 620 S. El Paso St. The event is free.

To learn more about the event visit www.downtownelpaso.com/ fiesta-de-las-luces-2022 or call 915-400-2294.

Mission Trail Art Market
The market will be from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. July 19 at the San Elizario Historic District located at 1501 Main Street, San Elizario, Texas 79849. tickets visit www.universe.com.

In the event you want to support local artists, you can also support them at the Mission Trail Art Market which is being held on July 19th from 11 am to 6 pm.

San Elizario Historic District
The event is free and open to the public.

To learn more about the event visit www.sanelizariohistoricdistrict.com or call 915-851-0093.

Viva El Paso!
Opening night is scheduled for July 1, and performances will be at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights July 1 through Aug. 6 at the McKelligon Canyon Amphitheater. Tickets are available Aug. 6, at the McKelligon Canyon Amphitheater. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster, and prices range from $16 to $24.

To learn more about these performances visit www.vivaelpaso.org or call 915-231-1100.

Another semester is coming to an end and The Prospector covered lots of UTEP events and stories that made these past months memorable.

Below is a round up of this semester’s most significant stories and events. The UTEP Don Haskins Center hosted a series of events including a sold out show by Bad Bunny, Friday Feb. 11 as part of his El Último Tour del Mundo 2022. Jud Burgess, owner of Brave Books honored the legacy of former UTEP President Diana Natalicio Ph.D., by allowing the public to purchase books from a special collection that were personally signed and dated by Natalicio. The collection was open to the public from March 12-13.

The Prospector visted Erica Murrill, artist and owner of Café Arte Mi Admore. Murrill is the proud owner of the unique and colorful coffee shop, located in San Elizario, Texas.

Bad Bunny performs at the Don Haskins Center, Feb. 11, as part of his 2022 Tour. “El Último Tour del Mundo”. This is his second time performing at the Don Haskins in a sold out show. Photo by Salette Maria Ontiveros/The Prospector

Jud Burgess, owner of Brave Books, poses with a street sign labeled “Natalicio” February 7. Burgess acquired hundreds of books from former UTEP President Diana Natalicio which range from topics such as art, linguistics, travel, baseball, Mexican history, and El Paso. Some of these books will be kept in a private section of the store and some are signed by El Paso icons such as Abraham Chavez and Tom Lea. Photo by Annabella Mireles/The Prospector

ARTS & CULTURE DURING ‘22

BY ELSA M. NUÑEZ
The Prospector
‘Open Mic Night’ returns to showcase UTEP student talent

BY ELISHA NUÑEZ
The Prospector
From poetry reading to live rock music, UTEP’s Open Mic Night hosted by the Student Engagement and Leadership Center (SELC) provided fun and entertainment for students April 13 at the Union Plaza.

Students gathered around the stage to watch, listen and feel the various acts by different performers. Open Mic Night showcased the different types of talent the UTEP community has to offer. “We felt there was a great opportunity to have students show their talents, like singing or poetry, or performing,” said SELC intern Lourdes Jimenez. “This is the fourth one we hosted (and) I think we are making this event for them to have a space where they feel they can share their ideas and connect to the community.”

The event was free and students enjoyed free pastries and drinks, while watching the live performances. The event was open to everyone, and many students took advantage of the event to show their talents.

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Multiple people attended the event and witnessed the great performances. From rap to stand-up comedy, everyone appeared to have a great time with laughs and live music. Numerous performers sang, played instruments, or even both at times. Covers songs and originals that made their debut at the Union Plaza echoed throughout the area. Some performers who sang their hearts out were Lauren Rincon, a UTEP student in the music department, and her band, Federal Offense.

“We had a really good time at the last event that was at the amphitheater, and we thought it would be a really good idea to (perform) again. This is probably going to be the fifth or sixth time we’ve played our originals in public, and hopefully, we’re going to record (an EP) in the summer,” Rincon said. “I’m actually in the music department, so (I have) to perform a lot (for that) too. (Our music is different), we play in a classic rock style kind of like a mix between Foo Fighters and Billy Idol, or No Doubt. There were a diverse set of acts for the night that drew many people into the acts. The crowd grew as the night progressed, with friends and family members sitting in the audience to watch students perform. One audience member was Mary Lou Cebollero, who attended with her daughter, Christy Rincon, to see Federal Offense’s performance.

“I was invited by my grandaughter, and she’s going to be singing with her band. We like to support anybody and everybody, especially people from UTEP or people that are from community college, or anything with students, but that’s why we came here. We were invited and we enjoyed this all the time,” Cebollero said.

From poetry reading to live rock music, UTEP’s Open Mic Night April 13 at the Union Plaza where students could watch poetry readings and live rock music. Photo by Roman Patrick Care/ The Prospector
UTEP volleyball defensive specialist/libero Ha’ahulakaleikaimana Crisostomo, also known as Hula, is from Honolulu, Hawaii. She has been playing volleyball for 10 years now and is looking forward to coming back next season after missing the 2021 season.

Crisostomo is a senior psychology major with a minor in criminal justice and is set to graduate in the fall of 2022. After graduation, Crisostomo plans to continue her education to receive her master’s degree and go on to become a counselor for adolescents alongside coaching high school volleyball.

“Hopefully become a graduate assistant at another school, so that could help me get into coaching and help me with the psychology aspect of it by helping the girls on a team — understand that there’s a mental, emotional, spiritual, and physical side to sports,” Crisostomo said.

Crisostomo began playing at 12 years old, inspired by her older sister, Kawai, who also played volleyball. Crisostomo played at Ka’Uluakoa Volleyball Institute until she was 17 years old and at the age of 18, she played for the Kuikahi volleyball club. Along with her sister being her inspiration, Crisostomo explains her dad has played a big role in inspiring her to play.

“My dad is someone who is always working, and he wasn’t able to come to all my games sometimes. I always really looked forward to seeing him on the sideline or on the benches,” Crisostomo said. “My sister, too, has always been such a big role model for me. She’s my big sister so I always wanted to be like her. Those two are my best friends, so I would do anything for them. I would keep playing for them.”

Crisostomo’s favorite part about playing libero is keeping the ball off the ground to stop the kill and make the play continue when most would think it is over. Crisostomo also loves being supportive by being out there cheering on her teammates who are on the court.

“I’m just really passionate about the game,” Crisostomo said.

Being able to be a member of UTEP volleyball means a lot to Crisostomo, she mentions she has been able to be a part of something that has grown so profusely. Crisostomo explains everyone is always full of energy and excited to be a part of the team as they are always supportive of each other.

“I think I’m just part of something that’s going to grow and develop into something really amazing,” Crisostomo said. “Everyone gives their all despite their role on the volleyball team, and I think that’s also something that’s really motivating and inspiring to be part of.”

When she graduates, Crisostomo explains that she is going to miss the people she has met at UTEP.

“Everyone gives their all despite their role on the volleyball team, and I think that’s also something that’s really motivating and inspiring to be part of.”

When she graduates, Crisostomo explains that she is going to miss the people she has met at UTEP. Crisostomo mentioned that during the pandemic she felt as if she had no support system, but this past year she has made a lot of friendships.

“I’ve met some great people and I made a big connection, especially with my family tree and with Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. They made a really big impact in my life just within the two months that I met them,” Crisostomo said. “Even with the girls on the volleyball team, I feel like I’ve made some pretty good connections with some of them as well, and I feel like those relationships that I have with them are going to last for a very long time.”

Crisostomo wants to show the city of El Paso she is passionate and competitive. She feels as if she was not able to show that side of her due to missing the last season from a left knee injury. Crisostomo will be coming back next season, where she plans to show the passion she has for the sport.

“I missed all of last semester, and I was a senior, so I felt like I was really missing out because I was injured. I felt like I wasn’t able to show how I was. I really want to show them that ‘oh, that’s the girl that’s super energetic, she’s always cheering super loud, she’s always hugging her teammates or slapping the ground whenever they celebrate a point.’”

Katrina Villarreal is a staff reporter and may be reached at kvillarreal1@miners.utep.edu.
People can count on me, on my anyone outwork me, “ Cathey said. “I have to say.

“Getting in the starting lineup, this is what Cathey had to say. “I want to thank UTEP & the coaches for giving me an opportunity to play in a place that allowed me to grow not only as a player, but as a person too.”

UTEP says farewell to student athletes

BY EMILY AUTumn VELASQUEZ

Photos courtesy of UTEP Athletics.

From left to right: sophomore guard Katia Gallegos, junior forward Tydus Verhoeven, sophomore wide receiver Jacob Cowing, junior guard Destiny Thurman, junior guard Souley Boum.

UTEP softball player makes an impact on the diamond

BY DANIeL ALEC LOPEZ

Redshirt junior second baseman Pate Cathey is making an impact on the diamond for the Miners softball team. This season, Cathey has four home runs and 24 run’s batted in. Defensively, Cathey is averaging around a 1.000 on fielding. Other accomplishments include Conference USA All Freshman team in 2019, Conference USA Commissioner’s Academic Honor Roll 2019, 2020, 2021, and finally, Conference USA Commissioner’s Academic Medal 2020, 2021. Cathey is originally from Frisco, Texas, and attended Heritage High School while playing just about every sport possible, with softball being the last sport she played in high school. “I started off with soccer, went (to) basketball, soccer, volleyball, track & field, gymnastics and lacrosse, all the sports with softball being the last sport I would play in high school,” Cathey said.

This season, Cathey has been doing strong in helping the team get some wins. This year, she has started 37 games. Where as last season, she started 44 out of 45 games. When asked about what gave the coach confidence to put her in the starting lineup, this is what Cathey had to say. “My work ethic, just continuing to try to bring my best, and not let anyone outwork me,” Cathey said. “People can count on me, on my attitude, and my effort.” In the four years Cathey has been here, she has enjoyed her time at UTEP, and has overcome challenges and setbacks especially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. “I have definitely enjoyed living in El Paso. It has become a second home to me and I can definitely see myself staying here,” Cathey said. Cathey discussed the struggles she faced during quarantine and how it changed the plan she originally had. "I wouldn't change it for anything because those bad blocks and setbacks or challenges that do happen," Cathey said. "You know responding with those positive outlooks and knowing all of those things are beneficial not just for the team.”

With a consistent high percentage in batting and base running, Cathey explains how she puts in the work to have those kinds of stats and makes herself a better overall player. “I think just over the years I have found more the importance of like intentional hard work, rather than just going spending hours kind of without having your mind involved. For softball specifically, there’s a lot of preparation as far as the pitchers you’re going to face, the team you’re going to face, the strengths and weaknesses there are,” Cathey said.

UTEP TE ready to leave a legacy

BY KATrINA BROWN

UTEP tight end Trent Thompson is from Houston, Texas and has been playing football since he was 8 years old and has fallen in love with the sport since. Thompson is a senior accounting major set to graduate in the summer of 2022. He plans to get his Certified Public Accountant (CPA) as well as his master’s. “My plans after I graduate with my bachelor’s degree is to continue with my master’s and I’ll probably do an internship this summer and just go from there,” Thompson said. Thompson explained that at the age of five, he would go out to the street and play football with his neighbors and his favorite thing about playing football is the memories that he has made. “I just wanted my parents to sign me up and they did,” Thompson said. “I look back at my childhood, and I’m like, ‘wow, I really came a long way.’” I’m a healthier now and I remember watching college football with my mom, dad, and my brother, and we would watch it all day.”

Thompson has not always played tight end, when first starting at UTEP, he was a defensive lineman. Thompson explains that coach Dana Dimel made the decision to move him to tight end. Being at tight end has allowed Thompson to score his favorite touchdown as a Miner at the PUBG New Mexico Bowl against Fresno State where he scored a 51-yard touchdown on a 4th down trick play. “We got a signal from Isaiah Bravo on the sideline, and I looked at Calvin (Brownholtz), we made eye contact and we just knew it was going to be a great play, and that was actually my second touchdown of the game,” Thompson said.

When Thompson takes the field, he is inspired by his future and the people around him. He explains that it can be hard to get up sometimes in the early hours of the morning to practice, but he looks up to his parents because they always told him to never quit. “First of its God, my parents, and then myself,” Thompson said. “I really wanted to (quit) when I was younger because I had asthma and it was hard to run. Now, I’m a lot better.”

When asked about what he meant to him to be a member of the team, Thompson said that it meant a lot. Once he graduates, Thompson explains that he is going to miss the friendships made here. “I just can’t wait to see where we’re about to go,” Thompson said. Thompson explains that the legacy that he wants to leave behind when he graduates he is going to remember as someone who went out there and did his job. “I’m a quiet player, I don’t get much attention, and that’s just fine. But I just want people to know that I was a nice Christian athlete, who was quiet and just did his job,” Thompson said.

Thompson was UTEP’s primary tight end target in the 2021 season and recorded nine receptions for 133 yards, along with four touchdowns.

All stats for Trent Thompson are courtesy of UTEP Athletics.
A LOOK BACK AT SPORTS, SPRING 2022

TOP LEFT: The UTEP Women’s basketball team gathers before playing against LA Tech at the Don Haskins center Feb. 17. The team went on and ended its season with a winning percentage of 14-15 and scored a total of 1891 points, with an average of 65.2 points per game. Other stats for the season include a total of 220 steals, 55 blocks, 1052 rebounds for the whole season.

BOTTOM LEFT: Jamari Sibley yells towards the court as teammate scores points against The University of North Texas at the Don Haskins Center March 5. The UTEP Men’s Basketball team went on to finish its season in the quarter finals against Middle Tennessee, 74-64. The team ended with a winning percentage of 20-14, scored a total of 2352 points throughout the season and scored an average of 69.2 points per game with new coach Joe Golding.

RIGHT SIDE: Krishna Jayasankar Menon, freshman kinesiology major and field thrower, gets interviewed by The Prospector at the REC Center in late March. Jayasankar is the first female thrower from India to receive a division one scholarship. Jayasankar was originally intrigued by the idea of playing tennis when she was in 5th grade before a teacher mentioned her height would be good for shot put. Now, after 10 years, Jayasankar hopes to one day represent India at the 2024 Olympics. Photos by Annabella Mireles/The Prospector

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