



## TRIO Celebrating 50 Years

By Magda Martinez-Baca - CNM SSS

"The Great Society asks not how much, but how good; not only how to create wealth, but how to use it; not only how fast we are going, but where we are headed. It proposes as the first test for a nation: the quality of its people" President Lyndon B. Johnson, 1964-65

The Great Society was a set of domestic programs in the United States launched by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964-65. The main goal was the elimination of poverty and racial injustice. President Johnson first used the term "Great Society" during a speech at Ohio University, then unveiled the program in greater detail at an appearance at University of Michigan. The Great Society programs became Johnson's agenda for Congress in January 1965. During this period, new major spending programs addressed education (federal education funding: Pell grants, Financial Aid and TRIO programs), medical care (Medicare and Medicaid), transportation, urban problems, a new civil rights bill and a tax cut.

"...to build a great society, a place where the meaning of man's life matches the marvels of man's labor."

LBJ urged the nation "...to build a great society, a place where the meaning of man's life matches the marvels of man's labor.". Some Great Society proposals were stalled initiatives from John F. Kennedy's New Frontier. Johnson's success depended on his skills of persuasion, coupled with the Democratic landslide in the 1964 election that brought in many new liberals to Congress, making the House of Representatives in 1965 the most liberal House since 1938.

The Great Society in scope and sweep resembled the New Deal domestic agenda of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Anti-war Democrats complained that spending on the Vietnam War choked the Great Society. While some of the programs have been eliminated or had their funding reduced, many of them, including Medicare, Medicaid, the Older Americans Act (comprehensive services for older adults), and federal education funding (Financial Aid and TRIO programs) continue to the present. Woo hoo!!

# TRIO New Mexico Membership

By Andrew Gonzalez – UNM Albuquerque CEOP Director

On behalf of TRIO New Mexico, we would like to remind everyone that project and membership dues expired on September 30, 2015 and need to be renewed. We value your participation in TRIO New Mexico and remember that as a state organization, we are here to advocate for our students and programs in the State of New Mexico.

TRIO New Mexico's purpose is to:

- Advance and defend the ideal of equal educational opportunity for all TRIO eligible individuals.
- Provide activities designed to promote professional competency and efficiency.
- Provide a forum for communication and networking among its members.
- Encourage and support legislation to serve the national, regional, and state needs of the targeted population.
- Investigate, evaluate, and monitor local, state, and federal legislation, regulation, policies, and procedures to ensure the enhancement of TRIO NM purposes.
- Serve as a catalyst to disseminate information on TRIO programs to the targeted community and the public at large.
- Provide activities and fundraisers to promote the objectives and goals of TRIO programs.
- Provide scholarship opportunities for students enrolled at a post-secondary institution.

Project dues are \$100 and Individual Active Membership Dues are \$30.00 per person. Both project and individual membership dues must be paid to be active with TRIO New Mexico. Just a reminder that Federal Grant Funds cannot pay for Individual Membership Dues. The Membership/Project Fees form can be found on our website at [www.trionewmexico.com](http://www.trionewmexico.com). Please fill it out and return it as soon as possible to be active with TRIO New Mexico. Active membership in the organization starts on October 1, 2015 and will end on September 30, 2016.

We appreciate your membership. Should you have any questions feel free to contact Andrew Gonzalez at (505) 277-5321 or [andrewg@unm.edu](mailto:andrewg@unm.edu).

## NMSU Upward Bound Alumna Wins National Award

By Adriana M. Chavez – Submitted by NMSU

Sarah Silvafierro Nolan, an alumna of the Upward Bound program at New Mexico State University and executive director of New Mexico Communities in Action and Faith, was recently named one of the winners of the 2015 National TRIO Achievers Award, which honors individuals of distinction who, as students, made the most of their TRIO participation.

The Council for Opportunity in Education, a national organization dedicated to furthering the expansion of postsecondary opportunities for low-income and first-generation students, hands out the award annually to several winners. Nearly 3,000 federal TRIO programs

help low-income and first-generation students overcome class, social, academic and cultural barriers to enter college and graduate.

Nolan, a graduate of Gadsden High School in Anthony, N.M., also participated in the Upward Bound Math/Science program at Trinidad State Junior College in Trinidad, Colorado, and earned a bachelor's degree in theology and Latin American studies from the University of San Francisco. In the past, she has received the National LULAC Women's Conference Outstanding Women Award and was a Demos Movement Maker Fellow for Inclusive Democracy.

"The series of events that led me from Gadsden High School to New Mexico State University to Trinidad State Junior College, then to San Francisco, and finally to my current vocation isn't luck. Luck is the residue of design," Nolan said. "Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math/Science were designed to pluck young women like me out of poverty and set me on a path of success and purpose."

In their recommendation letter, NMSU Upward Bound program coordinator Vince Engling and former NMSU Center for Learning Assistance director Susan Brown said Nolan's work has improved the quality of life "for so many



Sarah Silvafierro Nolan

underserved people and she serves as a role model and mentor for countless individuals. The communities in Southern New Mexico are better places and the residents have better lives because of her."

Silvafierro received her award Sept. 19 at the 34th Annual Council for Opportunity in Education Conference in Atlanta.

Upward Bound, one of the federally funded TRIO programs, provides college preparation, mentoring, and college admissions assistance to

thousands of low-income and first-generation students and students with disabilities across the country.

# UNM TRIO Student Support Services Study Abroad

By Dawn Blue Sky - UNM Albuquerque SSS Director

Students from The University of New Mexico SSS-TRIO are going global. Doors of opportunity have opened for many of our UNM SSS TRIO students as early as their sophomore year. Study abroad programs are possible to attend when students are thoughtful about planning, saving, seeking scholarships, SSS grant aid, Council for Opportunity in Education study abroad scholarships/programs and other forms of financial aid such as loans.



Deyanira Nunez

Omkulthoom Qassem and Eugenia Espinoza were selected from of over 1,000 American undergraduate students from 332 colleges and universities across the U.S. selected to receive the prestigious Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. Gilman scholars receive up to \$5,000 to apply towards their study abroad or internship program costs. Qassem traveled to Jordan and Espinoza traveled to South Korea.

Other UNM SSS-TRIO who have or are studying abroad this year are:

- Cesar Miranda – Ecuador and surrounding countries
- Deyanira Nunez – Scotland
- Robert Lopez (UB alumnus) – Spain
- Grisell Garcia (UB alumna) – Ecuador
- Demetrius Gloster (SSS alumnus) – China\*

\*UNM first master's student to study abroad from the business school MBA program.

"We are pleased with the number of SSS-TRIO students who are participating in the various study abroad pro-

grams,” says Dawn Blue Sky-Hill, director of SSS-TRIO. She also says, “Study abroad opportunities allow the student to diversify their UNM college experience and will make an impact on future applications for graduate schools or future employers.”

“The experience has been a positive change for me as a person and as a student,” says Cesar Miranda, UNM SSS-TRIO student. “I feel like I’m a global community member and am more aware of the needs of others globally. I have a better sense of what we do have here.”

Students who study abroad also have the opportunity to gain a better understanding of other cultures, countries, languages, and economies -- making them better prepared to assume leadership roles within government and the private sector.

# Summer Academy: Taos Infrastructure Physic, Engineering and Architecture

By UNM Taos - Upward Bound Math & Science

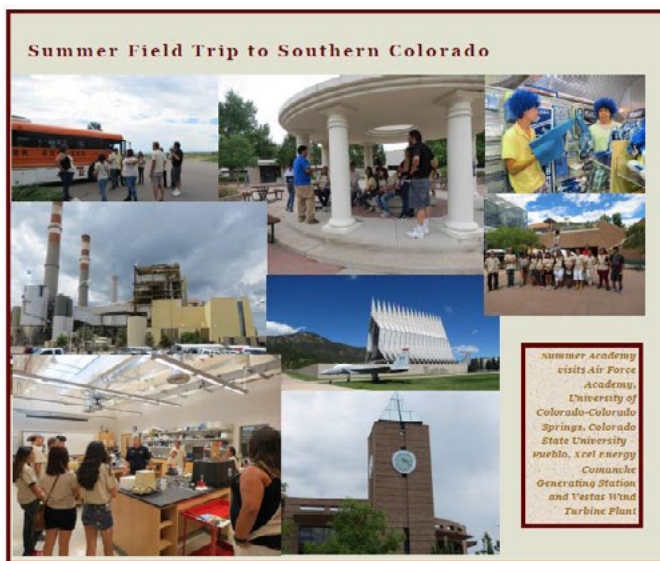
Summer Academy students in the UNM-Taos Upward Bound Math and Science program studied the infrastructure of the Taos area. The Taos area has unique challenges. Our relative isolation and landforms including the Rio Grande Gorge, the Taos Plateau, the Sangre de Cristo Mountains as well as the wide temperature fluctuations create unique challenges to area infrastructure.

These students analyzed the Rio Grande Gorge Bridge, conducted traffic counts throughout the Taos area, visited the Biotecture Earthship Community and solar arrays throughout the community. The program concluded with students building scale models of houses. This summer’s goal was to learn the basics of physics as it is applied to engineering and sustainable architecture.

Physics is part of the ACT core for high school students. The ACT science core is Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Earth Science. Each year, the curriculum focuses on one of these science themes while conducting authentic research.

The studies in physics, engineering and architecture applications are important to student success.

Students also studied mathematics as it applies to physics and architecture. Since so many students have already had two summers of Latin, Italian was a natural progression for foreign language study. In English, students read Robert Muller’s award winning book *Physics for future Presidents*. They also focused writing in APA style since it is so widely used in STEM fields.



Summer highlights collage by UB Math & Science Taos

One of the highlights of the summer was the week long field trip to southern Colorado. Students boarded the Tiger Express to visit the Air Force Academy, Colorado State University-Pueblo, University of Colorado - Colorado Springs, the Xcel Energy Comanche Generating Station and the Vestas Wind Power factory. The Xcel facility and the Vestas plant complemented studies in power generation and transmission infrastructure since they had already visited solar installations.

# COE Policy Seminar

By Kyle Farris - McNair program Sr. Student Program Advisor

Every year COE puts on an event in Washington D.C. Called Policy Seminar. I didn't really understand what it was the first time I heard about it; I imagine many of you can relate. Now that I'm involved in helping organize our delegation to Policy Seminar, I've realized how critical it is.

The most important part of Policy Seminar is our visits with Congress men and women. These meetings with Representatives and Senators (sometimes even legislative aides), while brief, are critical to ensuring our continued funding. As I learned at the SWASAP Conference last year, many education programs have been cut in the last several decades, not because they didn't work, but because they didn't have anyone advocating for them on the Hill. TRIO is different.

“... These visits with Representatives and Senators ...while brief, are critical to ensuring our continued funding...”

Because of COE, we have not only maintained most of our funding, but we're one of the only Department of Education programs to receive an increase in funding in recent years.

This year at Policy Seminar, we met with all five New Mexico Congressional Offices, and it struck me how friendly and supportive they all were. Our meetings were short, but they make a difference in maintaining our profile in Congress. We are lucky in New Mexico; many other states face far more hostility

to our activities. Our continued involvement in COE events like Policy Seminar are vital to building and maintaining support for our work. I would urge you all to consider attending Policy Seminar next year and support COE's efforts to secure TRIO's future in years to come.

## NMSU Graduate Wins State TRIO Award

By Adriana M. Chavez - Submitted by NMSU

Rose Perea, a graduate of New Mexico State University who is working on her doctorate in physics and astronomy at Vanderbilt University, will be recognized with the 2015 TRIO New Mexico TRIO Achiever Award in November. The award is given to those who successfully completed any TRIO program, including Upward Bound, Student Support Services and the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program.

Perea participated in Upward Bound while attending Mayfield High School in Las Cruces. She went on to earn her bachelor's degree and master's degree in physics from New

Mexico State University, where she participated in Student Support Services.



Rose Perea

“As I made the transition from undergrad to graduate school, I still struggled academically with some subjects, and while I had all intentions of getting my Ph.D., I did not pass my qualifying exam at NMSU and left with a master's degree,” Perea said. “A few things that I learned while in Upward Bound and Student Support Services though, was that there are people out there willing to help if you are willing to work hard. I eventually found another program, the Fisk-Vanderbilt Master's-to-PhD Bridge program, and received my second

master's degree from Fisk University and have now successfully bridged to a Ph.D. program in physics here at Vanderbilt University."

While working on her master's degree at NMSU, Perea interned with the COSMIAC research facility in Albuquerque, working on a CubeSat spacecraft to study atmospheric lighting.

In the Fisk-Vanderbilt Masters-to-the-PhD Bridge program, Perea uses her background in materials to learn about and work with radiation detectors.

"My knowledge of materials helped me to understand the growth processes of the crystals used as the detector material, and how the growth can affect their performance," Perea said. "At Fisk, I worked with both scintillators and semiconductors, and became interested in applications of detectors and instrumentation in general, knowing that their applications extended from the medical and security fields to the Earth and planetary sciences. This led to two internships at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, where I

was able to field test a scintillator detector at high gamma-ray energies.

The results from Perea's research into how radioactive decay stemming from incident high-energy neutrons may be used to probe the composition of a planet led to her first publication.

"...there are people out there willing to help if you are willing to work hard."

"I would rank her among the top 3 percent of the 100-plus senior undergraduate and graduate students that I have worked with or observed as a faculty member at Vanderbilt University and Fisk University over the past 12 years," said Keivan Guadalupe Stassun,

co-director of the Fisk-Vanderbilt Masters-to-PhD Bridge Program. "I predict that Ms. Perea will not only achieve the high distinction of a Ph.D. in astrophysics but will continue on a scholarly career marked by impact, leadership, and inspiration to others coming behind her."

Perea received the award in November during the TRiO Achiever's Luncheon in Albuquerque at the SWASAP Conference.

## UNM Upward Bound Goes to Washington D.C.

By Erin Weddington – UNM Albuquerque Upward Bound Instructor

The University of New Mexico's Upward Bound Program had the pleasure of taking 42 participants to Washington, D.C. for a four day tour of the city. This is the fourth consecutive year that the program has taken students on an excursion of this caliber. The trip began with an exhilarating night tour of the national monuments atop an open-air double decker bus. Students explored the strikingly illuminated Lincoln Memorial, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, the US Marine Corps War Memorial, and the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. Other trip highlights included a tour of the Capitol building, a meeting with NM Representatives Ben Ray Lujan and Michelle Lujan Grisham, a tour of various museums, and an exciting ride on the elevator to the top of the Washington Monument. Julia Whitten, a junior in the program, stated "My favorite part had to be just seeing all the different monuments and how they are compared to pictures and real life because the beauty of



UB Students in front of the Capitol building.

it all is not anything close to any picture you'll ever see." This trip allowed students to witness the opportunities outside of New Mexico and encourages them to explore a variety of post-secondary educational institutions. We hope that our students are inspired to continue to question and seek knowledge that will assist them in achieving their postsecondary goals.

# CNM TRIO SSS Alumni Named Vice President of Law Access New Mexico

By Magda Martinez-Baca - CNM SSS

Diana Matier, achievement coach at the CNM Montoya Campus, has been named vice president of Law Access New Mexico. LANM is a not-for-profit corporation that provides free telephone legal services to New Mexico residents at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. It was established in 2002 and began



Diana Matier

serving New Mexico's poor in 2003. In 2013 LANM provided legal services to over 7,500 New Mexico residents.

Congratulations Diana! Thank you for all the work you do for our community. We are proud of you.

## UNM Upward Bound Student visits Stanford University

By Erin Weddington - UNM Albuquerque Upward Bound Instructor

Earlier this summer UNM Upward Bound Staff had the unique opportunity to accompany a student to visit Stanford University. Priscilla is a senior with the UNM Upward Bound program and was recently nominated and invited to attend a QuestBridge Scholars Conference held at Stanford University.

QuestBridge is a program that links high-achieving low-income students with leading U.S. colleges and



Priscilla Duarte and Florencia Monge at Stanford University.

universities to provide them educational and scholarship opportunities. Priscilla was selected to attend this conference based on the success she has had throughout high school and the leadership she demonstrates within her school. She just recently completed her application for the QuestBridge National College Match Program.

Congratulations, Priscilla, and best of luck on this next step!

## CNM TRIO SSS Alumni – Student Testimonial

By Monica Martinez, MA, Elementary School counselor APS

Being a participant of TRIO gave me a sense of belonging and made me more self-confident as a student and as an individual. My self-esteem boosted tremendously. I made a lot of friends within TRIO and will be forever grateful.

I successfully completed my MA in School Counseling and Community Agency Counseling, something I doubt I could have accomplished and followed through with if I didn't believe in myself, especially when things got

really difficult. If it were not for my involvement in TRIO, I would have never considered it as an option.

I want to encourage students to become involved in TRIO as much as possible. You have a limited window of time to learn many lessons that you might not learn anywhere else, especially about yourself. Meet people, get connected. Some people may become lifelong friends!

# TRIO New Mexico Directory

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