



When the System Works

By Kyle Farris - TNM Government Relations and State Initiatives Committee Chair - UNM Albuquerque McNair

In 1974, the political scientist David Mayhew published a book called *Congress: The Electoral Connection*. It contained a simple claim; members of Congress prioritize reelection above any other activity for the simple reason that it is impossible to do anything if one is booted out of one's Congressional seat. It doesn't matter if you want to make the world a better place, or just pad your own pockets, you can't do either if you're not in Congress anymore. As simplistic as it sounds, this single insight almost completely reorganized the academic study of Congress, and the book is still read today.

Why am I bringing this up in a TRIO newsletter? Because politics matters to us. TRIO has been fighting an uphill battle for funding with the current administration for years now. Our best allies in maintaining and increasing our funding have been our Congressional representatives. In the past several years since I joined TRIO, every member of New Mexico's Congressional delegation has supported funding increases for TRIO, whether by signing letters or voting for TRIO friendly budget proposals. There are two reasons for this. One: many of them believe in the work we do, and think

**"...every member of
New Mexico's
Congressional
delegation has
supported funding
increases for TRIO..."**

TRIO should continue. Politicians are still people after all, and they can believe in good causes. Two: TRIO impacts a lot of people.

We serve thousands of students each year, and those numbers mean something. Congressmen and women believe that our constituents matter, and can influence an election. It is our responsibility to maintain both of these elements of influence. As staff members, we need to show our Senators and Representatives that they are supporting worthwhile endeavors by bringing them to our campuses and our events. As private citizens, we also need to push them to support continued increases in our funding, so we can expand the services we provide.

I would encourage any of you not currently signed up to contact COE and receive their weekly update, which contains regular information on the state of government relations and TRIO funding. At the moment, Congress is proposing level funding for TRIO, meaning our current levels will stay flat at best. However, the COE is pushing for an increase, to return our program services to pre-recession

numbers. We have an opportunity this year because our Representatives are up for reelection, meaning they will be open to persuasion from voters like us.

Too many people think that their politicians don't care what they think or want. This is not true. Whether because they genuinely care, or because they just want to preserve their position, they will pay attention to us. I say this with all confidence.

Outstanding UNM Taos TRIO–SSS Graduate

Submitted by Avelina Martinez - UNM Taos Student Support Services

Gina Cordova graduated with both her Certificate in Human Services and an Associate of Liberal Arts from UNM-Taos. Gina successfully transferred to New Mexico Highlands University in Fall 2016 and is pursuing a Bachelor of Social Work.



Gina Cordova

Gina's long term goal is to earn a Master of Arts in Social Work and have a career serving youth and families as a social worker. Gina has persevered thru adversity to not only accomplish her goals in the classroom but also as a mother and community member. While at UNM-Taos, Gina held a leadership position in Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), an honor society for community college students, and under her leadership PTK implemented a clothing drive to provide resources to families in need. Gina is working toward her academic goals while becoming a change agent in her community.

Gina's hard work in and out of the classroom was rewarded as she earned the MANA del Norte Scholarship and PTK NM All-State Academic Team Scholarship.

¡Felicidades Gina! We are proud of you!

Greetings to all TRIO New Mexico

by Jimmi Sanchez- CNM Main Student Support Services

Many of you are aware that Central New Mexico Community College (Montoya Campus) was awarded Student Support Services to serve the student population attending this satellite CNM campus. We are pleased to report that we are solid with our first cohort of learners

and excited to continue serving students in the north-east heights of Albuquerque.

Best wishes for the next year!

Upward Bound Students Document Effects of Climate Change

Submitted by Clifton McNish - NMSU Upward Bound

During the summer of 2016, twelve New Mexico State University Upward Bound students were selected as participants in the Math Science Upward Bound Program at Trinidad State Junior College, to participate in an interdisciplinary project based research experience examining effects of climatic and environmental change on their lives and in their communities.



NMSU Upward Bound Students.

The summer experience engaged students in an intensive week in which they

were guided by graduate and undergraduate student mentors to research, film, edit, produce a video, and participate in a panel discussion. The mentors come from the Colorado Film School and the University of Colorado Engineering & Applied Sciences. The collaboration enhanced student climate science skills, group collaboration skills, filming, editing, and screening their own video. Ultimately, the experience broadens perspective on an interest in STEM fields and careers.

Celebrating McNair Scholar Success in 2016

Submitted by Ricardo Romero - UNM Albuquerque McNair

The goal of the McNair Scholars Program is to prepare our students for graduate school. In the past academic year 20 of our scholars were accepted and are presently attending graduate school from coast to coast.

Please join us in celebrating these fine scholars listed below:

Onesimus Al-Amin, Ph.D. Program in Human Development and Family Studies at University of Delaware

Adriana Aramburu, MPH at Washington University (St. Louis)

Mika Armenta, Ph.D. Program in Psychology (Neuroscience) University of Chicago

Courtney Deisch, Ph.D. Program in Sociology at UW-Madison

Tatiana Espinoza, Masters in Natural Resources Stewardship at Colorado State University

Hernan Gomez, MFA in Sculpture at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Rochelle Hass, P.A. Program at Carroll University (Wisconsin)

Derek Kuit, M.A. Education Psychology, UNM

Sageline LaBaze, M.D. Program at Loyola University (Chicago)

Maria Mendez, Masters of Counseling at DePaul University (Chicago)

Claudia Mitchell, Ph.D. Program in Visual and Cultural Studies at the University of Rochester

Matthew Moyd, PA Program at SUNY Upstate Medical University (Syracuse)

Divana Olivas, Ph.D. Dept. of American Studies & Ethnicity, USC

Nicholas Rajen, Ph.D. Program in Materials Science at UC-Riverside

Kristi Rendon, M.S. Health Education at UNM

Savannah Rivas, M.A. Linguistics at UNM

Yaritza Ruiz, M.S. Speech Language Pathology at UNM

Andreina "Suzie" Sainvilmar, M.A. in Counseling Psychology at UW-Madison

Amalia Sanchez Parra, Ph.D. Biology at UNM

Elizabeth Torres, M.S. Speech Language Pathology at University of Illinois

VUB UNM Taos Summer Boot Camp

Submitted by Hank Hargis - UNM Taos Veterans Upward Bound

University of New Mexico -Taos Veterans Upward Bound in cooperation with Central New Mexico College, San Juan College and University of New Mexico—Gallup has completed our first multi-site Summer Bridge Program. The Bridge Program at each site lasted approximately 8 days consisting of 6 instructional hours daily. Operation Jump-start Summer 2016 consisted of an emporium style learning format with college professors and VUB staff facilitating small group and one-on-one instruction in all levels of developmental math and English Curriculum. In addition to refresher skills, students participated in many other activities including campus resource tours, veteran's resource

fairs presented by community outreach partners and mini workshops. These workshops were based on the needs of the students who participated. The most discussed topics were: College Success Strategies, how to correctly cite college papers and tips for better communication with university faculty and staff.

Across the three sites, 25 students participated in the program. Pre-Accuplacer and Compass tests were given to all across the three sites, 25 students participated in the program. Pre-Accuplacer and Compass tests were given to all students in order to gauge their strengths and deficiencies. Students

consistently scored high in English, reading, and writing but showed a very strong need for remedial math instruction. In order to focus on these needs, we customized an online learning platforms to develop a targeted individual learning plan. This helped us ensure that all students were focused only on the material that they needed to increase their knowledge. These online platforms also allowed our students to work on both subject areas and the flexibility to continue working at home and after the boot camp was finished.

Due to the heavy interest in math remediation from our students, we chose to use this subject area as our measure of success. Following the boot camp, students post-test scores from the Accuplacer and Compass tests were tallied. On average students increased their college entrance math scores 33.4%. This translated to an average increase of 1.5 placement levels.

Most importantly, 71% of our students moved from developmental math courses into credit-bearing math courses.

This Bridge Program helped build the confidence and skills of our veterans returning to school. By the end of the boot camps, they had built their own peer support networks and found some of the camaraderie they have missed since leaving the service. This program also allowed us to ensure that the veterans were able to make the connections with Veterans Resource Centers and Student Support Services at each institution.



San Juan Community College Boot Camp Award.

We would like to thank San Juan College, Central New Mexico College and UNM—Gallup for their continued support. We also would like to thank UNM-Gallup Student Support Services for graciously allowing us the use of their space.

NMSU TRIO Scholars Organization

By Bernadine Booky - NMSU Student Support Services

The NMSU TRIO Scholars Organization has hit the ground running this Fall semester. TRIO Scholars is a student led organization made up of TRIO participants and other NMSU students. Currently, they have 9 officers and are still accepting members into the organization. Donna Miller, the TRIO SSS Academic Success Coordinator is their fearless leader and Advisor.



TRIO Scholars: Enrique Solis - President, Marisol Urquidi - Secretary, Rose Urquidi - Historian at the Homecoming Parade.

The TRIO Scholars have been very busy representing TRIO at many campus events. In August, they attended the TRIO SSS New Student Orientation to welcome our new participants to the program. They also had a table and dart game at the Aggie Fest where NMSU students can learn about the many organizations and resources our campus offers. They were also in the Homecoming parade this October! Recently, they also participated in the Aggie Cupboard Challenge. They collected nonperishable food items for the campus food pantry that helps NMSU and DACC students, staff and faculty in need of emergency food assistance.

We are also proud to announce that they are part of two governmental councils on campus, the Hispanic Council and the Education Council. They work with the councils to stay updated and vote on important ASNMSU proposals that affect NMSU students. They help our TRIO student's voices be heard and their point of view be known. They have many things planned for the future such as fundraising, attending the Daniel's Fund Scholarship Workshop, and also other community service projects. We are very proud of the involvement and dedication the TRIO Scholar members have shown. They continue to represent TRIO well and spread awareness throughout our campus and community to inform all who TRIO is and what we have to offer.

represent TRIO well and spread awareness throughout our campus and community to inform all who TRIO is and what we have to offer.

Go NMSU TRIO Scholars! Keep up the good work!

UNM Taos TRIO SSS Program has completed our 1st year!

Submitted by Avelina Martinez - UNM Taos Student Support Services

Since receiving funding in September 2015, our goal has been to provide excellent academic advising, college tours, cultural events, and access to financial literacy education to empower TRIO-SSS participants to thrive in higher education.

Our participants have traveled from Northern New Mexico to Southern New Mexico visiting 4-year colleges (UNM, NM Tech, NMHU) to learn about transfer processes and Bachelor's programs. Many of our participants experienced for the first time a professional ballet performance at NM Tech and watched Savion Glover, world renowned tap dancer, perform in Santa Fe, NM!

As participants are working towards their academic goals, they have been actively participating in our Fi-

nancial Literacy and Strategies for Success Workshops. These workshops are a collaboration between TRIO-SSS and our campus and Taos community resources. Our participants have received much needed information regarding FAFSA, Banking 101, Test Taking Strategies, and Organization Skills, just to name a few of the topics covered.

Our program celebrated our first TRIO-SSS graduates in May 2016! Seven of our participants earned the following degrees: Certificate in Administrative Assistant, Certificate in Digital Graphic Design, Certificate in Dental Assisting, Associate of Applied Science in General Studies, Associate of Science in Pre Science, Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts, and Certificate in Human Services.

"... Our program celebrated our first TRIO-SSS graduates in May 2016! ..."

TRIO New Mexico Emerging Leader

Submitted by Carol B. Hicks - NMSU Student Support Services

The TRIO staff (TRIO Student Support Services, TRIO Upward Bound, TRIO STEMH) is very excited to have Trese Collins represent New Mexico State University and TRIO New Mexico in the 2017-2018 Southwest Association of Student Assistance Programs (SWASAP) Emerging Leaders Class. This is an honor for anyone who plans to embark and become immersed in representing the state and regional associations.



Trese Collins

This honor acknowledges the excitement and dedication Trese exhibits daily to the NMSU students and TRIO participants. Trese has worked for the New Mexico State University TRIO Student Support Services Program for seven years, where she is currently the Tutor Coordinator. Trese manages a model Tutoring Program which is CRLA certified. Trese is excited and humbled by this opportunity.

SWASAP solicits applications yearly from the 5 states in the Southwest Region for the SWASAP Emerging Leaders Class. The State Associations select two representatives to help form the yearly cohort. The Emerging Leaders Class serves to develop the representatives as leaders in the region by preparing participants for committee work, leadership roles in the state and region, or as a state or regional officer. Mentorship and instructions include; Parliamentary Procedure, Corporate Development, Advocacy for TRIO causes, and a final project which focuses on an area of Association development.

Congratulations to Trese Collins for being selected to represent New Mexico!

SSS-TRIO Conference & Network with UNM McNair

Submitted by Dawn BlueSky-Hill - UNM Albuquerque Student Support Services

The University of New Mexico Student Support Service-TRIO program hosted an SSS-TRIO Conference & Network with McNair on Friday, Sept. 30, 2016. The gathering drew SSS-TRIO participants and staff from around

the state of New Mexico. The SSS TRIO programs came from near and far. In attendance were Central New Mexico Community College, Eastern New Mexico University-Portales, Santa Fe Community College, and the

University of New Mexico -Taos.

The SSS-TRIO conference centered on the theme "Focus on the Future" which allowed the SSS-TRIO participants to explore their educational opportunities at The University of New Mexico, discover the diverse campus culture and to learn about accessing graduate/professional school. The robust agenda incorporated discovering and familiarizing themselves to the campus with a tour. Students were provided a comprehensive presentation from UNM Admissions. A couple of presentations focused on graduate school. Margaret Gonzalez from the UNM Office of Graduate Studies provided a graduate school presentation and the UNM Graduate Resource Center presented on Planning for Graduate School.

UNM SSS students sat on a panel to share their own experiences in and out of class at UNM. To help break the ice, an interactive activity was provided by UNM Upward Bound staff. During lunch, attendees mingled with McNair scholars.



SSS-TRIO student panel.

Students and Staff.

UNM SSS sends our deep appreciation and gratitude to the presenters from the various UNM offices and event support from the following partners: UNM Admissions, UNM Office of Graduate Studies, UNM Graduate Resource Center, UNM Upward Bound-TRIO, UNM Research Opportunity Program and the Ronald E. McNair TRIO Program, UNM Dean of Students and UNM SSS-TRIO

UBMS Colorado Trip 2016

Submitted by Holly Caulder - New Mexico Tech Upward Bound Math and Science

The New Mexico Tech Upward Bound Math and Science Program had the chance to visit three Colorado-based universities this summer. At the end of our 2016 Summer Program, about 30 of our students trekked across state lines in an extremely affordable travel bus where students were able to engage in cultural, educational, and eye-opening experiences that they may have not been able to do without the UBMS program.



UBMS students in Colorado.

Our UBMS cohort visited Regis University, Colorado School of Mines, and the University of Colorado Boulder where they learned about the college application process, scholarships available, and wonderful things to do in colorful Colorado. While there, they also got to see the Mines Geology Museum, several local Colorado restaurants, and amazing views only Colorado has to offer including the Garden of the Gods.

Many students were inspired to apply for universities in Colorado, and we currently have one stellar UBMS participant graduating a year early and hoping to attend UC Boulder. This may be an adventure to consider for other Upward Bound programs throughout New Mexico. It is one that gives students the ability to see new scenery, experience diverse college opportunities, and truly get them inspired to attend a 4-year postsecondary institution.

CNM to UNM Walkabout Tour

by Rob Carriaga- CNM Main Student Support Services

CNM TRIO Student Support Services participated in a UNM Walkabout where students in transition from our community college to the university took a tour of the UNM Campus. The following are some of the goals accomplished by the Walkabout:

- Become acclimated to the layout of UNM's ABQ campus
- Find out what student services at UNM provides and where
- Opportunity to meet advisors and contacts within your degree of study
- Enjoy lunch with staff and students

A highlight of the Walkabout was the lunch with McNair Scholars. Incoming students from CNM and UNM-Taos listened to UNM TRIO McNair Scholars tell their stories. It was very inspirational and motivating to hear the challenges scholars have overcome and how they are making progress toward their academic and professional goals.



CNM SSS Students at UNM Duck Pond.

UNM Upward Bound Students Win Two Prestigious Scholarships

By Erin Weddington- UNM Albuquerque Upward Bound

The University of New Mexico Albuquerque TRIO Upward Bound program is honored to have two participants win prestigious scholarships to attend universities out of the state. Paola Bojorquez-Ramirez won the Gates Millennium Scholarship and will be attending the University of Texas in Austin to study health sciences. Paola has been an active community builder who fights for social justice and change. She worked diligently her senior year to help her peers find scholarships for undocumented students. In addition to the Gates Millennium Scholarship, Paola was also the salutatorian at Atrisco Heritage Academy and won the UNM Scholars Scholarship, El Mezquite Scholarship, MANA, and the New Mexico Manufactured Housing Association Scholarship.



Adrian Armendariz and Paola Bojorquez.

Adrian was the valedictorian at Atrisco Heritage Academy and won the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Multicultural Council Scholarship and the presidential scholarship at UNM, NMSU, and NM Tech.

"TRIO Upward Bound has given me the confidence to pursue my dreams and has not only helped me develop as a student, but as a person. This organization has helped me grow independently and is the reason I built up the confidence to apply to my dream university. TRIO Upward Bound has allowed me to experience multicultural and multilingual heritages, where people are not limited to following traditions and specific ideals. I owe many of my accomplishments to this amazing program; it truly is the best in the nation."
-Paola Bojorquez-Ramirez

Adrian Armendariz was awarded the QuestBridge College Match Scholarship to attend the University of Pennsylvania where he will study Mechanical Engineering. Adrian has shown to be an extremely focused and engaged student who is interested in lifelong learning. He participated in the UNM Upward Bound Robotics lab during his junior year and also participated in service learning at a local community center.

"The combination of academic assistance, summer school availability, and mentorship by the part of Upward Bound assisted me in becoming Valedictorian of Atrisco Heritage Academy High School's Class of 2016. In addition, I am now living out my dream of attending an Ivy League University as I am now part of the University of Pennsylvania's Class of 2020." -Adrian Armendariz

UNM Taos Upward Bound Summer Academy and Summer Bridge

By Andrew Leonard- UNM Taos Upward Bound

New Mexico is known to earth scientists as the Volcano State. Taos is surrounded by volcanoes and sits on an extensive 1.2 million-year-old lava flow. University of New Mexico-Taos Branch Upward Bound Math and Science staff used this natural wonder to create an opportunity for students to study volcanoes for the 4th annual Summer Academy.

This Summer Academy coincided with the 100th anniversary of the National Park System so students were able to visit Capulín, Bandelier and Rio Grande

del Norte National Monuments. They also visited Valles Caldera National Preserve and the Grand Canyon National Park.

A staff of 5 created an engaging field trip intensive interdisciplinary 6-week unit using the Taos area's world class geologic features. Dr. Deborah Ragland, adjunct Geology professor provided engaging lectures regarding the geology of each one of these parks. Kaila Dickey, Taos Municipal Schools science teacher, taught the laboratory. Megan Bradley, UNM-Taos

English Instructor, guided students through technical and journalistic writing about volcanoes, natural disasters, and the New York Times bestseller *Krakatoa: The Day the World Exploded* by Simon Winchester. Cheryl Hedden, staff developer with Core-Plus Mathematics Project, helped students learn about math application through the geometry of volcanic cones as well as offering lessons on geologic maps and helping students synthesize the concept of geologic time.

Jenny Miranda, UNM-Taos Upward Bound Program Coordinator, developed units on learning styles, personality awareness, leadership styles, college and career planning as part of the new L3 (Live, Learn, Lead) curricula. Guest speakers included the Guadalupe Credit Union presenting financial literacy, and Kristina Ortiz de Jones, Executive Director Taos Land Trust, led a field trip assessing local proposed trail systems.

The capstone activity was a motor coach trip to visit

Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona, and the Grand Canyon National Park. Students were able to compare the geology of the Grand Canyon to the Rio Grande del Norte, while also comparing the volcanism on the journey to Flagstaff to that of the Taos area.



Dr. Ragland explaining to students at Capulin Volcano

Since this was our first graduating class, UBMS at UNM-Taos added a Summer Bridge class in English Composition for Upward Bound Math and Science graduating senior students. This gave students an opportunity to take their first English course before entering college full time.

Laura Lynch, UNM-Taos English Instructor and Megan Bradley taught a hybrid freshman writing. These students not only learned good writing skills, but also learned how to access computer assisted learning. These students now have a solid foundation to begin their collegiate experience in the modern education era.

2016 UNM McNair Scholars Research Conference Update

Submitted by Ricardo Romero - UNM Albuquerque McNair

On October 29 & 30, 2016, the UNM McNair Scholars Program and the Research Opportunity Program hosted participants from 19 different universities nationwide at our annual research conference. There were McNair Scholars from as far as Boston College and Washington State University here on UNM's Main Campus to present their research in both oral and poster formats.

The purpose of our conference is to showcase the scholars' wonderful research and also to increase their chances of getting into graduate school by presenting at a national research conference. As you may know, the goal of our program is to help students get into graduate school with the eventual goal of earning a Ph.D.

In addition to the research presentations, the scholars also participated in a graduate school fair and attended workshops hosted by graduate school re-

cruiters. These recruiters love meeting with McNair Scholars because they recognize that these students are intelligent, hard working, and well prepared for graduate school due to their research experience and other skills they acquire by participating in McNair.

One of the highlights of the conference was a panel of five McNair Alumni that are now tenure-track professors. These panelists inspired the audience by sharing stories of their journey to the Ph.D. and into the professoriate. Below is a list of the impressive panelists:

- **Dr. Adán Ávalos**, McNair at Fresno State and faculty at UNM (Cinematic Arts)
- **Dr. Kency Cornejo**, McNair at UCLA and faculty at UNM (Art History)

• **Dr. Jedediah Crandall**, McNair at Embry Riddle University (AZ) and faculty at UNM (Computer Science)

• **Dr. Lillian Gorman**, McNair at UNM and faculty at the University of Arizona (Spanish)

• **Dr. Mia Sosa-Provencio**, McNair and faculty at UNM (Education)

As remarkable as McNair Alumni panel was, the stars of the conference are always the current scholars! The diversity among them is incredible, not only from a demographic perspective but also in terms of their research interests, running the gamut from the humanities to the hard sciences. Regardless of their majors, McNair Scholars tend to

focus their research on making the world around them a better place in which to live. They create a very hopeful space when they get together.

Finally, we would like to thank the volunteers that make this event special, many of whom come from other TRIO programs or alumni of McNair. We also had over 30 faculty serve as evaluators for oral and poster presentations and at least as many graduate students. Annually, there are about a dozen McNair conferences nationwide and our conference is one of the few that is held on a university campus. As a result, our volunteers create a very welcoming environment and provide a unique experience for our participants. We hope that you can join us in the future to see the research our scholars are producing.

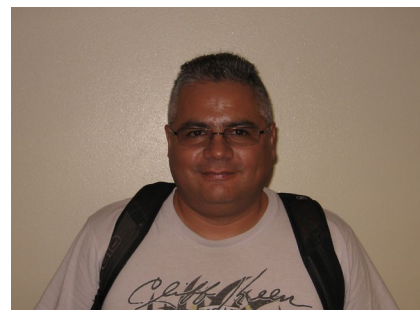
Student Highlight

Submitted by Roberto Cillo - SFCC Student Support Services

Many on the campus of Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) know George Esquibel as a math tutor in the YouthBuild program. But what some don't know is that he's legally blind and is pursuing an associate's degrees in both Human Services and Business Administration.

George had a good paying job at UPS in 2012 when he lost his central vision as a result of Stargardt Disease, a type of macular degeneration. "I knew I wanted an education so I could find a way to serve my community. I have a saying, 'My setback is simply a setup for me to come back strong.' That's the power of optimism."

Like many incoming students he said he first feared math. But through the assistance of SFCC TRIO Student Support Services math tutor Jim Clem, George turned around his math fear and now loves math, tutoring to young adults pursuing their GED. While in the SFCC TRIO program, George was introduced to another TRIO student majoring in Film. The two have been working together on a documentary about George's resilience in overcoming his obstacles and his passion for working with others. George's favorite line is to say he's not in a hurry as he is enjoying every precious moment.



George Esquibel

New employees CNM

by Magda Martinez-Baca - CNM Main Student Support Services

Lupe Fuentes, new TRIO SSS administrative assistant, CNM Main campus transitioned from the CNM Facilities department. "I am extremely excited to be working with TRIO. As a TRIO Alumni of CNM, I know firsthand how important this work is. Our program is extremely significant for student college success. In my spare time I enjoy photography and spending time with my family."



Lupe Fuentes and Aurora Craig-McBride.

Aurora Craig-McBride, math and science tutor for CNM Main campus came to TRIO from ACE tutoring. She joined TRIO to be able to explore more of a mentorship role with students and create complete learning experiences. "I am committed to life-time learning, and one of the best ways to learn is to teach." This is why I love being a part of TRIO and the CNM Community.

TRIO Works

By Chelsea Bethke - NMSU Student Support Services Student

Until recently, I feel like I have spent more of my life reacting to circumstance instead of creating the life that I wanted. I went to junior college straight from high school with every intent to transfer to a 4-year university and continue towards my Bachelor's Degree. Everything felt like it was going according to plan as I moved to Las Cruces to attend New Mexico State University. My path was detoured off course as I soon found myself without any family or true support system around me.

I was a student floating along in the educational system as I had been my whole life. I knew that I needed additional help in school and was too embarrassed to seek help. Eventually my lack of goals and support at this time led me to leave school and move back to California. After attempting several different career paths, it was obvious that doors were not opening without my degree. I decided to pack up my life in California and hit the road bound for New Mexico.

I can, without a doubt, say that I made the right decision and that I wouldn't be doing as well as I am without the support of the TRIO SSS program. From the moment I walked into the TRIO I knew I would be ok. Every time I met with someone I was

“...I wouldn't be doing as well as I am without the support of the TRIO SSS program...”

asked to communicate any factors that may hinder my success as a student. I was immediately introduced to a mentor, whom I meet with weekly. She asked me about my goals and concerns as a student and made herself available for anything I needed. I was assigned a tutor whom I met with weekly as well. The staff supplied me with an abundance of resources for financial aid, scholarships and connected me to many different departments on campus. It felt as if I had gained this massive community of support overnight and they were all on my team. The outpouring of encouragement and help I receive is making the difference in my accomplishments as a student. The structure, support and accountability were what I lacked my first go around. My outlook on my education and my belief in myself has changed.

I know that anytime I need help I can rely on TRIO for a guiding hand. I am beyond thankful for this program and had it not been for their help I would not be making the strides that I am. I am proud of myself for taking the hard steps needed to make a change in my life. I have everyone at TRIO to thank for the continuing support to ensure I reach my goals.

UNM Educational Opportunity Center Grant renewed

By Marcial Martinez - UNM Albuquerque Educational Opportunity Center

The University of New Mexico's Educational Opportunity Center (UNM-EOC) will continue serving students, for the next five years from 2016 to 2021. The U.S. Department of Education awarded UNM EOC with a federally funded grant to serve residents from Bernalillo, Torrance, Valencia and Socorro Counties. As part of the EOC eligibility requirements, the students come from backgrounds of low-income, college first-generation students, veterans, military personnel and their dependents as well as other youth or adults interested in pursuing a postsecondary education.

EOC was established at UNM Main Campus in September 2001, since then, EOC has assisted thousands of potential college students enrolled in postsecondary institutions and applied to financial aid.

"After being out of school for a year due to other priority reasons getting into college was challenging," said EOC participant, Uriel Urquijo, who enrolled at UNM for the 2016 fall semester to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in nursing. "Marcial Martinez, director of the EOC program, provided me with the

tools and assistance that I needed to enroll in college and made the process friendly and fairly easy. In the process, Mr. Martinez walked me through the UNM admission application as well as the FAS-FA application."

The program has also helped individuals, who did not complete a high school education, obtain their secondary school diplomas.

"UNM-EOC program has greatly supported Albuquerque GED's graduates' successful entry into college for over a decade," said Gloria Rael, Executive Director, Albuquerque GED, Inc. "Just this past year our program achieved a 50 percent outcome in entry into post-secondary education with 11 of 22 students receiving transitional assistance from our EOC partner."

UNM EOC has also offered academic support and coaching to high school seniors.

"Here at Belen High School, we are very fortunate to have a strong partnership with UNM EOC," said Joanne Silva, Assistant Principal at Belen High School (BHS). "Many of our students have already

benefited from the specialized/individualized career and college planning that EOC provides. With the guidance of EOC, BHS students leave our campus with acceptance letters in hand, completed FAFSA applications, scholarship awards and most importantly, the confidence they need to succeed in post-secondary programs."

According to NM Public Education Department, Belen School District had the highest high school graduation increase in the state for the Class of 2014 – 2015. Silva attributes the graduation success at BHS to the regular presence of the EOC advisers, Jenny Quiñonez and Sergio Leaños.

"EOC services have certainly provided our students with an added level of support and guidance," Silva added. "I am certainly honored to work with EOC and our students welcome and

appreciate their continued presence on our campus."

For the current grant cycle, the UNM-EOC program is committed to serving and assisting youth and adults further their education.

...**"UNM-EOC program has greatly supported Albuquerque GED's graduates' successful entry into college for over a decade"...**

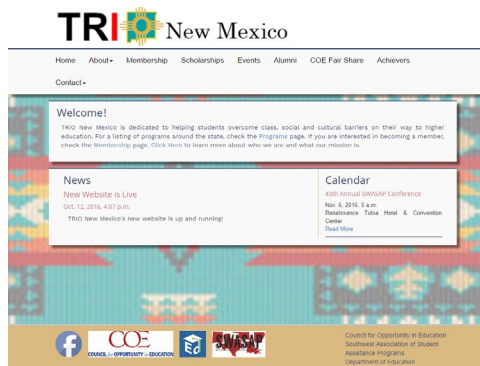
TRIO New Mexico Website Update

By Christopher Luna - TNM President - UNM Albuquerque Upward Bound

I am happy to announce that our new website trionewmexico.com is live and functional. As you may well know this has been a long time coming; we have basically been concealed in cyberspace for nearly a decade. When we switched web platforms we discovered that all of the settings allowing our former website to be found were disabled or not functional for modern display.

Search for our site from Google Chrome or Firefox using the words "TRIO New Mexico". The only issues we are experiencing right now arise from using the search engine Internet Explorer. We are still waiting for

a grace period to expire before all glitches (some search engines, pictures etc...) are worked out with the transition to a new web platform, but we can be found!



The new website will allow you to easily navigate to committees and contacts, view By-Laws, and perform other essential functions. We are still developing content for a couple of the tabs, but feel free to check it out using our mobile version or the desktop site. The NEW membership form is now available on the website, please renew!

<http://trionewmexico.com/>

TRIO New Mexico Directory

Educational Opportunity Center

Eastern New Mexico University Roswell

Ramona Miranda
P. O. Box 6000
Roswell, NM 88202
(575) 624-7206
mona.miranda@roswell.enmu.edu

University of New Mexico Albuquerque

Marcial Martinez
Suite 250, 1 Univ. of N M
Albuquerque, NM 87131
(505) 277-2203
marcialm@unm.edu

Ronald McNair Post-baccalaureate

University of New Mexico Albuquerque

Ricardo Romero
MSC06-3840
Albuquerque, NM 87131
(505) 277-5491
loborr@unm.edu

Student Support Services

Central New Mexico Community College - Main & Montoya

Magda Martinez-Baca
525 Buena Vista SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106
(505) 224-4000 ext. 51166 (Main)
ext 25049 (JMMC)
martinezm@cnm.edu

Clovis Community College

Kimberlee Smith
417 Schepps Blvd.
Clovis, NM 88101
(575) 769-4772
Kimberlee.Smith@clovis.edu

Eastern New Mexico University Portales

Dee Teal
1500 S. Ave. K #38
Portales, NM 88130
(575) 562-2446
deanna.teal@enmu.edu

Eastern New Mexico University Roswell

Russell Baker
P.O. Box 6000
Roswell, NM 88202
(575) 624-7117
Russell.Baker@roswell.enmu.edu

New Mexico Junior College

Gayle Abbott
1 Thunderbird Circle
Hobbs, NM 88240
(575) 492-2617

New Mexico State University

Carol Hicks
P. O. Box 3001, MSC 5278
Las Cruces, NM 88003
(505) 646-7485
Chicks2@nmsu.edu

Santa Fe Community College

Edward McKeon
6401 Richards Ave.
Santa Fe, NM 87052
(505) 428-1146
edward.mckeon@sfcc.edu

San Juan College

Shanna Sasser
(505) 566-3170
sassers@sanjuancollege.edu

University of New Mexico Albuquerque

Dawn Blue Sky-Hill
MSC 06 3715
Albuq., NM 87131
(505) 277-3230
dbluesky@unm.edu

University of New Mexico- Gallup

Jayne McMahon
705 Gurley Ave.
Gallup, NM 87301
(505) 863-7512
jmcMahon@unm.edu

University of New Mexico - Taos

Avelina Martinez
1157 County Road 110
Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557
avelina@unm.edu

Upward Bound

Clovis Community College

Jamie Moncure
1900 Thorton Bldg. G-13
Clovis, NM 88101
(575) 769-4350

Eastern New Mexico University Portales

Daniela Garcia
ENMU Station 36,
1500 S Ave. K
Portales, NM 88130
(575) 562-2452
Daniela.Garcia@enmu.edu

Eastern New Mexico University Roswell

Natalie Martinez
52 Univ. Blvd.
Roswell, NM 88203
(575) 624-7205
Natalie.martinez@roswell.enmu.edu

LULAC National Educational Service Centers, Inc. - Albuquerque

John Moya
400 Gold Avenue SW
Albuquerque, NM 87106
(505) 243-3787
jmoya@lnesc.org

New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology

Frances Ortega
2808 Central Ave. SE Suite 300
Albuq., NM 87106
(505) 366-2521
fortega@admin.nmt.edu

New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology - Math & Science

Kurtis Griess
2808 Central SE, Suite 109
Albuquerque, NM 87106
kgriess@admin.nmt.edu
(575) 520-1159

New Mexico Junior College

Debbie Pruitt
1 Thunderbird Circle #225
Hobbs, NM 88240
(575) 492-2607

New Mexico State University Las Cruces

Clifton McNish
P. O. Box 30001, MSC-5278
Las Cruces, NM 88003
(575) 646-5732
McnishC@ad.nmsu.edu

University of New Mexico Albuquerque

Chris Luna
400 Cornell, 1 Univ. of NM
Albuq., NM 87130
(505) 277-0096
Cluna@unm.edu

University of New Mexico Taos - Math & Science / Veterans

Randy Larry
1157 County Rd. 110
Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557
rlarry@unm.edu

University of New Mexico Valencia

Veronica Salcido
280 La Entrada
Los Lunas, NM 87031
(505) 925-8862
verosalcido@unm.edu

Educational Talent Search

Eastern New Mexico University Portales

Anna Maria Short
1500 S Ave. K
Portales, NM 88130
(575) 562-2447

Eastern New Mexico University Roswell

Danny Herrera
P. O. Box 6000
Rowell, NM 88202
(575) 624-7204

San Juan College

Yolanda Benally
4601 College Blvd.
Farmington, NM 87402
(505) 566-3145