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Message from the Director

The 2017-2018 academic year marked NMSU CAMP's sixteenth year of existence at the NMSU campus, thanks to the hard work and dedication of the CAMP students, staff and our many university and community partners.

In our sweet sixteen year, CAMP went through a few exciting changes. New staff joined the team and, during this transition, current staff took on additional roles to ensure a successful first year of our new five-year grant cycle. I am happy to report: mission accomplished.

NMSU CAMP students had the opportunity to participate in many events and activities throughout the year. They traveled to Santa Fe on two occasions, for the Legislative Shadowing Day and the annual Southwest HEP CAMP Student Leadership Conference. During Farmworker Awareness Week, CAMP alumni shared their life stories and work experiences during a panel session. In April, we recognized our Spring 2018 graduates, and days later we celebrated the first-year college completion of our 16th cohort. Congratulations and a sincere thank you to all!

Martha A. Estrada

16th Cohort: Goals Achieved

This year, for the start of our new grant cycle (2017-2021), we served 30 students and were able to achieve a 90% successful completion rate; that is, 27 students successfully completed their first year of college. On another positive note, 29 students of our 30 participants are returning to school in the fall of 2018.



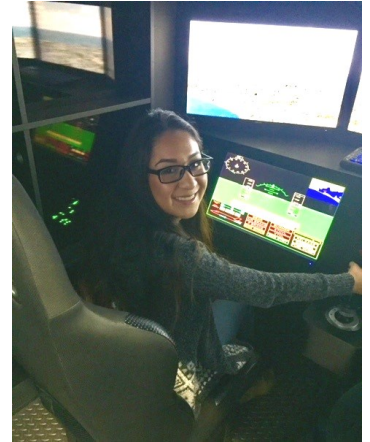
STEM Exposure



Samuel Gonzalez, David Gomez, Josue Chacon

Thanks to our STEM partners at NMSU, freshmen had the opportunity to attend events such as the Alliance for Minority Program (AMP) Conference and participate in various workshops including those offered by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC), and the Science, Engineering, Mathematics, and Aerospace Academy (SEMAA).

At the SEMAA lab, freshmen were able to experience a virtual reality flight simulator activity that they fully enjoyed.



Priscilla Botello

Bridge Inspection Program

Students were also exposed to the Bridge Inspection Program (BIP), an undergraduate cooperative opportunity offered by the Department of Civil Engineering. Three of our former participants of the BIP, including Thomas Cisneros, pictured here, held a workshop for freshmen to share the knowledge and field work experience they gained from the program. The alumni encouraged freshmen to consider participating in the program and emphasized the need for civil engineers given the deterioration of our nation's transportation infrastructure.

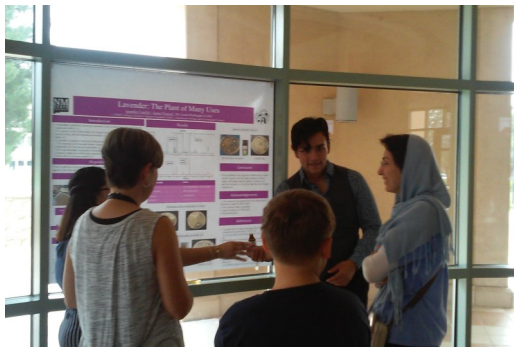
Summer 2018 BIP participant was Martin Duron of Hatch, New Mexico.



Senior student Thomas Cisneros

Medicinal Plants Summer Program

Under the leadership of Dr. Laura Rodriguez, a research scientist in the Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences, students Jennifer Castillo, Edrik Castro, David Corral, Josue Chacon, Daniella Jimenez, Jonathan Nuñez and Lesly Soto participated in the Medicinal Plants Research Summer Program.



Josue Chacon and Jennifer Castillo

During six weeks, students worked to research various plants and determine their medicinal properties and potency. At the end of their internship, they held a Poster Expo open to the public and NMSU community.



Lesly Soto, Daniella Jimenez, and David Corral

Leadership experiences

HEP/CAMP

Southwest Student Leadership Conference

This spring semester, nine freshmen attended the annual HEP/CAMP Student Leadership Conference, held in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

CAMPers participated in various workshops and team building activities, and interacted with students from CAMP and HEP programs at UNM, UTEP and other universities in Colorado and Arizona.

Students also had the opportunity to meet and draw inspiration from renowned New Mexican poet, Jimmy Santiago Baca, keynote speaker for the conference.



Freshmen Evelyn Vazquez, Priscilla Botello, Lesly Soto, Jonathan Nuñez, Edwin Estupinan, Daniella Jimenez and Jennifer Castillo, with workshop presenter, Orlando Obeso

Immigration and Border Community Research: Testimonial from Zaira Martin (16th cohort)



Zaira Martin with other participants

My experience with the Immigration and Border Community Research Experience for Undergraduates has been more than I could have ever imagined. In these short six weeks, I have become familiar with policy and laws that I was not previously aware of, and I have been able to connect this academic knowledge to border residents' lived experiences through community-based participation.

This program has truly been an eye opener. I am amazed and ashamed of how blind I was about what is going on in my own back yard and about the many organizations that are working hard to strengthen our communities. I feel so inspired by all the people I have met!

After this program comes to an end, I plan to remain active within these organizations like the HOPE Border Institute and CAFé, CAMP partner. I am very grateful for the opportunity and all the knowledge and experiences that I have received from it.

- Zaira Martin

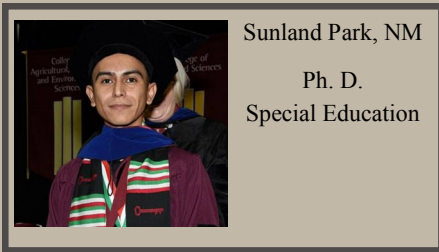
NM Legislative Shadowing

As has been our tradition since 2014, three outstanding CAMP students were selected to travel to Santa Fe and to shadow three legislators during the State Legislative Session. The participants this year were sophomore students: Rosalba Marquez, Elisa Olave and Quaid Downs (shown in this photo with State Representative Doreen Gallegos). Senator William Soules and Representative Nathan Small also participated in this initiative, which we created in conjunction with the NMSU Office of Government Relations.

The two-day experience exposes students to the legislative process and allows them to develop their leadership and communication skills. They also had the opportunity to speak about CAMP and their own experiences as New Mexican college students.

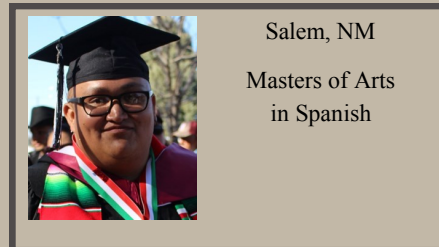


Fall 2017 Graduates *



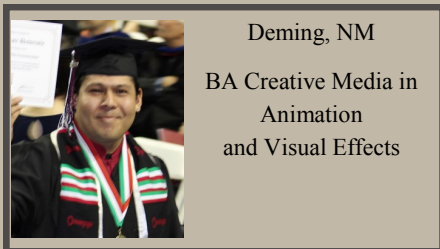
Sunland Park, NM
Ph. D.
Special Education

Tony Bobadilla



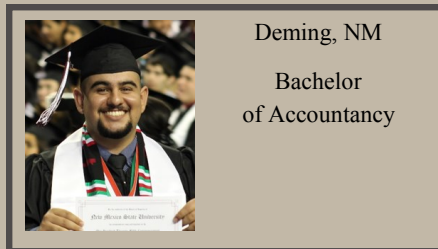
Salem, NM
Masters of Arts
in Spanish

Ricardo Serrano



Deming, NM
BA Creative Media in
Animation
and Visual Effects

Lorenzo Belloc



Deming, NM
Bachelor
of Accountancy

David Diaz



Hatch, NM
BS Civil Engineering
minor in Mathematics

Edgar Dominguez



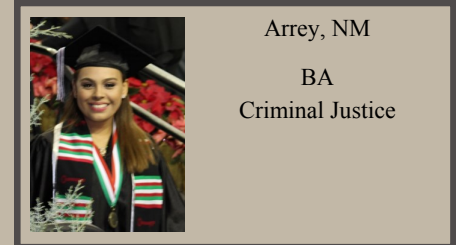
Garfield, NM
BS
Mechanical Engineering
minor in Mathematics

Joshua Ibarra



Hatch, NM
BAS in Early Education
minor in Spanish

Maria Elena Lopez



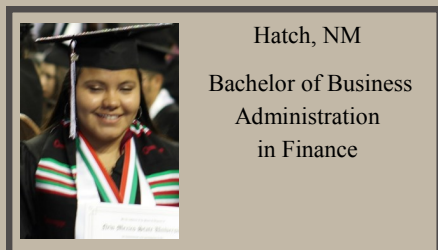
Arrey, NM
BA
Criminal Justice

Guadalupe Marin



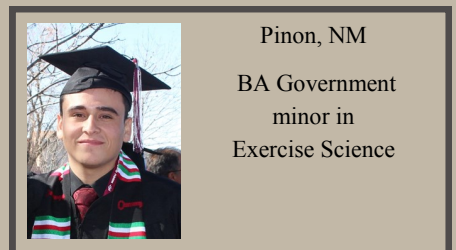
Anthony, NM
BA Foreign Languages
(Spanish)
minor Community Health

Ebelin Ramirez



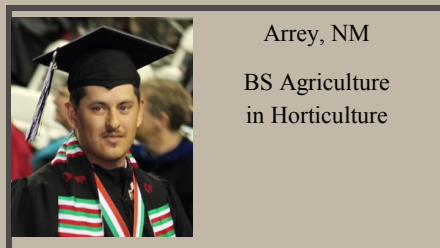
Hatch, NM
Bachelor of Business
Administration
in Finance

Maria Reyes Chairez



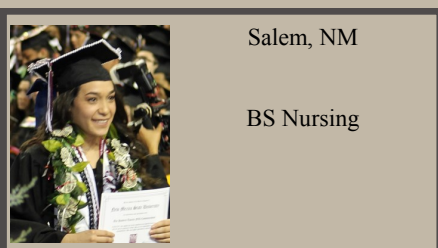
Pinon, NM
BA Government
minor in
Exercise Science

Andrew Rodarte



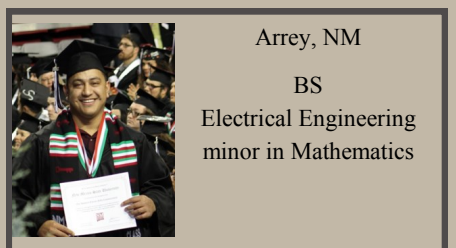
Arrey, NM
BS Agriculture
in Horticulture

Jose E. Rodriguez



Salem, NM
BS Nursing

Leticia Varela



Arrey, NM
BS
Electrical Engineering
minor in Mathematics

Natividad Villa

* Not pictured here: Juan Rodriguez, Bachelor of Individualized Studies, minors in Art and Spanish

Spring 2018 Graduates



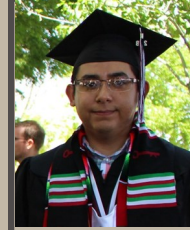
Hatch, NM
Master of Science in
Marriage and Family
Therapy

Neysla Cisneros



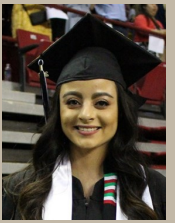
Deming, NM
Bachelor of Individualized
Studies
minor in Community
Health

Yolanda Arroyo



Hatch, NM
BS Industrial Engineering
BA Foreign Languages
(Spanish)
minor in Clothing, Textiles &
Fashion Merchandise

Joel Cazares



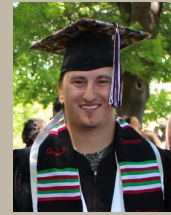
Hatch, NM
BAS
Early Education

Yesenia Diaz



El Paso, Texas
BS Hotel, Restaurant and
Tourism Management

Francisco Hernandez



Arrey, NM
BS
Agriculture

Leonardo Rodriguez



Hatch, NM
BS in Mechanical
Engineering Technology

Maria Rodriguez



Mesquite, NM
BA
Criminal Justice

Jessica Sandoval



Hatch, NM
BS
Aerospace Engineering
minor in Mathematics

Manuel Serrano



CAMPers around the Globe

Study Abroad

Izarahy “Izzy” Montes wanted to learn French, so, in the spring of 2018, she went to France. At Lyon, its third biggest city, she attended Lyon Bleu International, a school that offers French courses for international students. “My main focus,” she explained, “was to learn the language to come back to my university with enough credits to enroll in French classes and obtain a minor’s degree in that language.”

She did not only acquire a third language (Izzy speaks English and Spanish); she grew and gained confidence in herself. Studying abroad taught her to be a



Izarahy in Leon, France



Izarahy in Paris

leader in any given situation and to be more independent, which was one of her goals. “I wanted to expand my views and become more independent,” she expressed. She also visited Italy, Spain, Switzerland and Germany. And she made friends from all over the world!

“I recommend this to everyone,” advised Izzy, who will be a junior in the fall. “Whether it’s for academic reasons or for the experience of living in a different continent, at the end you’ll realize you have learned a lot not only about your host country and the students you meet, but also about yourself.”

Celebrations

Students celebrate and are inspired by NMSU CAMP alumni



Pahola Cabrera

Graduation Banquet

CAMP graduates and their families, freshmen, staff, and university and community supporters, gathered for our annual Banquet to honor NMSU CAMP spring graduates. CAMP alumna, Pahola Cabrera, recently named “Teacher of the Year” at Capt. Walter E. Clark Middle School in El Paso, Texas, was one of our keynote speakers. Her amazing speech moved us all!



Aerospace Engineering graduate Manuel Serrano receives stole from Academic Advisor Jaime Lopez

Freshmen Graduation

To celebrate the completion of their first year, CAMP held a ceremony for freshmen and their families. NMSU CAMP alumnus, Omar Hernandez, an 8th grade science teacher at Hatch Valley Public Schools, was the keynote speaker. He shared with students an extraordinary message of perseverance and resiliency.



Omar Hernandez

Student Council

Sammy Gurulé enchilada fundraiser with U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich



Accompanied by U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich, on November 10, 2017, CAMP students, their families and other supporters, gathered to raise funds for the popular Sammy Gurulé enchilada fundraiser at NMSU's 100 West Café.

Sammy was a CAMP student who lost his life in a car accident 12 years ago, months after starting his first semester at NMSU. To honor his memory, the NMSU CAMP Student Council, supported by Sammy's parents, initiated an annual enchilada fundraiser in 2007 to establish a scholarship in his name.

This year, enough enchilada plates were sold to fund two scholarships. Sammy's parents, Phyllis and Edwin Gurulé, of Tres Piedras, New Mexi-

co, were able to join this event for the first time, and it made for an extra special event. Mr. Gurule expressed, "We thank the CAMP program from the bottom of our heart that Sammy's memory is still living on," according to the Nov. 17, 2017 news release from the NMSU News Center.

The fundraiser was made that much more meaningful with the presence of our U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich, who spent the afternoon and early evening with our students and staff. "I think it's incredibly impressive to see the level of support the CAMP program is able to create for students," the Senator expressed (NMSU News Release, November 11, 2017).

Farmworker Awareness Week

The CAMP Student Council held various events during the Farmworker Awareness Week, including the screening of the Cesar Chavez movie, a blood drive and a farmworker panel. For this event, CAMP alumni Bernardo "Naro" Lopez, Jorge Rodriguez, Marisol Chairez and Tony Moran, all NMSU CAMP alumni, discussed their work in farmworker advocacy and responded to questions from the public about their past experiences as farmworker students.

Naro, Jorge and Marisol are employed with Las Cruces Public Schools Migrant Program, the ACLU, and HELP New Mexico. Tony is a Certified Public Accountant and partner at Beasley, Mitchell and Co., and serves on the Board of Tierra del Sol Corporation, a CAMP community partner.



Farmworker Panel. Panelists accompanied by freshmen, Student Council members and some CAMP supporters.

Transitions



Michelle Montano

After almost 26 years of service with New Mexico State University, Michelle Montano retired. We are very grateful for the 12 years she dedicated to CAMP. As the program's Director, Michelle successfully managed the state and federal funds and ensured that the program's goals and objectives were fulfilled. We wish her the best!

Martha Estrada

Our former Academic Advisor, Martha Estrada, returned to CAMP, with lots of experience, as its new Director. She recently served as the College and Career Readiness Coordinator of the state's GEAR UP program. Prior to that role, she was the CAMP director at the University of Washington and Northern New Mexico College. Welcome back!



Ricardo Trejo



In January, NMSU CAMP graduate Ricardo Trejo joined our team as a Recruiter. Coming from a farmworking family, Rick understands first hand the needs and dreams of students who, despite their obstacles, want to pursue a career in higher education. Ricardo is currently pursuing a Master's in Public Administration. We are very happy to have our first NMSU CAMP alumnus as part of our professional staff!