



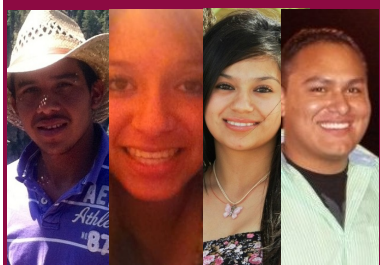
NMSU College Assistance Migrant Program

2012-2013 Newsletter

Live, Learn and Thrive.

In this Issue:

Outstanding CAMPers!



Graduates



Student Experiences



Contributors:
Yesenia Luna
Araceli Delgado
José Montoya

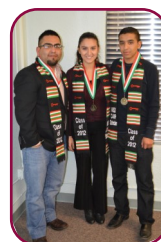
A note from the staff...

We are happy to announce that NMSU CAMP was awarded another five-year cycle of funding from the Office of Migrant Education in June 2012. We would like to extend a big thanks to all of our University and community partners who helped us throughout the grant-writing process. A new component of our programming includes the CAMP-STEM embedded experience. CAMP freshmen will now be introduced to opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Apart from this new venture, we continue to serve the post-secondary educational needs of the migrant and seasonal farm working community in Southern New Mexico and West Texas. Throughout this year, we have seen more student involvement in activities on and off campus, more student leadership, and more students graduating. NMSU CAMP is proud to highlight our students' accomplishments in this newsletter.



NMSU CAMP celebrated another year of student success at the annual CAMP banquet. Pictured here are the staff along with spring 2013 graduates (recognizable by their CAMP stoles). Also pictured are Jubilee Olivas and Sandra Gutiérrez, both former CAMP/NMSU alumni, who served as guest speakers for the banquet.

Back row: Carlos Cano, Monica Olvera, María Mendoza, Alejandra Rosales, NM State Representative Doreen Gallegos, Bernardo López, Sol Sánchez, Brandon Ibarra, Sonia Flynn, Dr. Cynthia Bejarano, Sandra Gutiérrez. Front row: Michelle Montaña, Larry Salazar, José Montoya, Jubilee Olivas



Pictured to the left are the December 2012 CAMP graduates. From left to right: Omar Hernández, Pamela Prieto and José Duron. Not pictured: Kandi Acero.

NMSU CAMP's 11th Cohort, 2012-2013



Front row (left to right): Neysla Cisneros, Brenda Carrillo, Lucy Ramirez, Jessica Sandoval, María Reyes, Yesenia Díaz, Jennifer Santos, Marisol Caro, María Rodríguez, Marisol Chairez, Rebecca Moreno, Alexa Alanis, Leticia Varela, and María Gomez. Back row: José Rodríguez, Oscar Guerrero, David Díaz, Edgar Domínguez, Manuel Serrano, Juan Esparza, Josué González, Ismael Martínez, and Roberto Salazar.

Outstanding CAMP Students: Get to Know Them!



Carlos Cano just graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Biology and a minor in English and Biochemistry. Carlos, who is originally from Hatch, NM, was accepted to the University of New Mexico's School of Medicine and will be starting his medical school experience this summer. He's not entirely sure where he will be after med school, because he wants to concentrate on getting through these next few years.

His journey through the University has not always been easy. A challenge he had to overcome was becoming accustomed to working hard for good grades because it was easier to earn straight A's in high school. As a consequence, his study habits needed improvement and he was not sure how to study for some of his core classes. Carlos states, "It was unbelievably frustrating my freshman year because I felt like I couldn't do it. Eventually, I adjusted and life was easier for me. What helped me adapt academically was little things that I always thought I didn't need, like flashcards. Socially, the environment that CAMP created, and that fact that I had friends around helped me adjust. Also, I was quick to make new friends in the classes that I had and it allowed me to make acquaintances outside of CAMP."

For Carlos, CAMP was the "most important benefactor" that he had throughout his undergraduate career. He continued to reflect on his experiences and said this about CAMP. "As a first generation college student, I feared that the transition from high school to the university would be a tedious and painstaking task. However CAMP made the process nearly seamless and helped us as students, not only financially, but mentally as well. The forced interactions between the teachers and ourselves throughout the semester through monthly progress reports—though not appreciated at the time—were facilitators in the relationships I had with some of my professors."

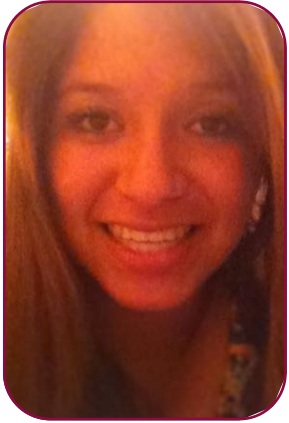
As an undergraduate, he was very busy, having interned at three organizations that included the Summer Medical and Dental Education Program in Los Angeles, CA and two internships in Las Cruces, NM—at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Scholars Program as well as at Sapphire Energy. Carlos won the Best Undergraduate Presenter award at the Annual Biosymposium at NMSU, presented at the Annual Genetics Society of America Drosophila Conference in Chicago, and was an author in *Analysis of the Tracriptomes Downstream of Eyeless, Hedgehog, Decapentaplegic and Notch Signaling Pathways in Drosophila melanogaster*.

For incoming freshmen, Carlos gives simple advice. "I was always too hard on myself every time I didn't do well and I told myself I was never going to get into medical school. Don't be so hard on yourselves; just know what you have to do without beating yourself up for every mistake." NMSU CAMP is very proud of Carlos' accomplishments and is honored to have been a part of his University experiences.



Marisol Caro is a determined student and will earn her Bachelors of Community Health in three years. Marisol, who is from Hagerman, NM, has faced many obstacles such as managing money, time and stress in order to be successful in her academics. Even though she has had some obstacles, Marisol plans to get involved in more activities and maintain at the very least a 3.5 GPA. After graduation Marisol would like to enroll in a dental hygiene program, and is also considering graduate school.

Marisol believes the best way to adapt to college is to get involved and participate in activities. Marisol has been active with the CAMP Student Council, and this coming year she will serve as the treasurer. Marisol has had the opportunity to travel. She attended the Southwest HEP/CAMP Student Leadership Conference in Santa Fe, NM and has attended the Bert Corona Leadership Institute in Washington, D.C. this summer. Marisol also stays active by participating in an intramurals volleyball team. Her success has been aided by CAMP. "I know for sure that if it wouldn't have been for CAMP, I probably would have never had the opportunity to attend such a prestigious school nor be aware of all the opportunities there are out there for us (students) such as scholarships, internships, work study, student hire and much more."



Alicia Bañuelos from Fabens, TX has a bright future ahead of her. Alicia plans to graduate from veterinary school, start her own practice, and eventually operate a certified cattle ranch. Before she can achieve those long-term goals, Alicia is working on obtaining her Bachelor's of Science in Animal Science with a minor in chemistry. She expects to graduate by spring 2015. Alicia plans on achieving this by maintaining a good grade point average, participating in summer internships and taking as many classes possible in her field of study. So far she has interned with the Medicinal Plants of the Southwest as a researcher in the summer of 2012, and is a member of the NMSU Therapeutic Riding Association.

She has faced several obstacles in her undergraduate journey such as financial burdens, interacting with other cultures, and being able to acknowledge her weaknesses and learning to strengthen them. Alicia's perseverance has helped her overcome obstacles by asking for help when she needs it and having her priorities set straight.

Alicia is proud of being a first generation college student, and she credits CAMP's assistance in reaching her goals. "CAMP has given me a great opportunity which has opened many doors to achieve my goals in life, and without CAMP's help maybe I would not be where I am now."

Based on her experiences as a college student, she recommends incoming freshman to study, use the resources on campus wisely, get involved in their field of study, and having a plan to set your priorities straight.

Pedro Castillo has overcome many challenges to be where he is now—almost ready to graduate in December 2014 with a Bachelor's of Science in Wildlife. Pedro's biggest obstacle has been his English skills. This challenge set him back because not having the ability to efficiently communicate caused him to be quiet in class and not willing to ask questions. Luckily, having interned with the Chile Pepper Institute gave him the ability to practice his English skills and to communicate. Because his co-workers only spoke English, he got to practice and feel more comfortable.

For Pedro CAMP was a great help. CAMP has helped him throughout his freshman year and still continues to support him by providing financial and educational resources. "Also, all the employees are great; they are always there to listen whenever you need them."

Pedro has been involved in several activities that have helped him obtain his goal of graduating and one day working as a Game Warden with the Department of Game and Fish or with the USDA Forest Service. Pedro has volunteered with other college advisers doing research in wildlife, and has interned with the NMSU's ASSURED program; the USDA Forest Service in Montana as a Biological Technician; the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) with the USDA; and he is currently interning with the Department of Interior as a Student Trainee in Socorro, NM.

Pedro has been really involved with internships that will help him obtain his dream job once he graduates. He advises incoming freshman to get internships that will help them get valuable experience. "The main purpose of going to college is not about the money but it is doing something you really like and still getting paid and eventually money will come with the years of experience."



NMSU CAMP Graduates



Michelle Montaña, Sonia Flynn, María Mendoza, Bernardo López, Sol Sánchez, Larry Salazar, Favio Casillas, Monica Olvera, José Montoya, Dr. Cynthia Bejarano



Kandi Acero
Arrey, NM

Bachelor of Psychology
Minors: Business Administration,
Management
Fall 2012



Pamela Prieto
Dexter, NM

Bachelor of Accounting
Bachelor of Finance
Minor in Banking
Fall 2012



José Durón
Hatch, NM

Bachelor of Finance
Fall 2012



Omar Hernández
Hatch, NM

Bachelor of Secondary Education
Bachelor of Biology
Minor is Counseling and Ed
Psychology
Fall 2012



Carlos Cano
Hatch, NM

Bachelor of Biology
Minors: Biochemistry,
English
Spring 2013



Tony Bobadilla
Sunland Park,
NM

Master of Social Work
Spring 2013

2012-2013



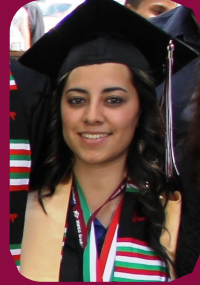
Favio Casillas
Deming, NM

Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering Technology
Spring 2013



María Mendoza
Hatch, NM

Bachelor of Family and Child Science
Bachelor of Spanish
Spring 2013



Monica Olvera
Hatch, NM

Bachelor of Social Work
Spring 2013



Branden Ibarra
Hatch, NM

Bachelor of Government
Minor in History
Spring 2013



Alejandra Rosales
Hatch, NM

Bachelor of Accounting
Minor in Management
Spring 2013



Bernardo López
Hatch, NM

Bachelor of Social Work
Spring 2013



Sol Sánchez
Hatch, NM

Bachelor of Early Childhood Education
Spring 2013



Sonia Flynn, Eva Telles, Michelle Montaño, Omar Hernández, José Durón, Dr. Cynthia Bejarano, José Montoya, Larry Salazar

Summer 2013 Experiences:

- Marisol Caro—Bert Corona Leadership Institute, Washington DC
- Pedro Castillo—Intern, Bureau of Reclamation, Socorro, NM
- Adrian Cerna—Study Abroad, Barcelona, Spain
- Marisol Chairez—Intern, Medicinal Plants of the Southwest, Las Cruces, NM
- Edgar Dominguez—Intern, Medicinal Plants of the Southwest, Las Cruces, NM
- Ramon Hernández—Intern, HACU, Albuquerque, NM
- Branden Ibarra—NM Legislative Council, Santa Fe, NM
- Iliana Levario—Study Abroad, Shanghai, China
- Bernardo López—Fellow, Student Action with Farmworkers
- Yessenia Marquez—Intern, Student Action with Farmworkers
- Osvaldo Muñoz—Intern, Marriot Resort, San Antonio, TX
- Pamela Prieto—Intern, Ernst & Young, San Antonio, TX
- María Rodríguez—Bert Corona Leadership Institute, Washington, DC
- Roberto Salazar—Intern, Medicinal Plants of the Southwest, Las Cruces, NM
- Leticia Varela—Intern, Medicinal Plants of the Southwest, Las Cruces, NM

Experiencing STEM

Introducing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) opportunities is a new component and a priority for NMSU CAMP. The program now offers students first-hand experiences with STEM initiatives at NMSU. This includes recruiting students from programs such as the Pre-freshmen Engineering Program (PREP) and New Mexico Mathematics, Engineering, and Science Achievement (MESA) among many other STEM programs available.

This past cohort had the opportunity to participate in several STEM activities, which included a visit to Spaceport America. The CAMP students received a tour and learned more about what it would be like to major in aerospace engineering. The students also participated in a Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) event where RISE doctoral students presented different research projects and CAMP students got to use different lab equipment such as microscopes.

The goal of these events is to create student interest and appreciation for STEM-related fields, and it is working! Four CAMP students were selected to participate in the Medicinal Plants of the Southwest (MPSW) 2013 internship. These four students interned during June to learn more about regional plants that have medicinal components used to enhance health. The students commented on how participating on this program had given them an insight to how research works and is applied. Roberto Salazar currently participating in the MPSW describes it as the, “perfect start to science it opens your eyes to what you will do the rest of your life.” It also made them realize the quality resources NMSU has to offer to conduct research.

Today, 30 CAMP students are majoring in the STEM disciplines, ranging from Range Science to Aerospace Engineering. In the future CAMP expects more students to major in STEM disciplines, thanks to this new component added to the CAMP student experience.



All CAMP freshmen participated in the RISE presentation (pictured above) and the tour of Spaceport America (pictured below).



Medicinal Plants of the Southwest interns included Leticia Varela, Roberto Salazar, Marisol Chairez and Edgar Dominguez.



Other STEM presentations attended by students:

- The Howard Hughes Medical Institute Program
- New Mexico Bridge Inspection Program
- Alliance for Minority Participation (AMP) Undergraduate Research Symposium

Life Outside the Classroom

Two NMSU CAMPers have taken to dance as an art form. Araceli Delgado and Lucy Ramirez are current members of the Aggie DanceSport Team (ADST), a non-profit, student-ran organization at NMSU. ADST is an extracurricular club that specializes in Latin, Ballroom, and Swing dance styles and is committed to student involvement and development. Members perform, compete, do community service, teach dance, and take leadership positions within the organization.

Araceli has been a part of ADST for the past two years where she has gained valuable experience. She talked about how being a member of ADST has helped her grow, "When I came into this team, everyone was a complete stranger. I have always been really shy, but I was determined to join a dance club that I would enjoy. Everyone in the team was very welcoming and soon they made me feel part of the dance family. I was taught styles that I had never danced before and I quickly learned about the team structure. My first performance was very exciting and it helped me develop motivation, confidence and a greater sense of self-esteem and all of this has helped me through my college education. ADST requires great dedication and many hours of practice, which has helped me to manage my time efficiently to be able to go to school, work and dance. Within the team I have had the opportunity to serve as vice-president and president of ADST. These opportunities have really helped me grow as a professional and as a person. It is a true pleasure and pride to be part of this team. We have fun, we demonstrate our passion for dance and we help each other grow within the team. Coming into this team has definitely been one of my great achievements in my college education!"



Araceli and her dance partner at a performance.

Student Action with Farmworkers (SAF)



Student Action with Farmworkers (SAF) is an organization that trains students from all over the United States to be leaders in the farm working movement through internships and fellowships among other programs offered. Students learn about the lives of farmworkers and how to advocate for them. NMSU CAMP has had the great honor to be a part of the SAF movement through the participation of four CAMP students: Bernardo López, Alma Hernández, Yessenia Marquez, and Alejandra Trejo.

Bernardo López had the opportunity to work with SAF throughout the summer of 2012 in Hendersonville, North Carolina for 10 weeks. During his internship he worked with the Migrant Education Program (MEP) where his work consisted of assisting students who attended school and others who didn't, but wanted to continue. He worked with the students in school by helping them to get prepared for the next school year and graduation, and provided them with information that would help them continue with their education. Interning was such a rewarding experience for Bernardo that he applied and was chosen as a SAF fellow this summer 2013.

Yessenia Marquez also interned with MEP in Hendersonville this summer of 2013. She states that what she enjoyed the most were the activities with farmworkers, asking about their goals and aspirations because, "It's an activity that helps them think about their dreams." Yessenia added, "I used to see things differently. When you see the poor conditions that they live in, your thinking changes. There are a lot of people who ask for food and they have little kids. It's sad, but they aren't giving up." Yessenia looks forward to addressing the needs of farmworkers upon returning to New Mexico.

Alma Hernández interned at the North Carolina Justice Center in Durham. Alma would call farm workers to update them on the status on pending cases against contractors and farmers for job-related injuries or not receiving pay. In the evening, Alma and her co-workers would go to the labor camps to visit the workers and would inform them of their rights and would perform *teatro campesino*. She stated, "The farm-working experience was something very different to what I had experienced in New Mexico. It changed my perspective because I understood not all workers get treated equally. I admired the workers who left their homes and families to come to the United States to work for a better future."

Happy Retirement to Larry Salazar!!



CAMP would like to thank Larry Salazar for his 12 years of service to our program. Larry served as the Recruitment Coordinator. His knowledge on the Southern New Mexico farm-working community has been invaluable to NMSU CAMP. We wish you all the best in your retirement!



Jessica Gomez is the first recipient of the prestigious Louise Salazar Scholarship. She is a senior from Hatch, NM and is majoring in Mechanical Engineering. She currently works as a CAMP COMPA (peer mentor) and is a student ambassador for the College of Engineering.

Christine Chávez Visits with CAMP



The CAMP Student Council hosted labor activist, Christine Chávez, to serve as a guest speaker during NMSU's Latino Week this past March. Christine, granddaughter of César Chávez, was the ideal spokesperson because she understands the struggles of the farm-working community. Chávez talked extensively about continuing the legacy of her grandfather's work to improve the lives of farm workers around the nation.

CAMP Student Council President, Flor Ogaz, was instrumental in securing Christine as a guest speaker. Flor talked about the experience and said, "We are grateful as farmworkers to have such an awesome leader stand up for our rights. Learning about her grandfather's humbleness was eye opening and he truly was a leader for everyday people!"

The CAMP Student Council plans to continue educating the NMSU community on farm-worker justice and awareness.

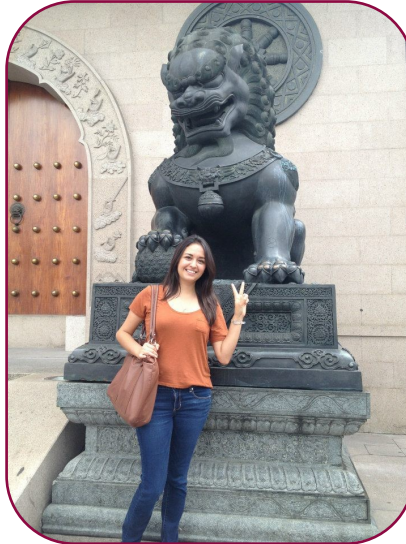


Flor and Christine took some time out of the busy day for a photo opportunity.

Scrapbook



Ricardo Trejo visited Paris, France while he studied in Amsterdam.



Iliana Levario in Shanghai, China



Carla Cisneros and Jorge Rodríguez in Costa Rica



Heriberto Alvarado in Luleå, Sweden



Rocky Navarrete in Toulon, France



The Annual César Chávez Blood Drive



Branden Ibarra explains his internship at the annual Poster Expo



Ricardo Angeles demonstrates the new CAMP Student Council T-shirt



More from the Spaceport America Field Trip



David Díaz, María Reyes and Yesenia Díaz prep enchilada ingredients for the Sammy Gurulé Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser

Meet the New Student Academic Advisor

NMSU CAMP is very excited to announce the newest member of our family. Jaime López has been hired as our Academic Advisor and will be working with our freshmen. Jaime was born in El Paso, TX, but was raised in Las Cruces, NM. He obtained his Bachelor's from New Mexico State University in Foreign Languages in Spanish. He also has an Associate's in Business Management from Doña Ana Community College, which he started in high school. Jaime's background will help him accomplish CAMP's mission of serving farm-working students. "As a child of migrant parents, what I look forward to the most as a CAMP advisor is the ability to help other migrant kids reach their fullest potential and to academically succeed at NMSU." Welcome to CAMP, Jaime López!



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