



New Mexico State University

College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)



2023-2024 Newsletter

In this Issue...

Message from Director, Farmworker Awareness Week, Spotighting CAMPer Success, CAMP Graduates, & Much More

Message from our Director: Cohort 22

CAMP Staff

Principal Investigator

- Dr. Cynthia Bejarano

Director

- Martha A. Estrada

Administrative Assistant

- Cynthia Bartow

Academic Advisor

- Yvette Cortez

Retention Advisor

- Francisco Soto

Recruiter

- Luis D. Gómez

Student Staff

Graduate Assistants

- Daniel Grajeda
- Gemma Lozano

Computer Tech

- Mauricio Muñoz

Research Assistants

- Fatima Oliveros
- Wendy Ibarra

Social Media Manager

- Jesús E. Porras

Living Learning
Community Leader

- Adrian Casas

STEM Tutors

- Thomas Cisneros
- Jonah Madrid
- Sandra Ríos-Alba

COMPAS (Peer Mentors)

- Brenda Carrasco
- Daniel Gómez
- Saúl González
- Jessica Pedregón
- Karina Ramírez



Back row from left: Genaro Garza, Kevin Loredo, Natalie Tarwater, Jonathan Morales, Deo Olvera, Eduardo Moreno, Uriel Gómez, Lysha Olvera, Alejandro Grajeda 2nd row from left: Melanie Zepeda, Abigail Carreon, Noelia Alaniz, Lizeth Ramirez, Evelyn Velázquez, Mariel Venzor, Fatima Gómez Vásquez, Michelle Teran-Ruiz, Guadalupe Vázquez, Maria Cortes, Danna Leañes, Daniela Rodriguez, Eva Villanueva, Jocelyn Lara, Ismeralda Rivera, KimberlInn Torres

During the 2023-2024 academic year, NMSU CAMP extended a warm welcome to a cohort of 30 bright and eager first-year college students. Throughout the year, these students participated in workshops and meetings with their peer mentors and academic advisors, as well as campus and community presentations and activities, ensuring a well-rounded first year. Our CAMP familia is incredibly proud of the hard work and strong determination shown by each student in completing their first year of college and continuing on to year two. All CAMP cohorts begin with students, excited yet nervous about embarking on this college journey. The CAMP staff and I want to remind all CAMP Scholars that, though you may feel like you are on your own, you are most definitely never alone. We will continue to be here, to assist and encourage you in working towards your academic degrees.

Cohort 22, congratulations on becoming CAMP Alumni!

Farmworker Awareness Week

During the week of March 25-29, 2024, NMSU CAMP hosted events for Farmworker Awareness Week to highlight the challenges and contributions of farmworkers, who number approximately 2.9 million in the United States. Activities included a Long-Sleeve Shirt Drive to provide protective clothing for farmworkers, a blood drive, a virtual CAMP Plática presentation featuring CAMP alumnus, Jim Armendáriz. The week also included the Bandana Project activity led by the CAMP Student Council and a Student Showcase/Poster Expo. Here students highlighted their experiences in college including research, study abroad and internships. These events aimed to educate and engage the community in supporting farmworkers' rights and well-being.



Spotlighting CAMPer Success



Johana Pizano, Cohort 19, walking the stage during the Fall 2023 Commencement Ceremony.

Summer STEM Opportunity: Biosphere 2



Photo taken outside "The Lung" at the Biosphere 2 site. Back row from left: Mauricio Muñoz, Adrian Casas, Daniel Gómez 2nd row from left: Ricardo Márquez, Academic Advisor-Yvette Cortez, Sandra Ríos-Alba, Tour Guide, Mia Villegas, Keila Hernández, Maribel Reyes, Retention Advisor- Francisco Soto

In August 2023, a group of students from NMSU CAMP cohorts 20 and 21 traveled to Tucson, AZ, to visit the University of Arizona's campus and Biosphere 2. Biosphere 2 enhances the understanding of ecosystems through research that fosters interventions to boost the resilience and sustainability of Earth's systems and improve human quality of life. During their visit, students were assigned an ecosystem to research. They later presented their poster during the NMSU CAMP Farmworker Awareness Week events.

Research at the Border



Fatima Oliveros, Cohort 19, presenting her poster during the CAMP Student Showcase for Farmworker Awareness Week.

Fatima Oliveros was one of three New Mexico State University students who joined ten others from across the country to present their research findings from the National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates (NSF REU) program last summer. The NSF REU is a 9-week program that offers students the opportunity to conduct hands-on research on border and immigration policy. The students conducted personal interviews with migrants from Central and South America, gaining valuable insights and contributing to impactful research.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Internship

In May 2023, Desley Carrasco received the news that she was selected to be part of the inaugural cohort of interns as part of the recently formed National HEP/CAMP Association and the USDA partnership. This program offered a paid 10-week summer internship in Washington, D.C., specifically for CAMP students across the nation. During the internship, selected CAMP Scholars gained valuable experience working in various USDA agencies.



Desley Carrasco, Cohort 20, poses for her professional headshot for HEP/CAMP website

National CAMP Student Speaker

Last summer, Daniel Gómez was selected to speak at the Office of Migrant Education's Annual HEP/CAMP Directors' Meeting. Representing NMSU CAMP, Daniel shared his personal story and highlighted the significant impact CAMP has had on his academic success.

Daniel Gómez, Cohort 20, giving his speech at the Department of Education Office.



¡Haciendo la Diferencia en Guatemala!

Photo taken outside a home in Guatemala. Back row from left: Akse! Vásquez, Jonathan Morales, Cassandra Gómez, Diana Jaramillo, Daniel Gómez, Mauricio Muñoz,



Six CAMP students from the nonprofit, student-led organization Aggies Without Limits traveled to Guatemala during the summer of 2024. Collaborating with other members of the organization, they worked on a vital project to install a potable water distribution system. This system, featuring over eight kilometers of pipe, will serve more than 200 families, benefiting 1,500 residents in the community.

Legislative Shadowing



Photo taken outside the New Mexico Capitol Building. From left: Daniel Gómez, CAMP P.I. - Dr. Cynthia Bejarano, Sandra Ríos-Alba, Monique Hernández, Director - Martha A. Estrada, Gabriel Ruiz

Four CAMP students spent three days in Santa Fe during the 2024 New Mexico Legislative Session. This CAMP initiative, coordinated with the NMSU Office of Government Relations, allows students to shadow state senators and/or representatives, providing them with a unique opportunity to learn about the legislative process. The students had a great experience, gaining first-hand insight into the complexities of making state law.

CAMPers Abroad

This academic year, many of our CAMPers traveled the world as part of their study abroad experiences. Jesús Porras (top left) studied this last spring in Sevilla, España at the Universidad de Pablo de Olavide. Daniel Grajeda (top right) and Desley Carrasco (middle left) studied this last spring in Hirakata, Japan at Kansai Gaidai University. Yamilet Carranza (middle right) also studied abroad for 10 days through the FLIP program in Japan. Last summer, 2023, Juanita Gomez and Mauricio Muñoz (bottom left) participated in the FLIP program in Costa Rica. KimberlInn Torres and Danna Leaños (bottom right) also participated in the FLIP Program in Costa Rica this summer, 2024.



Jesús Porras
Desley Carrasco
Juanita Gómez & Mauricio Muñoz



Daniel Grajeda
Yamilet Carranza
KimberlInn Torres & Danna Leaños

CAMP Student Council (StuCo)

The NMSU CAMP Student Council, as ASNMSU chartered student organization, hosts a series of activities and social events throughout the academic year. This year, the council organized a welcome back event that provided freshmen and alumni the chance to network. They also designed a float for the NMSU Homecoming Parade, went hiking, engaged in community service events, and much more.



Photo taken during the the Welcome Back event on a rainy August, Friday afternoon.

Student Leadership Conference

Each year, NMSU CAMP takes a select group of students to the Southwest HEP/CAMP Student Leadership Conference. This event provides students with opportunities to learn about various leadership roles, educational pathways, and personal experiences from university and community members. Highlights of the conference include a dance, a keynote speech from a UNM CAMP alumna, and a self-guided tour of the Santa Fe Plaza, allowing students to explore and enjoy the local culture.



Students pose for picture outside the Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe, NM.

UNM Health Professions Symposium

A group of CAMP students had the opportunity to attend the 8th annual UNM Health Professions Symposium. This event allowed students interested in health professions to explore their passions, discover various pathways into their chosen fields, and learn about the realities and challenges of health professions education and careers in healthcare. The symposium featured workshops on diverse health topics and provided a valuable opportunity to network and grow professionally.



Top photo from left: Sandra Ríos-Alba, Maribel Reyes, Yoselin Velázquez, Lizeth Ramírez, Ismeralda Rivera, Calena Sandoval, Daniel Gómez



Bottom photo: Calena Sandoval, practicing a procedure on a mannequin

USHLI Conference 2024

Last spring semester, NMSU CAMP was well represented at the Annual U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute (USHLI) Conference in Chicago. Students got to hear from Hispanic leaders at the local, state and national level. Students also got a chance to visit the Telemundo Chicago studios, the National Museum of Mexican Art and explore the city.



Top photo from left: Jonathan Morales, Brenda Carrasco, Mauricio Muñoz, Citlali Delgado, Gemma Lozano, Retention Advisor - Francisco Soto
Bottom photo: Inside Telemundo Chicago studios with Primetime Anchor and NMSU Alumna, Anabel Monge.



Fall 2023 Graduates

Luis D. Gómez

Deming, NM

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology



Alexa Gonzalez

Columbus, NM

Bachelor of Arts in Art



Cesar Hernández

Vado, NM

Bachelor of Arts in Journalism & Mass Communication & Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages: Spanish



Jonah Madrid

Hatch, NM

Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and Aerospace Engineering



Evelyn Moreno

Garfield, NM

Bachelor of Science in Counseling and Community Psychology & Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages: Spanish



Nayeli Moreno

Salem, NM

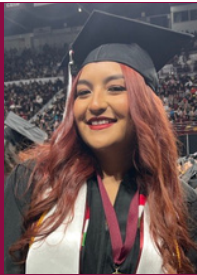
Bachelor of Science in Biology



Johana Pizano

Hatch, NM

Bachelor of Science in Hotel, Restaurant, & Tourism Management



Nancy Rodríguez

Derry, NM

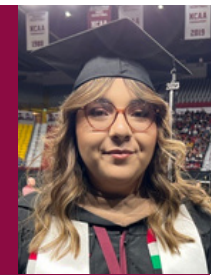
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture: General Agriculture



Mariana Rascon

Deming, NM

Master of Business Administration: Information Systems



Jacolby Sosa

Lyford, TX

Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology



Eveline Vázquez-Delgado

Santa Teresa, NM

Master of Criminal Justice



Not Pictured:

Andrea Lozano

Master of Arts in Education | Deming, NM

Karen Navarro

Bachelor of Science in Biology | Salem, NM

Abdu Sandoval

Bachelor of Music Education | Deming, NM

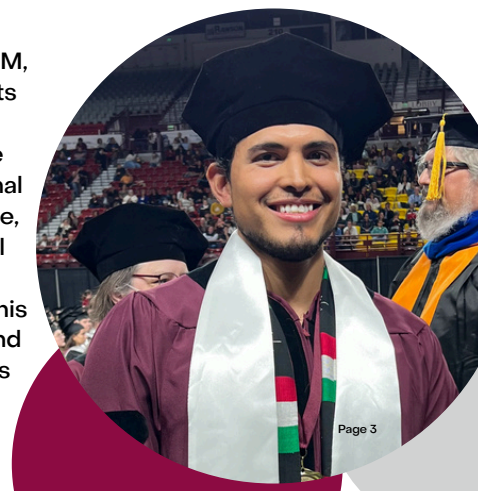
¡Felicidades Yvette!

Among the graduates last Fall, was our NMSU CAMP Academic Advisor, Yvette Cortez. She completed the requirements for her Master of Business Administration over the summer. We are proud of all your hard work and everything you do for the CAMP students!



Becoming Dr. Serrano

Over the summer of 2023, Manuel Serrano, of Hatch NM, completed the requirements for his Doctorate in Mechanical Engineering, he now works at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, NM, as the Senior Technical Staff R&D Mechanical Engineer. We are proud of his remarkable achievement and wish him continued success in his new role!



Spring 2024 Graduates

Hatch, NM

Pricilla Chairez


Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication



Deming, NM

Abigail Díaz

Master of Social Work



Hatch, NM

Saúl González


Bachelor of Business Administration: Management - Project Supply Chain & Small Business & Bachelor of Business Administration: General Business



Deming, NM

Daniella Jimenez

Bachelor of Business Administration: General Business



Hatch, NM

Jessica Pedregón

Bachelor of Science in Agriculture: Animal Science and Bachelor of Science in Biology



Deming, NM

Karina Ramirez

Bachelor of Social Work Criminal Justice and Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages: Spanish



Hatch, NM

Marcos Salazar

Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology and Bachelor of Arts in Art



Las Cruces, NM

Corina Valenzuela

Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering



Hatch, NM

Marlene Zuniga

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
(Second Degree Recipient)



Scholarship Recipients

Each year, NMSU CAMP recognizes the achievements of its alumni by awarding several scholarships. These include the Sammy J. Gurulé Memorial Scholarship, the Georgia Jacquez-Lewis Family CAMP Endowed Scholarship, and the Louise Salazar CAMP Endowed Scholarship. These scholarships honor the contributions of individuals and families who have significantly supported CAMP, fostering the educational and personal growth of its alumni.



Mauricio Muñoz,
NMSU CAMP
Cohort 20
Louise Salazar
CAMP Endowed
Scholarship



Juanita Gómez,
NMSU CAMP
Cohort 20
Louise Salazar
CAMP Endowed
Scholarship



Ricardo Márquez
NMSU CAMP
Cohort 21
Sammy J. Gurulé
Memorial
Scholarship



Yoselin Velázquez
NMSU CAMP
Cohort 21
Georgia Jacquez-
Lewis Family CAMP
Endowed
Scholarship

To be considered for these scholarships,
CAMP Alumni can apply via NMSU Scholar Dollars.

Art Submission



This piece was created by Ruby DeAnda as a submission for the 2023 HEP/CAMP Conference Art Contest.

Regresando a Casa: Tirzio López, New Mexico State Game Commissioner

Tirzio López addressing guests during keynote speech at the Spring CAMP Graduation Banquet.



During the 2024 CAMP Graduation Banquet, graduates, families and guests got to hear the experience of CAMP Alumni from Cohort 3, Tirzio Lopez. He now serves as a NM State Game Commissioner. He was able to share his story of going from Campos to College to Career.



Luis D. Gómez, NMSU CAMP Recruiter,
Cohort 13

¡Bienvenido Luis!

This spring, we welcomed our new CAMP Recruiter, Luis D. Gómez. As a member of the 13th NMSU CAMP cohort and a recent NMSU graduate with a bachelor's degree in Information and Communication Technology, Luis brings a wealth of experience as a former farmworker and NMSU alumnus. He will be instrumental in recruiting for the 23rd NMSU CAMP cohort and the cohorts to come. We are thrilled to have you on board, Luis!

APPLY NOW
www.camp.nmsu.edu

Follow us on social media!



www.facebook.com/CAMPNMSU



[@nmsucamp](https://www.instagram.com/nmsucamp)



[NMSU CAMP](https://www.linkedin.com/company/nmsu-camp)



New Mexico State University
College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)
MSC: CAMP
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003