

Centennial Series

# UTEP

MAGAZINE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

SPRING/SUMMER 2013



## UTEP DAY *in* AUSTIN

THE FIRST STEP IN UTEP'S 100-YEAR CELEBRATION

PLUS

BENJAMIN ALIRE SÁENZ PEN/FAULKNER AWARD WINNER





THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO  
PRESIDENT  DIANA NATALICIO

**ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT  
FOR UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS**

CHRIS LOPEZ

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
JENN CRAWFORD

**ART DIRECTOR**  
RENÉ WONG

**LEAD DESIGNER**  
GRIS CAMPOS

**PRODUCTION MANAGER**  
ROSE COOPER

**PHOTO EDITOR**  
LAURA TREJO

**EDITORIAL**

LAURA L. ACOSTA, MARK BRUNNER,  
KEITH EREKSON, VICTOR GARCIA, LISA Y. GARIBAY,  
CHRIS LECHUGA, VERONIQUE MASTERSON,  
ISELA OCEGUEDA, DANIEL PEREZ,  
NADIA M. WHITEHEAD

**DESIGN**

BOBBY DANIELS,  
JOHN DOWNEY, TROY TOMBERLIN

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

J.R. HERNANDEZ, JOSHUA GARCIA

**COPY EDITOR**

DAVID PEREGRINO

**ONLINE EDITOR**

FRANK DURAN

**WEB AND VIDEO**

NAHUM AVILA, JAVIER LOYA, LIZA RODRIGUEZ

**BUSINESS SUPPORT**

PATSY ACHIM

**SENIOR ASSOCIATE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR  
FOR COMMUNICATIONS & UNIVERSITY RELATIONS**

JEFF DARBY

**SPORTS INFORMATION**

Brumbelow Building  
500 W. University Ave.  
El Paso, TX 79968-0579  
915-747-5347  
[www.utepathletics.com](http://www.utepathletics.com)

Contents © 2013 by  
The University of Texas at El Paso

**UTEP Magazine**

UTEP Magazine is published three times  
per year by the UTEP Office of

University Communications  
500 W. University Ave.  
El Paso, TX 79968-0522  
915-747-5526 • [univcomm@utep.edu](mailto:univcomm@utep.edu)  
[utepmagazine.utep.edu](http://utepmagazine.utep.edu)



UTEP Magazine 2013 • Volume 5, Issue 2  
The University of Texas at El Paso  
All rights reserved.

Reproduction in whole or in part in any  
format without permission is prohibited.

 Printed on 10% post consumer recycled paper.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear UTEP Alumni and Friends:

Anticipation is building as UTEP's Centennial year approaches! This issue of *UTEP Magazine*, the first in what will become this publication's "Centennial Series," captures some of the growing excitement about our 100th anniversary on the campus, in the surrounding community and among our alumni across the globe. The 2014 Commission has been busily planning a robust calendar of exhibits, tours, festivities, lectures and other events to engage the entire Miner Nation in celebrating with us a century of UTEP's transformational impact on this region and on the lives of our more than 107,000 alumni who have entrusted us with their dreams and aspirations.

In this issue, we share with you a report on the first of our official Centennial events — the commemoration of Texas Senate Bill 183 (1913), authorizing the creation of a mining school in El Paso. On April 16, 2013, exactly 100 years after Governor O. B. Colquitt signed S.B. 183, a large delegation of UTEP representatives and friends traveled to Austin to recognize the Texas Legislature and the Governor for their roles in enacting it. Special resolutions were read in the Texas House and Senate chambers, and the commemoration of this historic event continued into the evening with a reception celebrating UTEP's remarkable contributions to our region and to the State of Texas over the past century.

We also celebrate the outstanding accomplishment of Department of Creative Writing Chair Benjamin Alire Sáenz, who recently received the prestigious PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction for his latest book of short stories, *Everything Begins and Ends at the Kentucky Club*. We are very proud of Ben and this well-deserved recognition that has placed him in the national spotlight. You can read more about him beginning on page 36.

This issue of *UTEP Magazine* also presents highlights of the impressive results of a recently completed study of UTEP's economic impact. UTEP is already a recognized national leader in higher education for its success in fostering students' upward mobility. Now, we can also say that the University profoundly impacts the entire Paso del Norte region by adding more than \$1.3 billion to the El Paso county economy each year through student and alumni productivity, campus operations, and visitor spending. Learn more about our impact on the regional economy and on individuals and families on page 30.

UTEP's impact has expanded well beyond the Paso del Norte region. The success of our alumni in settings across the U.S. and around the world has raised UTEP's visibility and enhanced our reputation. UTEP's success in achieving our vision of becoming the first national research university with a 21st century student demographic has placed us at the forefront of educating the next generation of this country's increasingly diverse population. As other universities have begun emulating our model of access and excellence, UTEP has become a catalyst for transforming U.S. higher education.

UTEP is an exciting place to be as we commemorate the legacy of our first 100 years and stride confidently toward even greater heights in the years ahead. We hope that you're already planning to join us for this once-in-a-lifetime celebration of UTEP's history, our many current accomplishments and our bright future.

Go Miners!

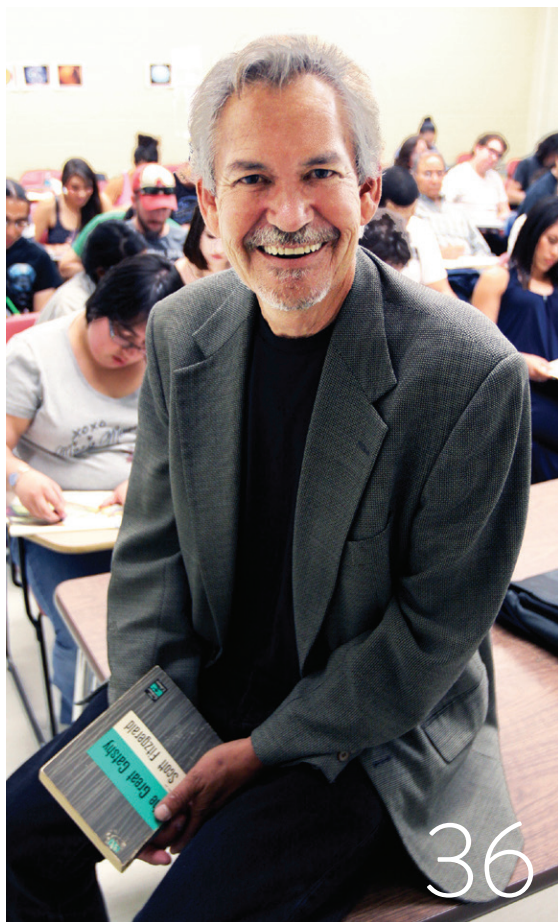
Diana Natalicio  
President



# CONTENTS

UTEP MAGAZINE | SPRING/SUMMER 2013

STAY CONNECTED TO UTEP



## UTEP PROFESSOR WINS 2013 PEN/FAULKNER AWARD FOR FICTION

Ben Sáenz, chair of UTEP's Department of Creative Writing, received his biggest honor to date when he was awarded the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction in March.

## CENTENNIAL SERIES

This issue of *UTEP Magazine* marks the first of six special collector's editions commemorating The University of Texas at El Paso's 100th anniversary in 2014. Each Centennial edition features a Centennial Series banner on the cover. Inside, content related to the Centennial Celebration fills the front of the magazine, followed by the other features, research, news, athletics and alums stories. For more on the Centennial Celebration, visit [utep100years.com](http://utep100years.com).



## IN THIS ISSUE

Want to learn more? Download a free QR code reader mobile app supported by your phone carrier and scan the tags throughout the magazine for more content related to a story.

## CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

### 2 ONCE IN A CENTURY

Join UTEP as we celebrate the University's past and lay the foundation for a magnificent future.

### 5 UTEP DAY IN AUSTIN

April 16 was a day of celebration for the UTEP family in Austin as the Texas legislature commemorated the 100th anniversary of the University's founding.

### 14 CAMPUS TRANSFORMATION PROJECTS SPRING AHEAD

Centennial Plaza work begins May 20. Find out what's in store for the centerpiece of UTEP's Campus Transformation and get updates on other projects.

### 16 Q&A WITH SEAN KUGLER

Get to know the new head football coach as he prepares to lead the Miners into the Centennial year.

### 17 100 YEARS OF UTEP SPORTS

The 1966 basketball championship is just one of many athletic highlights from the University's first 100 years.

### 20 PICKED TO LEAD

Learn more about the fifteen men and one woman who have led the University during the last century.

### 24 25 YEARS LATER

President Diana Natalicio has led UTEP for one quarter of its existence and is one of the longest-serving female presidents of a public university in the nation.

### 27 UTEP PRESIDENT RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

March 4 was a big day for UTEP President Diana Natalicio: she took over as chair of the nation's largest higher education organization, and won a major national award for leadership excellence.

### 28 PARTICIPANT ADDS TO GATOR CAPER LEGEND

## FEATURES

### 29 TEAM TEXAS PREPARES FOR INTERNATIONAL SOLAR COMPETITION

### 30 UTEP'S IMPACT ON THE PASO DEL NORTE REGION

### 32 ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME TRIP TO BHUTAN OFFERS RARE OPPORTUNITY

## RESEARCH

### 34 3-D PRINTING GOES TO SPACE

UTEP engineers expect to launch the first-ever 3-D electronics into space during a NASA resupply mission.

## OTHER DEPARTMENTS

### 36 NEWS

### 43 ALUMS

### 48 IN MEMORIAM



Photo illustration

## ON THE COVER

From left, Leonard A. "Tripper" Goodman III, UTEP Development Board chair; UT System Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa; UTEP President Diana Natalicio; Russell A. "Russ" Vandenburg, UTEP Centennial Campaign Leadership Council chair; and UT System Board of Regents Vice Chair Paul Foster celebrated the 100th anniversary of the University's establishment by the Texas Legislature in Austin April 16.

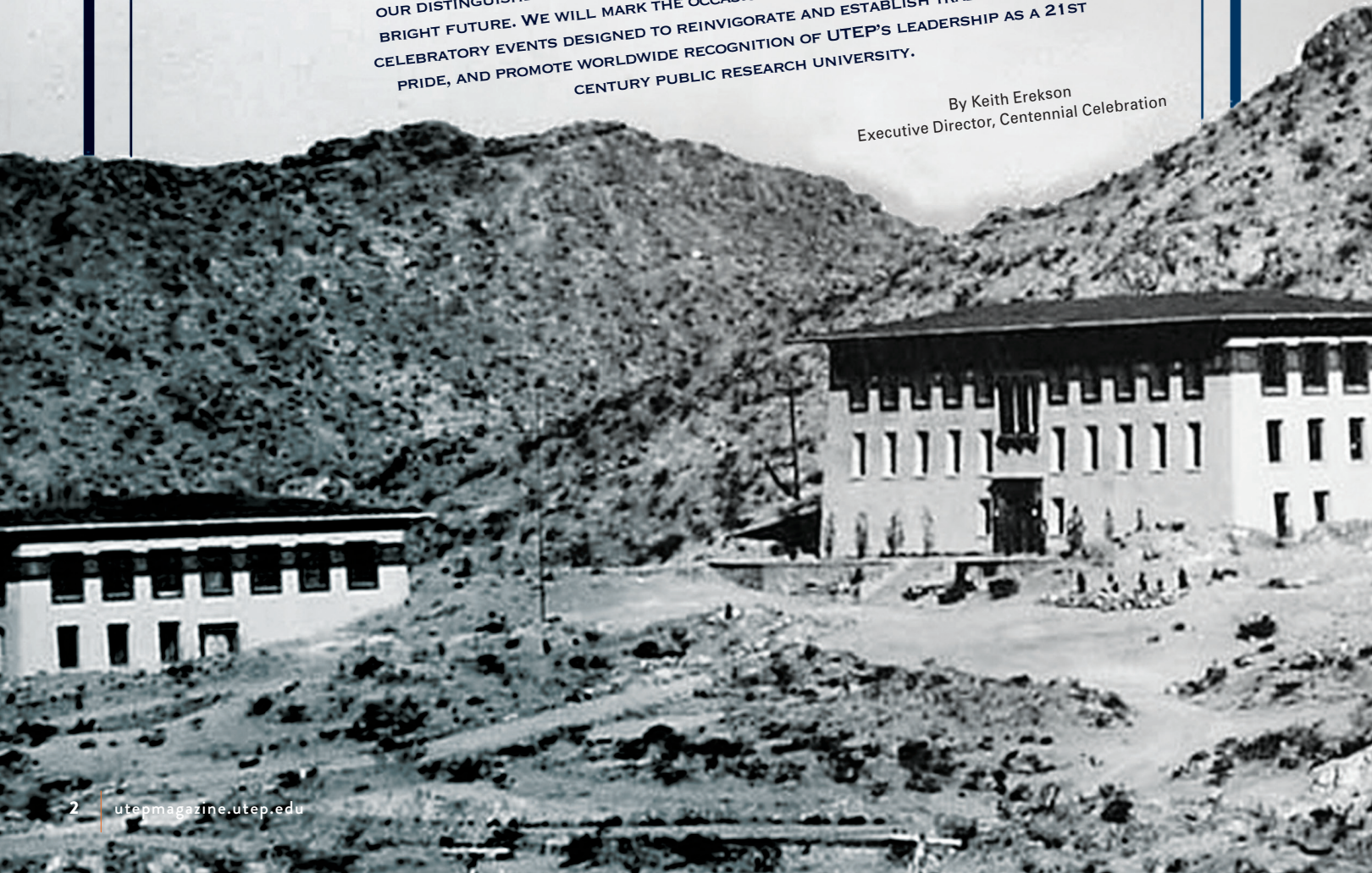




# ONCE IN A CENTURY

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO WILL CELEBRATE 100 YEARS IN 2014. THROUGHOUT THE COMING MONTHS, WE INVITE THE ENTIRE MINER NATION TO CELEBRATE OUR DISTINGUISHED PAST, SHOWCASE OUR CURRENT STRENGTHS AND ANTICIPATE OUR BRIGHT FUTURE. WE WILL MARK THE OCCASION WITH COMMEMORATIVE ACTIVITIES AND CELEBRATORY EVENTS DESIGNED TO REINVIGORATE AND ESTABLISH TRADITIONS, FOSTER PRIDE, AND PROMOTE WORLDWIDE RECOGNITION OF UTEP'S LEADERSHIP AS A 21ST CENTURY PUBLIC RESEARCH UNIVERSITY.

By Keith Erekson  
Executive Director, Centennial Celebration





The shape of the celebration will match the history of UTEP's founding. In 1913, the Texas Legislature authorized the creation of a mining school in El Paso if the citizens of the city could get the school up and running. In April 1914, the El Paso Chamber of Commerce announced that it had secured \$50,000, enough to purchase a struggling military academy and reopen it as the mining school. On September 23, 1914, classes began at the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy. One hundred years later, our Centennial Celebration will pay tribute to the state leaders, community members and friends who contributed to its success over the past century – University leaders recently visited the Texas Legislature (see pages 5-13); a campuswide open house in April 2014 will showcase the result of a century of hard work combining the dreams and dedication of students, faculty, and staff; and the 100th anniversary of the first day of class will be celebrated on Sept. 23, 2014, with community service, a special academic ceremony and a street festival.

The 2014 Commission, a group of 100 alumni, friends and campus leaders led by UTEP alumni Laura Tate Goldman and Edward Escudero, has directed planning for the Centennial Celebration. The commission's exciting ideas are being carried out by the campus' talented staff and faculty, and a wonderful experience is in store for all who will participate.

Perhaps the most enduring legacy of the celebration will be the transformation of our campus. A new Centennial Plaza will transform the heart of the campus into a large open area reminiscent of urban plazas located across the Paso del Norte region and in Mexico, where residents congregate and celebrate life. Groves of native mesquite trees will shade a paseo for strolling, socializing and studying. The plaza also will showcase a beautiful, hand-carved and hand-painted *lhakhang*, a gift from the Kingdom of Bhutan to the people of the United States and entrusted to the University's care. The *lhakhang* is now nearly fully installed and the entire plaza is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2014. Additionally, as a gift for our Centennial, the Texas Department of Transportation is widening Sun Bowl Drive and building a flyover

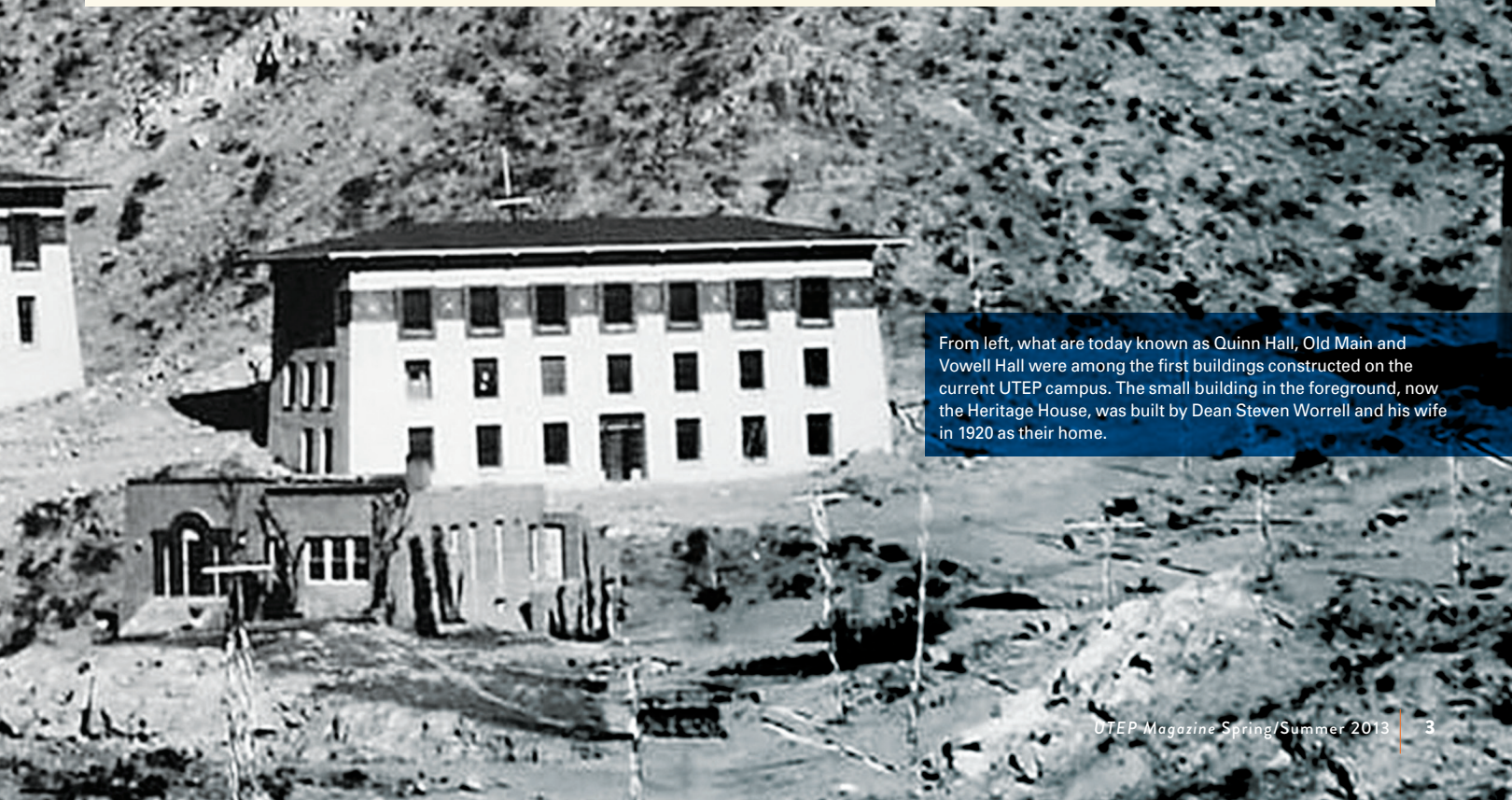
access ramp named in honor of UTEP's 1966 NCAA basketball championship team. The ramp, called Spur 1966, will connect Paisano Drive with Schuster Avenue.

UTEP's international connections also will be on display during the celebration. The mining school trained engineers for the mines of the American Southwest and northern Mexico, and today the University is situated in the largest urban area on the U.S.-Mexico border and the biggest manufacturing hub in the western hemisphere. Campus architecture is patterned after the mountaintop fortresses of the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan, marked by massive sloping walls, high inset windows, overhanging roofs and dark bands of brick inset with mosaic-tiled mandalas. It is fitting, therefore, that UTEP music students will join with dancers from Bhutan's Royal Academy of Performing Arts and globally acclaimed artists in premiere performances of *Acis and Galatea*, a unique blend of Western opera, Greek mythology and Bhutanese musical storytelling. UTEP is hosting a special tour of Bhutan in October to witness the premiere of this once-in-a-lifetime outdoor performance. The American premiere will occur in the fall of 2014 on the new Centennial Plaza.

As we celebrate UTEP's past, we want to hear alumni stories. A Centennial Stories project has been organized to record, preserve and share the experiences, memories and dreams of UTEP's students, staff, faculty, alumni and friends. All collected stories will be preserved in the University Library. We will also share many stories during the Centennial Celebration online, in exhibits and in published materials.

The Centennial also will help UTEP launch its next century of providing access to excellent educational opportunities to a diverse student population. We have embarked on the most ambitious fundraising effort in University history with a goal to raise \$200 million by Dec. 31, 2014. The Centennial Campaign complements the celebration of UTEP's first 100 years by supporting faculty and students, sponsoring the cultural performance with the Kingdom of Bhutan, and transforming the inner campus into an environmentally responsible and pedestrian-friendly space.

(Continued on page 4)



From left, what are today known as Quinn Hall, Old Main and Vowell Hall were among the first buildings constructed on the current UTEP campus. The small building in the foreground, now the Heritage House, was built by Dean Steven Worrell and his wife in 1920 as their home.





In an effort to accommodate all of the UTEP family back on campus, we will create a new welcome center within the Centennial Museum. The space will feature exhibits and a theater devoted to UTEP's history. The gift shop will offer Centennial keepsakes and Miner Orange apparel. Tours for groups and individuals will depart from the museum and take visitors to the most interesting places on campus.

Excitement for the Centennial Celebration will build publicly in El Paso throughout the rest of 2013. The routine events of University life – Commencement, Convocation, Homecoming and Minerpalooza – will take on a Centennial cast. Large banners will appear on busy city streets. "Orange Fridays" will venture off campus and into the community. A 100-day countdown to UTEP's Centennial year will begin on September 23, 2013 – the 99th anniversary of the school's opening and 100 days before January 1, 2014. We will invite the entire Miner nation to ring in UTEP's Centennial year by painting New Year's Eve parties orange, wherever they are held.

One hundred years ago, civic, political and educational leaders made provisions for a mining school in the mountains of West Texas. One hundred years later, The University of Texas at El Paso has become one of the most relevant and exciting universities in the United States. Our commitment to providing access to excellence is gaining the respect that we have worked so very hard to earn. Join us as we celebrate UTEP's past and lay the foundation for a magnificent future! 📖



For the latest on  
UTEP's Centennial  
Celebration, visit  
[utep100years.com](http://utep100years.com).

## SAVE THESE DATES

### ALUMNI PICK-NIC, JULY 13, 2013

Be a part of the second annual edition of this new Centennial tradition! Contact the Alumni Association to host a PICK-NIC in your community. Help us reach Miners everywhere, from coast to coast and border to border.

### SPECIAL PREVIEW OF OPERA BHUTAN, AUG. 24, 2013

Dancers from Bhutan will join with UTEP faculty and students in preparation for the world premiere of Opera Bhutan on Oct. 12, 2013, in Bhutan. Catch a sneak peek of the beauty and artistry in El Paso before the performers set out for the Himalayas.

### NEW MINER CONVOCATION, AUG. 25, 2013

For the first time ever, new and entering students and their families are invited to the Don Haskins Center for a special preview of UTEP life and traditions – a welcome to the UTEP family that they will never forget!

# CENTENNIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

## 2013

### \*APRIL 16

*Commemoration at  
Legislature (in Austin)*

JULY 13

Alumni PICK-NIC

AUG. 24

Sneak Preview of Opera  
Bhutan (in El Paso)

AUG. 25

New Miner Convocation

### \*SEPT. 23

*100-day Countdown begins*

SEPT. 30-OCT. 5

Homecoming Week

OCT. 12

World premiere of  
Opera Bhutan

## 2014

### \*ALL YEAR

*"Classes Without Quizzes"  
free lectures and workshops*

MARCH

Conference USA  
Tournament

MARCH 14

TCM Day campuswide

### \*APRIL

*Campus Open House*

MAY 17

Spring Commencement

JULY 12

Alumni PICK-NIC

AUG. 24

New Miner Convocation

SEPT. 5

Minerpalooza

### \*SEPT. 23

*Anniversary of the  
First Day of Class*

FALL

Centennial Plaza  
dedication

FALL

Opera Bhutan (in El Paso)

FALL

Homecoming Week

DEC. 20

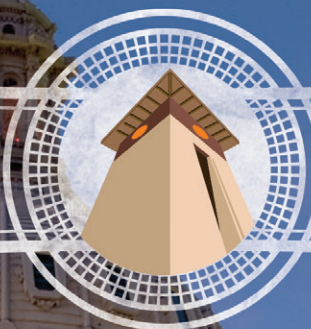
Winter Commencement

*\*Items in italics denote signature events and activities.*





# UTEP DAY



# IN AUSTIN

T U E S D A Y ,   A P R I L   1 6 ,   2 0 1 3

ON TUESDAY, APRIL 16, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO PRESIDENT DIANA NATALICIO WAS JOINED BY “UTEP AMBASSADORS,” ALUMNI AND FRIENDS AS THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE RECOGNIZED THE ROLE THEIR PREDECESSORS PLAYED IN ESTABLISHING THE TEXAS STATE SCHOOL OF MINES AND METALLURGY EXACTLY 100 YEARS AGO.

EL PASO STATE DELEGATION MEMBERS REP. MARISA MÁRQUEZ AND SEN. JOSE RODRIGUEZ READ VERSIONS OF A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE EVENT IN THEIR RESPECTIVE CHAMBERS.

THROUGHOUT THE DAY, A TEAM OF ALUMNI AMBASSADORS WEARING UTEP ORANGE NECKTIES AND SCARVES WORKED THE HALLWAYS OF THE STATE CAPITOL TO EXPRESS THANKS AND TO SHARE UTEP’S VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN TEXAS AND THE NATION.

THE UTEP DAY IN AUSTIN CONCLUDED WITH AN EVENING RECEPTION FOR LEGISLATORS AND UTEP STUDENTS, ALUMNI, FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS IN THE AT&T CONFERENCE CENTER GRAND BALLROOM.

IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES, SEE PHOTOS FROM THE DAY’S EVENTS, READ THE RESOLUTION AND HEAR FROM PEOPLE WHO ATTENDED THE CELEBRATION.



Use your smartphone to scan this code to view a video of the UTEP day in Austin celebration. You can also view the video at [utepnews.com](http://utepnews.com).





## LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

TUESDAY, APRIL 16  
8 - 9:45 A.M

Amid the usual hustle and bustle, a sea of UTEP Orange descended on the Texas Capitol the morning of Tuesday, April 16. The day marked the 100th anniversary of the enactment of legislation that authorized the creation of the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy, now UTEP. It was a pep rally of sorts as dozens of UTEP ambassadors joined the El Paso legislative delegation and leaders of The University of Texas System and its Board of Regents for a special breakfast that kicked off “UTEP Day” in Austin. The men wore special UTEP neckties, the women wore flowing scarves with pickaxes, and all sported pickaxe lapel pins. UTEP President Diana Natalicio welcomed University supporters with words of inspiration. The celebration marked the first of several special events that will lead up to UTEP’s Centennial Celebration.





**“IT IS A GREAT DAY. I AM PROUD AND PRIVILEGED TO BE HERE TO REPRESENT EL PASO. NOBODY WORKS AS TIRELESSLY AS [PRESIDENT NATALICIO] DOES TO ENSURE UTEP GETS ITS FAIR SHARE.”**  
TEXAS STATE SEN. JOSE RODRIGUEZ



1) UTEP administrators and ambassadors enter the Capitol Tuesday morning.

2) From left: Pedro Reyes, Ph.D., UT System executive vice chancellor for academic affairs; El Paso Sen. Jose Rodriguez; El Paso Rep. Naomi Gonzalez; UTEP student ambassadors Jackie Macias, Rodrigo Rodriguez, Tanya Sue Maestas and Andrew Velasquez; UTEP President Diana Natalicio; Rep. Joe Pickett; Rep. Joe Moody; Paul L. Foster, vice chair for The University of Texas System Board of Regents; and Rep. Marisa Márquez.

3) Foster, Pickett, and President Natalicio exchange kind words before heading to the House and Senate chambers.

4) Richard Padilla, Ed.D, former UTEP vice president for student affairs, and his wife, Mary Helen, wear their special UTEP Orange necktie, scarf and pickaxe lapel pins before heading out to speak with Texas legislators.

5) Patricia D. Hurn, Ph.D., UT System vice chancellor for research and innovation, talks with UTEP Provost Junius Gonzales during the breakfast.

6) Everyone from the El Paso delegation has a personal connection with UTEP: either they attended the University or have a relative who attended.

7) Gary Edens, Ed.D., UTEP vice president for student affairs, poses with UTEP alumnus and former UTEP Alumni Association President Art Gloria.



8) Chihuahuan Desert centerpieces were displayed on each table during the breakfast at the Capitol that launched the UTEP Day festivities.





## RESOLUTIONS IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE

TUESDAY, APRIL 16  
10 A.M. - NOON

The festivities continued as UTEP President Diana Natalicio, UT System Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa, UT System Board of Regents Vice Chair Paul L. Foster, UTEP Development Board Chair Leonard "Tripper" Goodman III, and UTEP Centennial Campaign Leadership Council Chair Russell "Russ" Vandenburg joined El Paso legislators for the reading of resolutions in the Texas House and Senate chambers. Excited UTEP ambassadors filled the galleries of both chambers. When recognized, the UTEP supporters enthusiastically stood and held up their hands in the form of the traditional pickaxe. Throughout the day, the ambassadors worked the hallways of the state Capitol to express thanks and to share UTEP's vision for the future of higher education in Texas and the nation.



### RESOLUTION ON THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF S.B. 183 (1913)

*WHEREAS*, on the 16th day of April, 1913, Texas Governor O. B. Colquitt signed Senate Bill No. 183 (1913), creating the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy to be established by the citizens of El Paso and overseen by the Board of Regents of the University of Texas; and

*WHEREAS*, the institution was renamed the College of Mines and Metallurgy in 1920, renamed Texas Western College in 1949, renamed The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) in 1967, and is today the second oldest academic institution in The University of Texas System; and

*WHEREAS*, UTEP is today a national leader in American higher education, recognized by the National Science Foundation as one of six model institutions for excellence in the nation (in 1996), by the Carnegie Foundation as a Doctoral/Research-Intensive institution (2000), by the

Texas Legislature as one of seven emerging Tier One institutions in the state (2009), by the U.S. Department of Education as the national research institution with the lowest net price (2012), and by *Washington Monthly* as #12 overall among all national research universities and #1 in fostering social mobility in the lives of its graduates (2012); and

*WHEREAS*, UTEP's more than 100,000 alumni are now accomplished leaders in the fields of science, engineering, medicine, politics, business, law, entertainment, arts, and education; and

*WHEREAS*, UTEP currently ranks second in the nation in awarding bachelor's degrees to Hispanics, and is among the top 10 in preparing Hispanic students for success in completing doctoral degrees; and





**“YOU DON’T HAVE TO TRADE  
AWAY YOUR COMMITMENT TO  
ACCESS IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE  
EXCELLENCE. I THINK THAT’S  
GOING TO BE THE DIRECTION  
THAT HIGHER EDUCATION GOES  
OVER THE NEXT CENTURY, AND  
I THINK 100 YEARS FROM NOW  
WE’RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO  
SAY THAT ‘UTEP DID IT,’ THAT  
UTEP WAS THE CATALYTIC  
INSTITUTION THAT REALLY  
MADE A DIFFERENCE AND  
ENABLED HIGHER EDUCATION  
TO GET BACK ON THE PATH TO  
CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
EVERYONE IN OUR SOCIETY  
WITH TALENT AND MOTIVATION.”**

**UTEP PRESIDENT DIANA NATALICIO**



- 1) The galleries of the House and Senate chambers were filled with members of the UTEP family wearing UTEP Orange neckties, scarves and pickaxe lapel pins. The group stood and formed the traditional UTEP pickaxe when they were recognized by the legislators.
- 2) Sen. Jose Rodriguez proudly reads the resolution commemorating the exact day Governor O.B. Colquitt signed the bill creating the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy 100 years ago.
- 3) El Paso Reps. Marisa Márquez, left, and Mary Gonzalez form the traditional UTEP pickaxe as Márquez reads the resolution in the House.
- 4) UTEP Development Board Chair Leonard A. “Tripper” Goodman III, UT System Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa, UTEP President Diana Natalicio, UTEP Centennial Campaign Leadership Council Chair Russell A. “Russ” Vandenburg, and Vice Chair for the UT System Board of Regents Paul L. Foster pose prior to the reading of the resolutions in the House and Senate chambers.

WHEREAS, UTEP now offers 70 bachelor’s, 75 master’s, and 19 doctoral degree programs to its current population of more than 22,000 students; and

WHEREAS, UTEP plays a significant role in the economic development and quality of life of the Paso del Norte region; and

WHEREAS, the racial barrier-breaking performance of the 1966 Texas Western College NCAA Champion men’s basketball team marked a turning point in the history of American higher education and stands as a symbol for all UTEP students who choose university education for the achievement of individual aspirations, the fulfillment of family dreams, and the enrichment of communities in Texas and the nation; and

WHEREAS, UTEP is still the only university in the state of Texas that has won a men’s national basketball championship; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas honor The University of Texas at El Paso on the occasion of its 100th anniversary and commend the many individuals who have contributed to the success of the university; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for display at The University of Texas at El Paso as an expression of high esteem and best wishes from the [Senate, House of Representatives].





## ALUMNI RECEPTION

TUESDAY, APRIL 16  
6:30 - 9 P.M.

The day of celebration concluded in the evening with a dinner reception packed with beaming UTEP supporters in the Grand Ballroom of the AT&T Conference Center. The beautifully decorated room was lit in orange, with lighted patterns of the UTEP logo and pickaxes shown on the walls. Lively dance music filled the air. Alumni young and old eagerly talked about the day's accomplishments, memories of UTEP experiences and the University's promising future. As UT System Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa said, UTEP's journey began with the support from Texas legislators and the UT System, and that support continues.

"The University of Texas System Board of Regents and Chancellor of The University of Texas System fully support President Natalicio's aspirations to make The University of Texas at El Paso a Tier One national research university with a 21st century demographic," Cigarroa said.

1







**“UTEP IS DEFINITELY [SERVING THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY]. WE ARE LEADING THE WAY OF BEING A HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION AND NOT SIMPLY A HISPANIC-ENROLLING INSTITUTION.”**

**TEXAS REP. NAOMI GONZALEZ**



- 1) A large candy buffet was the room's centerpiece. Other food stations included short ribs, turkey, sauces, and mashed potatoes.
- 2) UTEP President Diana Natalicio talks with UTEP alumnus Jeff Gonzalez.
- 3) From left, Pauline Dow, Ed.D., a 2009 Gold Nugget Award recipient from the College of Education; alumnus Rene Nuñez; and College of Education Dean Josefina Tinajero, Ed.D., pose at the reception.
- 4) Alumni Linda Medina and Joe Lopez enjoy the evening.
- 5) Erika Reyes, left and Amanda Santacruz were among dozens of young alumni at the reception.





“WHAT A SPECIAL DAY.  
WHEN IT COMES TO  
THE UNIVERSITY OF  
TEXAS AT EL PASO, I AM  
INSPIRED EVERY DAY.”

UT SYSTEM CHANCELLOR  
FRANCISCO CIGARROA







6



7



8



9

1) Ben Flores, Ph.D., Dean of the UTEP Graduate School, raises a toast to his alma mater.

2) From left, alumni Javier Arroyo, Megan Vallee, Johnathan Marshal, Eric Anchondo, Rosemary Prieto, and Sarah Bejarano celebrate in Austin.

3) From left, current and former Miner Ambassadors Genie Bustos, Jackie Macias, Claudia Vargas, Andrew Velasquez, Rodrigo Rodriguez and Rosemary Prieto reunite at the reception.

4) Alumna Connie Bosworth, left, attended with her daughter Laura Bosworth, also an alum.

5) Liz Thurmond-Bengtson, director in the Office of Institutional Advancement, and Richard Adauro, executive vice president, were directly involved in planning the day's events.

6) Russell "Russ" Vandenburg, Centennial Campaign Leadership Council chair, toasts the University's proud past and bright future.

7) UTEP President Diana Natalicio greets alumnus Gerald Barrett.

8) From left, Austin alumni chapter officers Vince Bustillos, public relations coordinator; Mike Loya, president; and Steven Gonzalez, treasurer, attend the reception.

9) Alumni Ricardo Ramos and Israel Franco take a break from the festivities for a photo.





CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

# CAMPUS TRANSFORMATION **PROJECTS** SPRING AHEAD

By Daniel Perez • Photos by J.R. Hernandez



Into the Great Wide Open: Shade canopies, wide sidewalks and vegetation are among the enhancements along the transformed Hawthorne Street.





An artist's concept of the planned Centennial Plaza in the heart of campus shows the tree-lined paseo and new *lhakhang* cultural center in the upper right. Work will include unearthing natural arroyos.

The work on Centennial Plaza, the centerpiece of The University of Texas at El Paso's Campus Transformation, will begin this spring, as will several other projects to improve the quality of life on campus and create a climate consistent with UTEP's development as a national research (Tier One) university with a 21st century student demographic.

From construction of the expansive, grassy plaza in the center of campus to other projects that enhance pride in the University, workers are putting a new face on UTEP's open spaces as it prepares to celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2014.

While the physical changes only have become apparent in the past year, the transformation plan started more than a decade ago, said Greg McNicol, associate vice president for facilities services.

The shift to a more pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly campus requires considerable planning, coordination and cooperation. The most recent domino fell in fall 2011 when the nearly quarter-mile stretch of Hawthorne Street began a transformation that now includes wider sidewalks, shade structures, niche parks, enhanced lighting and drought-resistant shade trees.

McNicol said he has never overseen a project as influential as UTEP's Campus Transformation in his 33 years in higher education construction.

"This transformation, which includes roads, sidewalks and gathering places, is very unique and will have a huge impact on our student body," he said. "I think that alumni who come back will be amazed at what this place is going to look like in 18 months."

Phil Waite, associate professor of landscape architecture and environmental planning at Utah State University, said the kinds of pedestrian amenities that UTEP has proposed should enhance student learning, memory formation and social interaction, and act as a stress reducer.

"Visually stimulating environments are usually more pleasing to students," said Waite, whose research specialty is the influence of campus landscape on the recruitment, retention and learning performance of students.

Here is the latest news on several of the Campus Transformation projects.

## CENTENNIAL PLAZA

The plaza, set off by a paseo lined by native mesquite trees, is expected to be finished by fall 2014. The initial phase, scheduled to start May 20, 2013, will include breaking up concrete and

asphalt, including a portion of University Avenue between Wiggins Road and Hawthorne Street. The digging will unearth some natural arroyos and unique rock structures that will enhance the plaza, which will be bordered by Union Building West and the Psychology, Administration and Geological Sciences buildings. The venue will be able to host large outdoor gatherings such as the annual Minerpalooza back-to-school event that draws more than 30,000 people.

## WIGGINS PLAZA

Prep work began in March for Wiggins Plaza, a circular area that will include shade trees, natural stone paths and a unique, elliptical labyrinth. The project, planned for completion in August, also involves re-landscaping the front of the library. A narrow, tree-lined road will cut through to accommodate limited vehicular traffic.

## LHAKHANG

Bhutanese representatives have helped with the reconstruction of the *lhakhang*, a cultural artifact that is planned for completion this summer. The building, set in the northwest corner of what will be Centennial Plaza, was first erected by Bhutanese craftsmen during the 2008 Smithsonian Institution's Folklife Festival in Washington, D.C. The people of Bhutan gave the building to the United States and requested that it be installed at UTEP because of the campus' strong ties to the Himalayan kingdom. The University has been respectful of Bhutanese traditions as it reconstructs the hand-carved, hand-painted structure. The interior will include cloth paintings by Bhutanese artisans. The *lhakhang* will serve as a cultural center to expand the region's global perspective.

## SPUR 1966

The Texas Department of Transportation's Spur 1966 project is a half-mile-long sky bridge over Interstate 10 that will connect Paisano Drive near the Yandell Street overpass to Schuster Avenue, where it will merge into a raised, 160-foot diameter, two-lane roundabout southwest of the Schuster Parking Garage. The 18-month project, which was scheduled to start in late May and cost \$31 million, will improve traffic flow to UTEP and improve pedestrian safety. The expected completion date is summer 2015.



Spin wheels offer a playful spirit on Hawthorne Street next to the shade structures in front of the Physical Sciences Building.

## SUN BOWL DRIVE EXPANSION

TxDOT will widen Sun Bowl Drive from two to four lanes from near the Don Haskins Center to the Sun Bowl Parking Garage. The \$4.3 million project is tentatively scheduled to begin in August and be completed in summer 2014. One of the interesting elements will be a new two-lane roundabout at the intersection with Glory Road, said Dan A. Hohmann, the TxDOT transportation engineer who designed the project. He said about 3,500 cubic yards of dirt will be needed to level off the intersection with Glory Road. That material will be taken from the roughly 29,000 cubic yards the contractors will shear off the road's western embankment. Other enhancements include sidewalks and new 14-foot-wide outer lanes to accommodate bicycle traffic. There will be single-lane access in both directions during construction.

## NORTH CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT/ R-5 PARKING LOT

Campus Developers LLC plans to build a mixed-use, "village-type" development on 7.6 acres of University property along Mesa Street, the former site of an auto dealership. The project, which was expected to break ground in late spring, will include retail shops on the ground floor and apartments on the upper floors that will be available to students and the public. A five-level parking garage will be among the four structures, which will use Bhutanese-style architecture. One of the buildings will be specifically for student housing. As part of the 50-year ground lease, the University may keep some of the land for campus parking. While this is not a University project, UTEP officials have the right to dictate aspects of the development. ☒

*Stay informed about construction timelines and street closures at [onthemove.utep.edu](http://onthemove.utep.edu).*





Photo by Ivan Aguirre



**YOUR FIRST SEASON AS HEAD COACH OF THE FOOTBALL TEAM COINCIDES WITH THE START OF UTEP'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION. HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE LEADING THE FOOTBALL TEAM DURING THIS SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE YEAR AT UTEP?**

It means a lot to me because I played here and I've coached here. This will be my 15th year here at UTEP. I have spent a good piece of my life here. The fact that it's the 100th year anniversary, I'm proud to be a part of that.

**HOW DID COACHING IN THE NFL FOR 11 YEARS PREPARE YOU TO BE THE HEAD COACH AT UTEP?**

You learn a lot of different things from different coaches. There are some excellent coaches up there. You learn about structure, detail and organization. Hopefully we can carry that into our program.

**BOB STULL COACHED YOU AT UTEP FROM 1986-88. WHAT KIND OF LESSONS DID YOU LEARN FROM HIM?**

Bob was an excellent coach and he had an outstanding staff. A lot of the things I learned about organization came from that period of time in my career.

**WHAT MAKES UTEP AND EL PASO SO SPECIAL THAT YOU WANTED TO RETURN TO THE SUN CITY?**

The people here are just outstanding. I have always felt at home here. This is my second home. My family has always enjoyed it here. I enjoyed playing here, I enjoyed coaching here, and I'm certainly enjoying my third time back as a head coach. 📺

# A NEW ERA OF UTEP FOOTBALL

SEASON TICKETS START AT \$50  
**CALL 915-747-6150 TODAY!**

## 2013 UTEP FOOTBALL HOME SCHEDULE

09/07 - NEW MEXICO

09/21 - UTSA

10/05 - LOUISIANA TECH

10/12 - TULSA

11/16 - FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL

HEAD COACH  
**SEAN KUGLER**





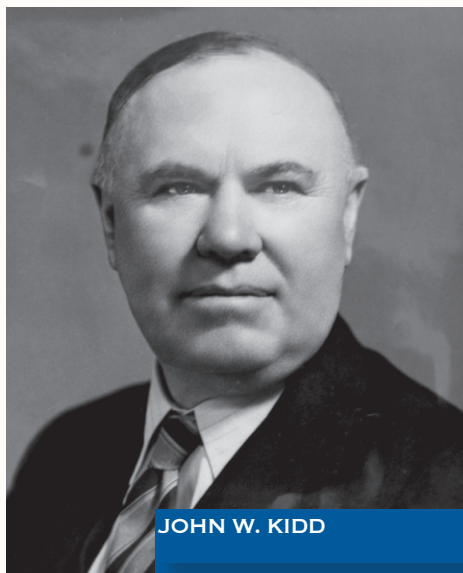


ASK ANYONE ABOUT UTEP ATHLETICS, AND THE FIRST THING THAT COMES TO MIND IS THAT MAGICAL TEAM FROM 1966. YOU KNOW THE STORY. THE MINERS WON THE NCAA BASKETBALL TITLE WITH THE FIRST ALL-BLACK STARTING LINEUP IN COLLEGE HISTORY IN A GAME THAT CHANGED THE SPORT'S LANDSCAPE AND LATER INSPIRED THE DISNEY MOVIE *GLORY ROAD*.

IT IS THE BIGGEST AND BRIGHTEST GEM IN THE COLLECTION OF STORIES FROM ALMOST 100 YEARS OF MINER ATHLETIC SUCCESS. TRUTH BE TOLD, THERE IS A PLETHORA OF LESSER-KNOWN TALES THAT HAVE HELPED DEFINE UTEP'S ATHLETIC HISTORY WHILE ALSO FORMING THE FOUNDATION FOR THE NEXT CENTURY. WHAT FOLLOWS ARE A FEW OF OUR FAVORITES.

By Mark Brunner • UTEP file photos

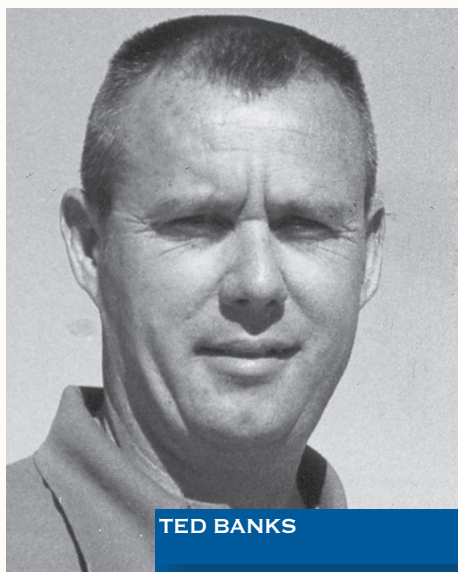




JOHN W. KIDD

### HEY, DO YOU WANT TO PLAY FOOTBALL?

Open tryouts for walk-ons are a staple for any college football team. No team has ever been more dependent upon so-called volunteers than the 1914 Miners' squad. Shortly after the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy opened its doors, John W. Kidd, the dean of engineering, donated \$800 – the equivalent of almost \$19,000 in 2013 – to start the team. A notice was sent out informing students of the team's formation, and although the school's first enrollment was only 27 students (all men), 14 showed up. According to local lore, football players were scrimmaging on the rocky dirt lots surrounding the school before the first exam was given. The team finished 2-3 under Tommy Dwyer, who doubled as the football and men's basketball coach.



TED BANKS

### MONEY IN THE BANKS

No matter the sport, dynasties draw people in. And UTEP certainly enjoyed that label within the cross country and track and field realm during Ted Banks' tenure as head coach. Banks led the Miners to 17 NCAA Championships (five outdoor, six indoor, six cross country) from 1972-81, a dominant period that helped cement UTEP's reputation as a national powerhouse in the sport. For two-and-a-half years of that era, the Miners were simply unbeatable. Banks led UTEP to 10 consecutive national titles, from the 1979 outdoor season to the 1981 indoor season, earning three straight triple crowns. Banks' efforts laid the foundation for future success, with current head coach Mika Laaksonen (2010-present) charged with the task of carrying on the tradition.



SUN BOWL STADIUM

### HALF A CENTURY IN THE SUN BOWL

Named the "Best Stadium In Conference USA" by Sporting News, the Sun Bowl is a source of pride for UTEP and El Pasoans alike. The 2013 season will mark the 50th year of the venue, which was built in a ravine west of Kidd Field with an original seating capacity of 30,000. It was funded through bond issues primarily for the expanded needs of El Paso's football classic Sun Bowl game, but it was also constructed to become the home of the Miner football team. At that time, it was leased to the Miners for just \$1 a year. The Miners opened the Sun Bowl with a 34-7 defeat of North Texas. The stadium was formally dedicated well into the season, with the Miners beating rival New Mexico State, 14-13, on Oct. 5. The second floor press box was added in 1969 and the capacity expanded to 52,000 in 1982.

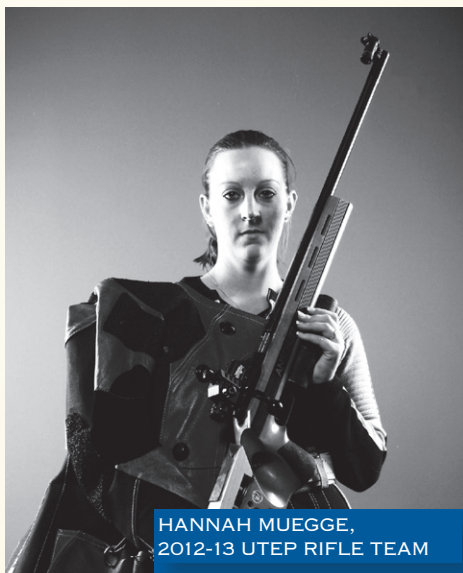


TIM FLOYD

### FROM FLOYD TO FLOYD

It is never easy to be the first to do something, which is part of the reason the 1940-41 men's basketball team stands out. UTEP – then known as the College of Mines and Metallurgy – posted a record of 14-9 and knocked off Arizona State, 63-46, to clinch the program's first conference championship. One of the Border Conference champion's stars was Lee Floyd. Yes, there is a relation to current UTEP men's basketball head coach Tim Floyd. Lee, who went on to forge a mark of 244-147 as Southern Miss' head basketball coach before tragically passing away at the age of 52 in 1974, was Tim's dad. With the Miners poised for a big year in 2013-14 and a run at a conference championship, it is only fitting to have Coach Floyd leading the way.

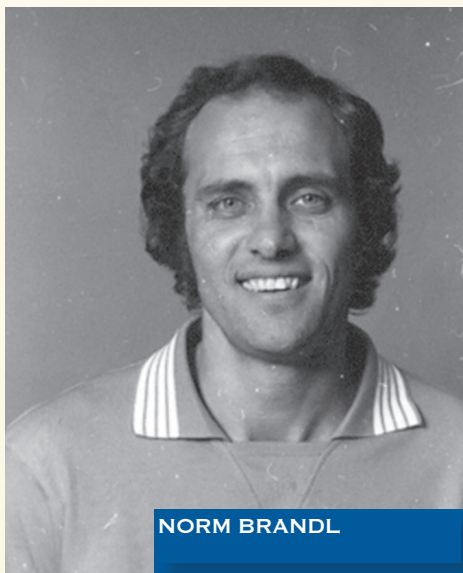




**HANNAH MUEGGE,**  
2012-13 UTEP RIFLE TEAM

### SHOOTING ITS WAY INTO HISTORY

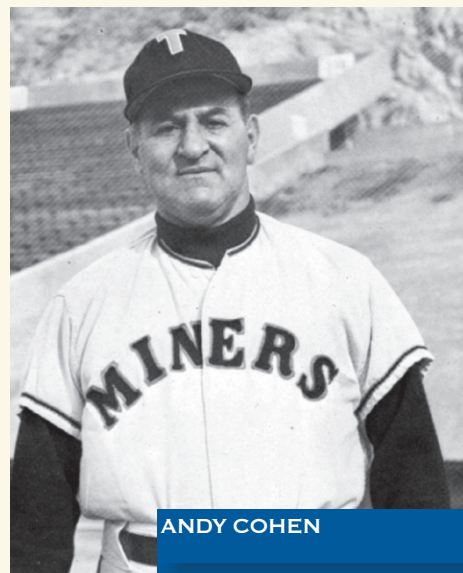
Want to stump your friends with a Miner athletics trivia question? Just ask them which team won the first national championship at the school. Most would say the 1966 men's basketball team, and they would be wrong. It was actually during the 1954 season, and in the sport of rifle that the institution earned its first national title. The squad of Col. Evans Crowell, John Reed Edwin, P.J. Wright, Bill Killian, Arthur Najara and Frank Tyra, coached by Sgt. A. Gallaus, claimed the 4th Area Army title, the William Randolph Hearst Army ROTC Championship and Hearst National Defense Trophy. The program became co-ed in 1961, and UTEP now fields an all-female squad that is among the best in the country.



**NORM BRANDL**

### GOOD HIRE

Imagine being hired as a college volleyball coach in 1976 with a salary of \$300 (equivalent to \$1,200 today) and with a warning of "Don't give up any part-time jobs." Not the ideal circumstance by any means, but that is the situation Norm Brandl found as he took over UTEP's volleyball program in its second year of existence. While Brandl is no longer at the helm – that distinction now belongs to 2012 Conference USA Coach of the Year Ken Murphy – Brandl's hiring was one of the best moves ever for UTEP athletics. He won 355 matches from 1976-1998, which to this day rates second only to the late Don Haskins for both longevity (22 years) and number of victories for all coaches at UTEP. His 1982 squad posted a record of 30-18, still the most wins by a UTEP volleyball team, while the 1984 team claimed the Oil Country Athletic Conference Championship.



**ANDY COHEN**

### TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME

While it has been almost 30 years since UTEP dropped baseball from its athletic program, there are many Miner fans who remember it like yesterday. Andy Cohen, who had more than 40 years of experience in pro baseball, built the program essentially from scratch. From 1963-78 Cohen guided the team, getting some help along the way from his brother Syd. Three coaches followed in Cohen's footsteps, including Bill Kinneberg in 1985 when he led the team to a program-record 33 wins. In a cruel twist of fate, that was the same year that baseball was eliminated at UTEP for financial reasons. There are no plans to add the sport in the future but the memories of the 22 years of UTEP baseball will live on forever for the Orange and Blue faithful.



**KEITHA ADAMS**

### MEAGER BEGINNINGS

Sustaining success in sports is one of the hardest things for any team, which is what makes the recent run by the UTEP women's basketball team so impressive. While head coach Keitha Adams and her staff deserve lots of credit, support and leadership from the administration has been invaluable. It wasn't always this way, though. When the program was started before the 1974-75 season, the team wasn't even under the wing of the athletic department. It was initially operated by the intramurals department, and a physical education graduate student named Carol Ammerman was selected as the first coach. Her salary was \$250 a month. She produced two winning seasons in four years at the helm. Needless to say, things have come a long way. ➤





# PICKED TO LEAD

IN ITS NEARLY 100-YEAR HISTORY, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO HAS HAD 16 LEADERS, FIRST CALLED DEANS, THEN PRESIDENTS. AT 25 YEARS, PRESIDENT DIANA NATALICIO HAS SERVED LONGER THAN ANY OF HER PREDECESSORS. SHE IS ALSO THE FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY.

IT IS THE COMBINED ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ALL THE UNIVERSITY'S PRESIDENTS, ALONG WITH ITS STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF, THAT MAKE UTEP WHAT IT IS TODAY – THE FIRST NATIONAL RESEARCH UNIVERSITY SUCCESSFULLY SERVING A 21ST CENTURY STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC.

By Nancy Moya





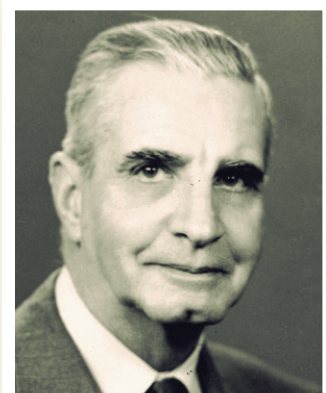
1914 - 1923

**Steven Howard Worrell**, a veteran in the mining engineering profession, became the first chief administrator of the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy, serving as dean from 1914 to 1923. He also served as a professor of mining and metallurgy, recruited the school's first faculty and students, and oversaw the move to the institution's current location. His wife, Kathleen, persuaded him that the unique architecture of the Kingdom of Bhutan would suit the rugged terrain of El Paso and the first buildings were patterned after pictures in the April 1914 issue of *National Geographic Magazine*.



1923 - 1927

**John William Kidd**, affectionately known to his students as "Cap" and considered one of the most influential supporters of student life and athletics, served as acting dean of the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy from 1923 to 1927. Under his direction the institution became one of the premier mining schools in the country.



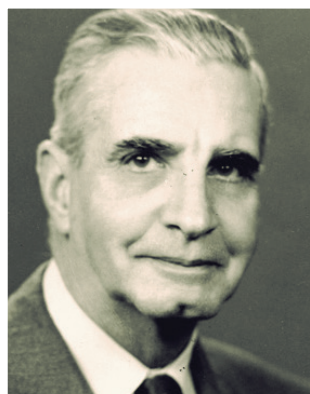
1927 - 1931

**Charles Alexander Puckett** served as acting dean of the College of Mines from 1927 to 1931 and as acting president from May 1934 to August 1935. His two terms of service witnessed the beginning of the liberal arts program and the "pinch of poverty" brought on by the Depression.



1931 - 1934

**John Gerald Barry**, a prototypical hardrock mining engineer, became the first formally designated "president" of the College of Mines and Metallurgy on Sept. 1, 1931, and served until May 1934. During his term, two deans were appointed: "Cap" Kidd for Mining and Metallurgy and C.A. Puckett for Arts and Education. Barry is credited with saving the institution from extinction during the Depression. It was during his presidency that the college awarded liberal arts degrees for the first time.



1934 - 1935

**Charles Alexander Puckett**  
Two months before his term as acting president expired, Puckett filed an application for establishment of an R.O.T.C. unit at the college. No matter how desperately the R.O.T.C. unit was needed, it was postponed because of the war; it would not be until July 1, 1949, when the unit became a reality.



1935 - 1948

**Dossie Marion Wiggins** served as president of the College of Mines and Metallurgy from September 1935 until August 1948, a period that witnessed "undreamed-of increases" in student enrollment and construction projects. Wiggins stressed the importance of liberal arts programs and pushed for a successful football team. He was also known for his persuasive speaking skills and the ability to talk the Texas Legislature out of money.





1948

*Eugene McRae Thomas*, affectionately known to his students as “Dean Gene,” was a graduate of Mines and a faculty member since 1930. He served as interim president from September through December 1948 while concurrently serving as dean of Mining and Metallurgy. During those brief months, the campus hotly debated a name change that became of great interest both on campus and Downtown.



1949 - 1954

*Wilson Homer Elkins*, the third president of the College of Mines and Metallurgy and the first of Texas Western College (TWC), presided from January 1949 until August 1954. His administration was characterized by continued expansion, coupled with a vision of making the college “second to none in the Southwest.”



1954 - 1955

*Alvin Arlton “A.A.” Smith*, the business manager of Texas Western College, served as acting president from September 1954 to June 1955.



1955 - 1958

*Dysart Edgar Holcomb* served as president of Texas Western College from June 1955 until August 1958. During his tenure, enrollment grew to almost 4,000 students, filling dormitories and parking spaces. TWC became the first public college in Texas to open its doors to African-American undergraduate students.



1958 - 1960

*Joseph R. Smiley*, professor of modern languages, served as president of Texas Western College from September 1958 until July 1960. He also served a second term as president of The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) from June 1969 to December 1972.



1960

*Anton Helmer Berkman* served as acting president of Texas Western College for two weeks in August 1960. Known on campus as “Mr. TWC” and as a patriarch of the biological sciences, Berkman served in most teaching and administrative posts at the school, including more than 30 years as chairman of the Department of Biology.





1960 - 1968

**Joseph Malchus Ray**, professor of political science, served as president of Texas Western College from August 1960 until September 1968. He established the institution's first strategic planning committee, Mission '73, which aimed to expand and improve the school, including changing its name from Texas Western College to The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) in 1967. During Ray's tenure, Sun Bowl Stadium was constructed and the college ranked among the nation's top 10 in basketball under Coach Don Haskins, who led a team of all-black starters to a national championship in 1966 against an all-white Kentucky team.



1968 - 1969

**Robert Milton Leech**, a professor of drama and speech, served as acting president of UTEP from September 1968 until June 1969. Leech spent his 35-year career at UTEP as both professor and administrator, directing the Mission '73 committee that prepared the first long-range strategic plan for the institution.



1969 - 1972

**Joseph R. Smiley**, known as an accomplished linguist and administrator, possessed a quiet but engaging sense of humor. During his two terms as president, academic programs in Chicano and Black Studies were established.



1972 - 1980

**Arleigh Brantley Templeton**, an education teacher and college administrator, served as president of UTEP from December 1972 to July 1980. Drawing on close personal ties in Austin, Templeton oversaw the construction of \$50 million worth of new buildings and the creation of the institution's first doctoral degree, in geological sciences. Enrollment passed 15,000 with nearly six percent from foreign countries, most from Mexico.



1980 - 1987

**Haskell Moorman Monroe Jr.** served as president of UTEP from July 1980 to June 1987. Monroe oversaw construction of a \$28 million library, the largest building on campus with a collection of more than 1 million items. During his tenure as president, he taught an undergraduate history class and established the Junior Scholars program that offered students the chance to take University courses for credit while still attending high school.



1987 - PRESENT

**Diana Siedhoff Natalicio** served as interim president from July 1987 to February 1988 before being named president on Feb. 11, 1988. Natalicio immediately articulated a vision for the institution that rejected what she termed a "collective inferiority complex" about life on the border. For more than 25 years, she has worked to forge community partnerships, increase access for students of the Paso del Norte region, and raise the breadth and quality of educational programs. 📍





CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HER SUSTAINED COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE ALL RESIDENTS OF THE PASO DEL NORTE REGION ACCESS TO OUTSTANDING HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES HAS MADE UTEP A NATIONAL SUCCESS STORY.

# 25 Years Later

By Jenn Crawford • Photo by Snavelly and Associates



Right after she was appointed President, 1988



Speaking with Ramona Elementary School students, 1997



Cutting the ribbon at the grand opening of the Texas Gas Service Student Center, 2004



Showing her love of baseball, 1990s



## WHEN SHE WAS NAMED THE FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO IN 1988, DIANA NATALICIO BECAME THE LEADER OF AN INSTITUTION THAT WAS STRUGGLING WITH ITS IDENTITY AND MISSION.

"This has been a region that historically felt marginalized from the rest of the United States ... and I think we were far too ready to accept that marginalization as simply the way it was," she said, reflecting on the past 25 years.

President Natalicio and her team shifted UTEP's focus to becoming a university accessible to talented students that provides an education equal to or better than any other great college. UTEP has sought to extend access to a Tier One education to a region that has been geographically isolated with limited economic and educational opportunities for many of its people.

"We set out 25 years ago to change the way people think about the human resources in this region, the tremendous talent that was being squandered because this University wasn't educating as many talented people as there were because they had been perhaps discouraged from pursuing higher education," President Natalicio said. "What we have done is to say 'UTEP is here for you, for all of you, and we want all of you to understand how important it's going to be not just to you, but to everybody in this community, that you get educated.' I think that's a huge change."

From programs that support first-generation college students to unique financial aid opportunities that open the University to those with even the most meager means, to hands-on research opportunities for undergraduates and top-notch graduate programs taught by internationally respected faculty, UTEP has found ways to bring together the sometimes contradictory ideals of access and excellence, thanks to President Natalicio's leadership. Her sustained commitment to provide all residents of the Paso del Norte region access to outstanding higher education opportunities has made UTEP a national success story.

"For me, it's another day toward a bigger goal, but 25 years is a big milestone to be sure," President Natalicio said. "These have been probably the fastest moving and most fulfilling 25 years I think anybody could experience."

### UTEP'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS UNDER DR. NATALICIO'S LEADERSHIP

✱ During her tenure as president, UTEP's enrollment has grown from 14,971 to nearly 23,000 students who reflect the demographics of the Paso del Norte region from which 90 percent of them come.

✱ UTEP's annual budget has increased from \$65 million to more than \$400 million since she took over in 1988.

✱ UTEP's annual research expenditures have grown from \$6 million in 1988 to nearly \$80 million in 2012, and doctoral programs from one to 19 during this same period.

✱ To accommodate steady growth in enrollment,

academic programs and research, over the past 10 years the university has managed nearly \$400 million in new, expanded and renovated facilities projects in science, engineering, health sciences, and other student quality-of-life related infrastructure.

✱ The number of undergraduate and graduate degrees awarded by UTEP annually has doubled over the past 10 years.

✱ There has been a 50 percent increase in the number of UTEP students learning in settings across the globe including Indonesia, Italy, Qatar, Spain, the Czech Republic, Brazil and Taiwan.

✱ UTEP offers degrees and certificate programs online to students across the nation and around the world. There has been a 389 percent growth in online course enrollment over the past five years.

✱ The U.S. Department of Education lists UTEP as the university with the lowest out-of-pocket tuition cost to students of all research universities in the nation.

✱ *Washington Monthly* magazine recognized UTEP as #1 in fostering student social mobility in the nation and #12 overall among national research universities in 2012.

✱ In 1991, the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence — a partnership that includes El Paso County's nine school districts, El Paso Community College, UTEP, and business and civic leaders working together toward a goal of raising educational aspirations and attainment in the region — was formed to align expectations, curricula, and standards within the entire PreK-16 educational pathway. That year, El Paso's high school graduation rates were among the lowest of all major metropolitan school districts in Texas, and there was an unacceptable disparity between the graduation rates of Hispanic and Anglo students. Today, El Paso-area

(Continued on page 26)





high schools have the highest overall graduation rate of all Texas major metro areas, and the gap between Hispanic and Anglo rates has narrowed to 6 percent. El Paso County districts also rank first in the percentage of high school graduates who complete the state's recommended or advanced curriculum, and first in the number of low-income high school graduates who enroll in post-secondary education.

## HONORS AND RECOGNITION

✱ In March 2013, President Natalicio was sworn in as chair of the Board of Directors of the American Council on Education, the nation's largest higher education organization. She serves on the board of trustees of the Rockefeller Foundation and on the board of directors of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities. She has served on the board of governors of the U.S.-Mexico Foundation for Science, the NASA Advisory Council, the boards of Trinity Industries, National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, Sandia Corporation and Internet2, and was appointed by President George H.W. Bush as a member of the Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. Initially appointed to the National Science Board by President Bill Clinton in 1994, she served two six-year terms as a Board member and three two-year terms as the NSB's vice chair.

✱ She received the 2013 TIAA-CREF Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence. The award recognizes leadership and commitment to higher education and contributions to the greater good and is presented to a current college or university president or chancellor who embodies the spirit of Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh and his contributions to higher education and society.

✱ President Natalicio was recognized in 2011 by the

President of Mexico with the Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca, the highest honor bestowed on foreign nationals.

✱ She received the Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education in 1997, was inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame in 1999, was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award at The University of Texas at Austin in 2006, and is the recipient of honorary doctoral degrees from Georgetown University, Smith College and the Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León.

✱ At the helm for 25 years, President Natalicio is the longest-serving president – male or female – of a 4-year public university in Texas who is currently serving, and one of the longest serving female presidents of all public universities in the nation. 📌



**“WE CARRY THE  
ASPIRATIONS AND  
THE SUCCESS OF THIS  
COMMUNITY IN OUR  
HANDS. WE HAVE THE  
RESPONSIBILITY TO  
CREATE OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, AND  
I THINK WE’VE DONE A  
MUCH BETTER JOB OF  
THAT OVER THE LAST  
FEW YEARS BECAUSE  
WE’VE BEEN MUCH MORE  
FOCUSED ON RAISING  
ASPIRATIONS ACROSS THE  
COMMUNITY.”**

**DIANA NATALICIO,  
UTEP PRESIDENT**



Use your smartphone to scan this code to view an interview with President Natalicio about her 25-year anniversary. You can also view the video at [utepnews.com](http://utepnews.com).



Homecoming football game, 2008



Hoover House, 1991





## UTEP PRESIDENT RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

By Laura L. Acosta

In the course of one day in early March, UTEP President Diana Natalicio received two national recognitions for her contributions to higher education and her efforts to improve student retention and degree completion, especially among students from low-income backgrounds.

On March 4, UTEP's President began her term as board chair of the American Council on Education (ACE), the nation's largest higher education organization.

The same day, she was presented with the 2013 TIAA-CREF Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence at ACE's 95th Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

The annual award, which includes a \$20,000 prize that President Natalicio donated to UTEP to be designated for scholarships, recognizes a current college or university president or chancellor for leadership and commitment to higher education and contributions to the greater good.

"I am deeply honored to be a recipient of the Hesburgh Award and enormously grateful for this recognition of the role that I've been privileged to play over the past 25 years in raising educational aspirations and attainment along this U.S.-

Mexico border," President Natalicio said. "From discovering the abundant talent in a region with historically low access to higher education, to building collaborations with partners from pre-kindergarten to college to foster that talent, to aligning access and affordability with excellence, to enabling thousands of young people to achieve the American Dream, I can't imagine any more intellectually challenging and professionally fulfilling work."

As ACE board chair, President Natalicio succeeds Joseph E. Aoun, president of Northeastern University. Before becoming ACE Board chair, Natalicio served as vice chair.

During her 25 years as the first female president of The University of Texas at El Paso, enrollment has increased from 14,971 to nearly 23,000 students, and the number of doctoral programs offered by the University has grown from one to 19, with more awaiting authorization. Research expenditures have also increased, to nearly \$80 million from \$6 million in 1988.

Under President Natalicio's leadership, UTEP has taken several steps to increase degree completion, including pre-college preparation;

Left: Diana Natalicio takes time for a photo with Ambassador Ron Kirk, United States trade representative, left, and Rep. Ruben Hinojosa, D-Texas, on the day she assumed the board chairmanship of the American Council on Education in Washington. Photo by Jasmine Aguilera, Scripps Howard Foundation Wire.

Right: UTEP President Diana Natalicio received the 2013 TIAA-CREF Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence. Photo by Tim Trumble, American Council on Education.

affordable tuition with a variety of financial aid and scholarship programs; academic and career advising; degree program options; and flexible class scheduling through evening and weekend courses, online opportunities, and multiple entry and exit points.

As a result, degree completions have also grown dramatically, with a 99 percent increase in undergraduate and graduate degrees awarded over the past decade — more than 80 percent of them to Hispanics.

"We face many challenges in higher education, and ACE is proud to join the TIAA-CREF Institute in honoring leaders like Dr. Natalicio who are working to promote diversity and access to education for all students," said Molly Corbett Broad, president of ACE. 📌



Use your smartphone to scan this code to view an interview with President Natalicio about ACE. You can also view the video at [utepnews.com](http://utepnews.com).





"Los Lagartos," a fiberglass sculpture by the late artist Luis Jimenez, is the centerpiece in San Jacinto Plaza in downtown El Paso. A group of Texas Western College (now UTEP) students stole a live alligator from the "placita" in 1952 as a prank and placed it in the office of geology professor Howard E. Quinn, Ph.D.

## PARTICIPANT ADDS TO GATOR CAPER LEGEND

By Daniel Perez

A story about the 60th anniversary of the famed Texas Western College alligator caper in the Winter 2013 issue of *UTEP Magazine* generated some memories from one of the last surviving perpetrators.

Sam Vandiver, the author of the tell-all story in the March 1973 issue of *Nova* (now *UTEP Magazine*) stated that he was the last surviving participant. Not so, said Ron Mishkin, a New Jersey native who was recruited for his strength and fun-loving nature to be among the seven undergraduates who took Oscar the alligator from El Paso's San Jacinto Plaza and placed him in the office of Howard E. Quinn, Ph.D., professor of geology.

Mishkin, who today serves as a mining geologist and docent at the Sterling Hill Mining Museum in Ogdensburg, N.J., vividly remembers the overnight hours on Dec. 10-11, 1952, when he participated in what he called "one of the greatest college pranks of all time."

He said the students decided on Quinn because he was a stern authority figure. The alumnus admitted he had second thoughts about the caper the next morning as he sat in a class next to Quinn's office on the second floor of the Geology Building, which was renamed Quinn Hall in 1981 to honor the future professor emeritus.

"(Quinn) didn't have much of a sense of humor," he said by telephone from his home in Lake Hopatcong, N.J., northwest of Newark. Mishkin earned his bachelor's

degree in geology from TWC in 1953 and spent the next 60 years working for mining companies and defense contractors in Arizona, New Mexico, Maryland, New Jersey and West Virginia. "Luckily, the only thing (the alligator) did was bust up some furniture."

He recalled watching Quinn walk to his office that morning and come "flying out of there about a hundred miles an hour" calling for his wife, Mary, who also taught at the college and had an office nearby. He said the alligator, now thawed out, was swinging his tail.

Mishkin said Mary Quinn was "pretty steamed" and recalled her asking students to suggest theories on how an alligator could have gotten into a sealed room. "She was pretty gung ho about getting to the bottom of this."

College officials initiated an investigation, but Mishkin said it was abandoned because so many male TWC students took credit for the prank to impress their girlfriends. Eventually the hullabaloo died down. While initially upset – really upset – Quinn mellowed to the point where he kept a small green ceramic alligator on his desk, Mishkin said.

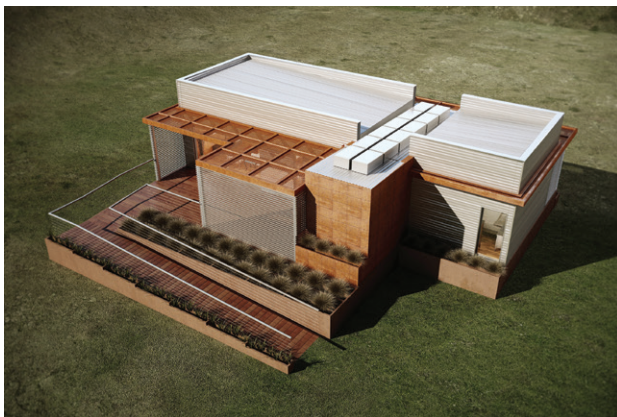
The alumnus, who hasn't been on the UTEP campus since 1980, said he is happy that people still remember the prank, and was tickled that the University's new student orientation activities include Gator Camp, which was named after the heist to challenge students to leave their mark at UTEP, albeit legally. 🐊

## CONTRIBUTE YOUR CENTENNIAL STORIES!

The legends of ghosts who some say haunt The University of Texas at El Paso buildings have become part of the campus fabric. UTEP's Centennial Celebration organizers are eager to read about your experiences with unexplained bumps in the night at Cotton Memorial, chilling screams down the hall of a deserted Old Main, the ghostly presence said to inhabit the balcony of the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall, or things along that supernatural thread. Send those stories to us electronically at [centennialstories@utep.edu](mailto:centennialstories@utep.edu). Some of them could make it into a future issue of *UTEP Magazine*, but most will be made part of the Centennial Celebration Oral History that will be preserved in Special Collections in the University Library. A few won't stand a ghost of a chance of being seen again. Ghoooooul Miners!

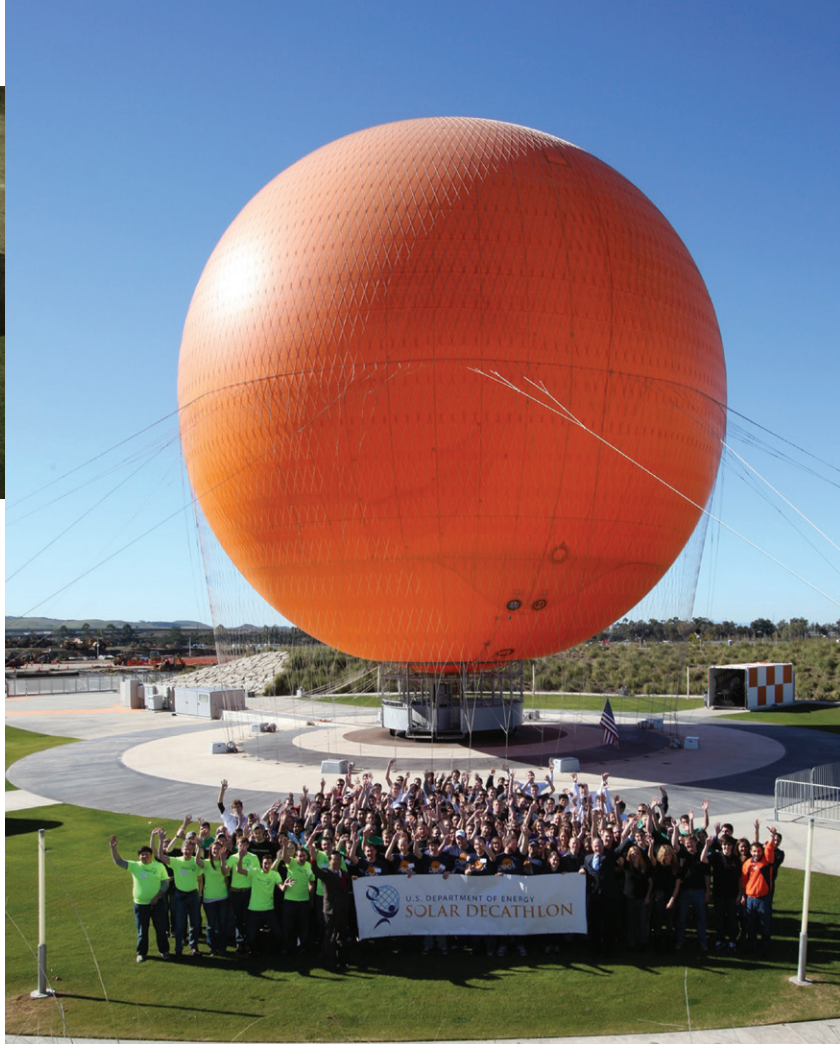






Top: Team Texas has designed an 800-square-foot home valued at about \$250,000. The home conveys the influence of Hispanic heritage and the native cultures of the El Paso area. Image courtesy of Team Texas.

Right: U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2013 collegiate teams gathered at Orange County Great Park in Irvine, Calif. on Jan. 11 for an all-team photo. Photo by Stefano Paltera / U.S. Department of Energy.



## TEAM TEXAS PREPARES FOR INTERNATIONAL SOLAR DECATHLON

By Nadia M. Whitehead

Although the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon isn't until October, The University of Texas at Austin's "Team Texas" is already in the spotlight.

Of the hundreds of applicants, including The University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University, UTEP was the only university in Texas selected to participate in the decathlon. UTEP is also the only institution out of 20 participating teams that is collaborating with a community college on the project.

"We're very honored to represent the state of Texas in the 2013 Solar Decathlon," said Richard Schoephoerster, Ph.D., dean of the College of Engineering. "That says a lot about the team assembled between UTEP and EPCC. This is a great opportunity for students from both institutions to compete against some of the best schools in the country, and some from Europe and Asia as well."

The 2013 Solar Decathlon challenges collegiate teams to design, build and operate solar-powered houses that are cost-effective, energy-efficient and attractive. The winner of the competition is the team that best blends affordability, consumer appeal and design excellence with optimal energy production and maximum efficiency.

"Our team has made every attempt to simplify the house as best as possible," said Steven Garcia, a UTEP civil engineering student and project manager. "We are integrating some unique design

elements – both architectural and engineering – to ensure that the future occupant of the home truly feels that they're living in a place they can call home."

Team Texas has designed an 800-square-foot home that conveys the influence of Hispanic heritage and the native cultures of the El Paso area, with 85 percent of the materials for the exterior coming from the region.

It will feature a completely recyclable corrugated metal roof that can reflect the sun's rays for maximum circulation and comfortable levels of heating and cooling throughout the home, as well as waterless toilets, solar window shades, and sun-tracking skylights.

After being constructed over the next several months, the home will be broken down, transported to California, and rebuilt for the competition.

"This event transcends any project being done at either UTEP or EPCC," Garcia said. "Anyone looking to save a buck or two in their utility expenses can learn something from this. It's a whole different story for students. They have the opportunity to get hands-on, real world applications in their fields of study – whether that'd be in mechanical engineering, graphic design or even English."

By October, teams will have spent almost two years creating the homes to compete in 10 contests: architecture, marketing appeal,

engineering, communications, affordability, comfort, hot water, appliances, home entertainment, and energy balance.

The 2013 Solar Decathlon will take place Oct. 3-13 at Orange County Great Park in Irvine, Calif.

Team Texas is still looking for sponsors and donations to help fund the project, which was originally estimated at \$250,000. To contribute, visit <https://givingto.utep.edu/UTEPsolardecathlon> or go to [engineering.utep.edu/solardecathlon](http://engineering.utep.edu/solardecathlon) to learn more. ☞

**The 2013 Solar Decathlon challenges collegiate teams to design, build, and operate solar-powered houses that are cost-effective, energy-efficient, and attractive.**



# UTEP'S IMPACT ON THE PASO DEL NORTE REGION

By Keith Erikson • Photo by J.R. Hernandez

From the very beginning, The University of Texas at El Paso has worked in partnership with the El Paso community to benefit the region. El Paso civic leaders raised \$50,000 to establish the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy, now UTEP, in 1914. When a fire rendered the original campus buildings unusable in 1916, five El Paso residents came forward to donate additional land for a fresh start in a new location. Since then, hundreds of individuals and businesses have contributed to the University's programs, scholarships, construction projects and fundraising campaigns.

One hundred years later, thanks to ongoing community support, UTEP is a large public research university serving an urban, multi-ethnic, bi-national community – the largest metroplex on the U.S.-Mexico border. As part of UTEP's Centennial Celebration, the University commissioned a study by Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI), an independent company based in Moscow, Idaho, to show UTEP's impact in the community and how it has given back to the Paso del Norte region. The findings have been combined with data collected by UTEP's Center for Institutional Evaluation, Research, and Planning (CIERP) and by various state and national educational research foundations and organizations to produce *Serving the Paso del Norte Region: Economic and Community Impact 2013*. This new report outlines the impact of UTEP's investment in the region, its impact on the region's economy and quality of life, and the extent of its outreach and community partnerships.



## Among the findings of UTEP's economic impact on the region:

- UTEP adds \$1.3 billion to the El Paso County economy each year through increased productivity of thousands of UTEP alumni now working in the community, campus payroll and operations expenditures, and spending by out-of-town students and visitors.
- UTEP, as an individual economic institution, produces a larger impact on the El Paso County economy than either the entire transportation sector or the entire construction sector.
- UTEP is the 6th largest employer in El Paso. Of the University's nearly 3,500 full- and part-time faculty and staff, 97 percent live in El Paso County, where they spend money on groceries, apparel, entertainment and other household expenditures.
- Higher earnings of UTEP graduates and associated increases in state income expand the Texas tax base by \$148.6 million each year. An expanded tax base leads to an increase in tax payments received by the state, and reduces the tax burden on everyone.
- UTEP graduates save the state \$36.6 million per year in avoided costs from improved health, reduced crime, and reduced reliance on public assistance and unemployment.
- For every dollar invested in UTEP through state and local government funding, taxpayers see a cumulative return of \$1.60 over the course of graduates' careers in the form of higher tax revenue and avoided costs.
- More than 5,500 UTEP students contributed about 467,000 community service hours during 2011-12, many in conjunction with service learning components of 166 academic courses. The total estimated dollar value of those hours is \$10.2 million.

UTEP not only benefits the regional economy as a whole, but also improves the lives of its graduates and their families, fulfilling its mission to provide access and excellence to the students of the Paso del Norte region. *Washington Monthly* magazine recently validated this fact when it ranked UTEP the #1 university in the nation for improving the social mobility of its students.

## Among the findings of UTEP's impact on individuals and families in the region:

- UTEP has awarded more than 107,000 degrees since 1914.
- Enrollment grew 49 percent from fall 2001 to fall 2011.
- Degrees awarded grew 104 percent from 2000-01 to 2010-11, placing UTEP in the 97th percentile compared to the more than 2,700 baccalaureate-awarding institutions in the nation.

## UTEP's Annual Economic Impact on El Paso County

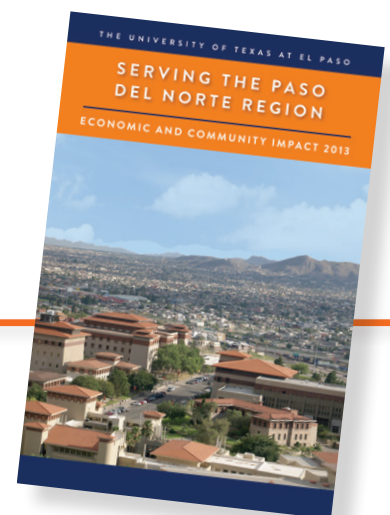
Visitor spending	\$2.5 million
Student spending	\$33.2 million
Student productivity	\$1 billion
Payroll and operations spending	\$202 million
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1.3 billion</b>



- A bachelor's degree from UTEP triples the graduate's annual income at career midpoint to an average of \$54,100 when compared to El Paso residents who did not complete high school (and earn an average of \$18,000 per year).
- At UTEP, the average out-of-pocket cost to students (or "net price") is only \$2,543 per academic year, making it the most affordable comprehensive university in the nation (and less than half the cost of the closest competitor) and the most affordable emerging Tier One institution in Texas.
- UTEP graduates recover all costs from tuition, fees, and foregone wages in an average of 9.7 years.
- UTEP graduates' lifetime income increases by \$5.60 for every dollar they spend on tuition and foregone wages while attending UTEP. For first-generation students, lifetime income increases by \$6.60 for each dollar invested.
- UTEP students and their families earn a 15.6 percent rate of return on their educational investment (17.1 percent for first-generation students). These rates compare favorably with returns on private, long-term investments, which typically range from 7 percent to 10 percent.
- More than 80 percent of UTEP students grew up in El Paso and more than 60 percent of UTEP graduates remain in the region and contribute to the economy.

- The children of first-generation college graduates are 30 percent more likely to enroll in college than the children of parents who did not graduate from college.

For nearly a century, the University has educated students who have entered the region's workforce with enhanced skills and competencies that transform into increased lifetime incomes and enriched lives and families. The University employs thousands of the county's residents, its annual operations generate revenues for hundreds of regional businesses and industries, and students and visitors to campus spend millions of dollars in the community. On the eve of its second century, UTEP is poised to continue to serve as an economic driver in the Paso del Norte region while setting a new pace for higher education in the United States by fulfilling its ambitious access and excellence mission.



Use your smartphone to scan this code to view the full report on UTEP's impact on the community. You can also view the report at [utep100years.com](http://utep100years.com).





# ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME

## TRIP TO BHUTAN OFFERS RARE OPPORTUNITY

By Jenn Crawford • Photo by J.R. Hernandez

Who wouldn't want to spend a week in a country at the top of the world with breathtaking scenery, where "gross national happiness" is an important government metric, where an ancient culture remains authentic and intact, and where only a few thousand tourists are able to visit each year?

The country is Bhutan, and the opportunity to visit is available to all UTEP alumni and friends. The trip, scheduled from Oct. 5-14, 2013, includes a seven-day guided tour of Paro, Thimphu and Taktsang in the ancient Kingdom of Bhutan; meals, hotel accommodations and transportation; two days in Bangkok, and roundtrip airfare to Bhutan from Bangkok. The package also includes the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to witness the world premiere of Opera Bhutan's *Acis and Galatea*, which will be performed in the courtyard of the elegant Royal Textile Academy in the capital city of Thimphu on the second wedding anniversary of Bhutan's King and Queen.

"What a great opportunity for UTEP family and friends to gather together in a remarkable

setting to celebrate a truly historic musical event," said Preston Scott, who has served as an adviser to the Royal Government of Bhutan on many projects since the late 1990s and has visited the remote Himalayan kingdom more than 30 times. "Even though every visit to Bhutan is magical in some way, this one offers the bonus to meet accomplished artists from all over the world in one of the most enchanting places imaginable."

The opera production is a collaboration between UTEP; El Paso Opera; opera directors from all over the world; four professional opera singers from Italy, the United States, Canada and Cameroon; dancers and musicians from the Royal Academy of Performing Arts in Bhutan; and the Royal Textile Academy.

The all-inclusive trip is a rare chance to experience the Kingdom of Bhutan, nestled in the Himalayan mountains between India

and China, and be a part of history. The production of *Acis and Galatea* will be a first-of-its-kind opera performance that blends traditional Western opera with the symbolism, costumes, dances and music of a culture

**"What a great opportunity for UTEP family and friends to gather together in a remarkable setting to celebrate a truly historic musical event."**

**PRESTON SCOTT**  
ADVISER TO THE ROYAL  
GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN

### ITINERARY

#### JOIN UTEP IN BHUTAN FOR THE WORLD PREMIERE OF OPERA BHUTAN

##### **OCT. 6, 2013**

Arrive in Bangkok

##### **OCT. 7**

Spend the day in Bangkok

##### **OCT. 8**

Travel to Paro in the remote Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan

##### **OCT. 9**

Day in Paro, visit the National Museum of Bhutan in the Ta Dzong (an ancient watchtower)

##### **OCT. 10**

Day trip to Taktsang (historic Tiger's Nest temple)

##### **OCT. 11**

Travel to Bhutan's capital city, Thimphu

##### **OCT. 12**

Day in Thimphu - World premiere of Opera Bhutan

##### **OCT. 13**

Day in Thimphu

##### **OCT. 14**

Return to Bangkok, Thailand



More than 30 students and faculty, including those pictured, will have the unique opportunity to travel to Bhutan in October to participate in the world premiere of Opera Bhutan.

that has been virtually untouched by outside influences for more than a thousand years.

The trip is also an opportunity for more than 30 UTEP student singers and orchestra members to work with world-class opera mentors to perfect their craft and be part of the historic premiere performance in Bhutan on Oct. 12.

One of those students is vocalist Guillermo Flores, who postponed his UTEP graduation by a year so he could participate in Opera Bhutan. Flores expects to graduate with a Master of Music Performance in 2013.

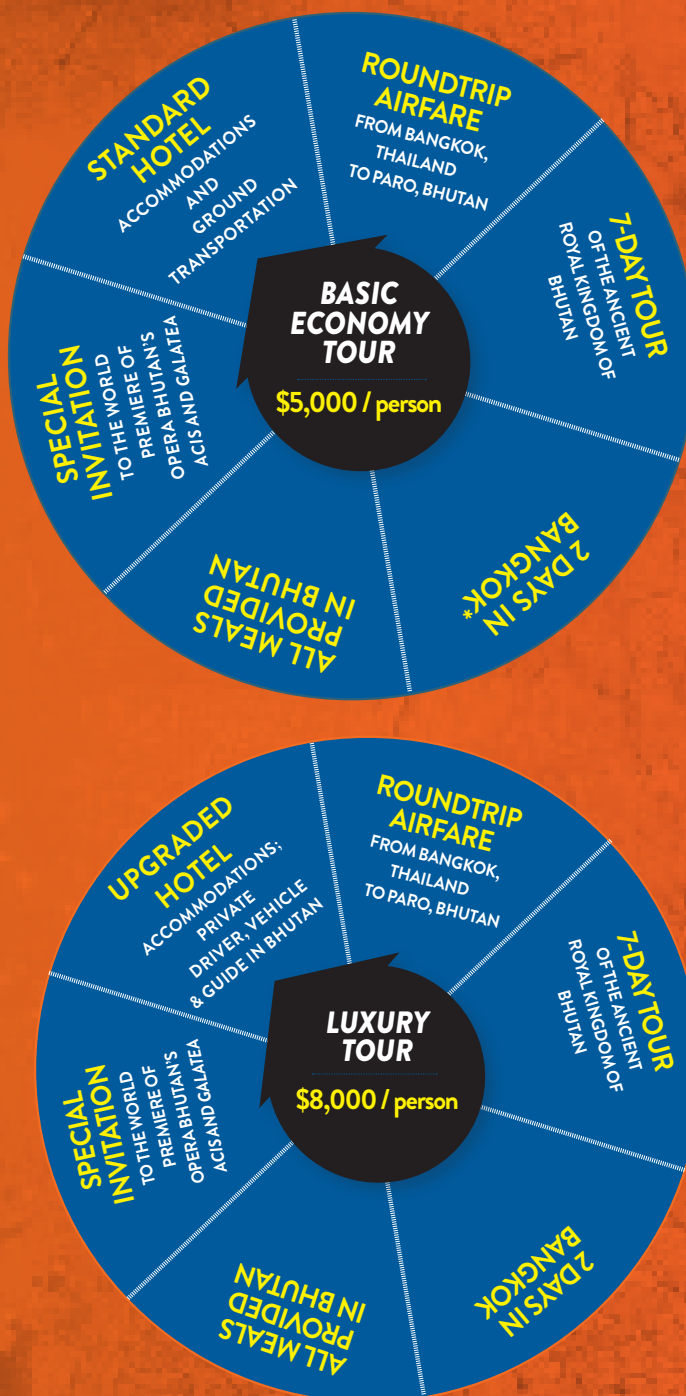
"This performance in Bhutan will mark the highlight and the closure of my career here, and I took all measures necessary to ensure that I can take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," he said. "For music performers, it is of vital importance to expand your career to as many places as possible, and the Opera Bhutan project is giving me the opportunity to sing on the other side of the world. That is going to be a golden star in my life, as well as on my résumé."

Participation in the trip is limited due to airplane capacity into Bhutan and hotel accommodations, so potential participants are encouraged to book their seats as soon as possible through [bhutan.utep.edu](http://bhutan.utep.edu) or by calling Nathalia Magri in UTEP's Development Office at 915-747-8327.

For those who would like to support the project by sponsoring one of the student musicians or singers, or to help defray the costs of putting on a production of this magnitude in another country, visit [bhutan.utep.edu](http://bhutan.utep.edu) or call UTEP's Office of Institutional Advancement at 915-747-8533 for more information. Opportunities for individual or corporate sponsorship are available.

"Our students' participation in the Opera Bhutan project is so important because it enables them to do several things vital to their future success in the professional world of the arts: perform in a fully-staged work of the highest caliber; observe and imitate the rehearsal and performance habits of professional singers, instrumentalists, and directors; travel to a different culture to directly experience wildly different musical/theatrical practices; and expand their worldview beyond the scope of our daily life here in the United States," said Elisa Fraser Wilson, D.M.A., associate professor of opera and voice and an Opera Bhutan director. "We study and practice music history every day in classes and through electronic media, but in Bhutan, we will live it!" 📺

# YOUR JOURNEY TO THE LAND OF THE THUNDER DRAGON



\* All tours originate in Bangkok, Thailand. Travelers are responsible for flight arrangements to Bangkok (not included in tour pricing). Travelers will be required to arrive in Bangkok no later than Sunday, Oct. 6, 2013 to ensure timely connection to Bhutan. Rates are based on double occupancy; single rooms available for additional cost. Tour itinerary subject to change. Prices are subject to change until a reservation is placed and confirmed. Space is limited.



Use your smartphone to scan this code to view a video about the trip to Bhutan. You can also view the video at [utepnews.com](http://utepnews.com).



# 3-D PRINTING GOES TO SPACE:

UTEP TO LAUNCH FIRST-EVER 3-D PRINTED ELECTRONICS INTO SPACE

By Nadia M. Whitehead

3-D printing is all the rage, but believe it or not, the technology has been around since the 1980s. The University of Texas at El Paso has been ahead of the game – since 2001, the University has had a center entirely dedicated to it.

This year, UTEP's W.M. Keck Center for 3-D Innovation – a state-of-the-art laboratory focusing on the advancement of 3-D printing, or additive manufacturing – will hit the limelight when it sends the first-ever 3-D printed electronics into space.

"Danny Olivas was our first astronaut in space and hopefully, this will be our first electronics in space," said Ryan Wicker, Ph.D., professor of mechanical engineering and director of the Keck Center.



From left, Danny Muse, senior engineer and project manager of the 3-D electronics for the CubeSat; Eric MacDonald, Ph.D., associate professor of electrical and computer engineering and associate director of the Keck Center; Frank Medina, doctoral student and manager of the Keck Center; and Ryan Wicker, Ph.D., professor of mechanical engineering and director and founder of the Keck Center, show off some of the items created by 3-D printing in the Keck Center. Photo by Javier Loya.

The printed electronics will travel to space inside a CubeSat, a miniature university-based satellite owned by the University of New Mexico that will be launched as part of a resupply mission for NASA – although the electronics are just along for the ride.

"If you can make 3-D electronics, that's great, but if you can make 3-D electronics that can go into space and continue to work, then that makes a statement about reliability," said Eric MacDonald, Ph.D., associate professor of electrical and computer engineering and associate director of the Keck Center. "Space is a vacuum, and there's radiation, and incredibly wide temperature swings – which can cause materials to degrade. But in this case, we're going to prove that our technology will work."

Danny Muse, senior engineer and project manager of the 3-D electronics project for the CubeSat and a UTEP doctoral student, added, "This will signify the coming of age of 3-D electronics in a real-world – or in this case out of this world – application. Completion of this project represents the culmination of several years of research in 3-D electronics with contributions from many areas of science and engineering."

The center's research is funded by multiple organizations, including the Air Force Research Labs, NASA, Lockheed Martin, and GE Aviation – all linked to the aerospace industry, which is where Wicker believes the biggest impact can be made in additive printing technology right now.

"We're going to have the most immediate

## FACULTY PROFILE: RYAN B. WICKER, PH.D.



### POSITION:

Professor of Mechanical Engineering; Director and Founder of W.M. Keck Center for 3-D Innovation; holds the endowed Mr. and Mrs. MacIntosh Murchison Chair I in the College of Engineering

### EDUCATION:

Ph.D. in mechanical engineering, 1995, Stanford University

### HOBBIES:

Most of my free time is spent with my three kids, and I enjoy all of their activities. I especially appreciate watching and coaching them in sports, and if I had to choose a personal favorite, it would be baseball.

### I CHOSE MY CAREER BECAUSE...

I grew up making things with my dad and I enjoyed math and science in school. I remember that my mom helped me fill out my college application and she checked the box for mechanical engineering. I explored several options while in school but my passion has always been mechanical engineering... I guess my mom was right. I have had many great teachers in my life and I also have an uncle who is a university professor, and based on these influences, I knew when I was an undergraduate student that I wanted to teach and be a university professor.

### THE BEST PART OF MY JOB IS...

working with students and discovering new things. Every day provides opportunities to invent a new process, product or idea, and the academic environment for faculty and students represents the engine for this discovery.



success in the aerospace sector because there's a real need to push these technologies to where you can use them in production," he said.

For instance, GE Aviation's goal is to start flying 3-D printed parts in their jet engines by 2014, according to Frank Medina, doctoral student and manager of the center.

UTEP hopes to improve the industry through innovations such as multi-material printing (most 3-D printers can only print one material at a time, either metal or plastic) that can print combined electronic and mechanical structures; new metal material options that can withstand higher temperatures; and new additive manufacturing processes that produce high-performance production parts.

James Lyke, principal electronics engineer at the space electronics branch of the United States Air Force Research Laboratory, wrote that the Keck Center "has amassed one of the world's most impressive armadas of 3-D printing equipment" in a recent article in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers' (IEEE) *Spectrum* magazine.

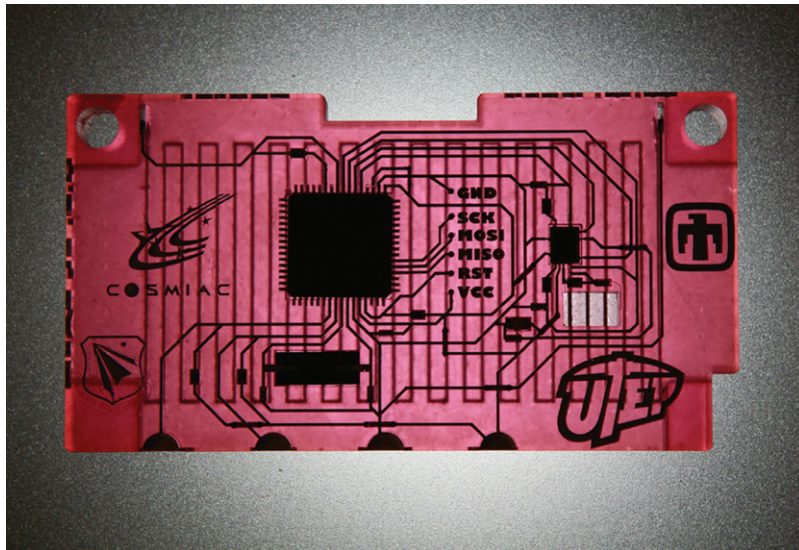
He hopes that technology developed at the center will help lower the production time for building complex satellites – which usually takes years – to weeks or months.

By printing these high-value, customized products and creating the hybrid manufacturing technologies to carry them out, UTEP's goal is to help bring manufacturing back to the United States from nations like China.

"There are advantages provided by these technologies that will bring back high-value, mass customized parts to the U.S.," Wicker said. "If you have one of these systems that can really produce a production part, then it makes more sense to produce the part locally and remove, for example, the time and cost of shipping."

In addition to printing new and unique designs, the technology can potentially lower production costs by saving labor and materials.

For instance, instead of purchasing a large



UTEP's W.M. Keck Center for 3-D Innovation plans to send the first-ever 3-D printed electronics shown here into space this year. The printed electronics will travel to space inside a CubeSat, a miniature university-based satellite. Photo by J.R. Hernandez.

sheet of metal, machining it and creating waste, 3-D printing technologies can create exactly what you need – no more, no less.

"Essentially, there's little to no waste in the process, so you can save tremendous amounts of material in development," Medina said. "Another big issue is that if you do something very complex, you need to build it in parts and then assemble them. But with 3-D printing, you can print everything together and reduce assembly, inspection and manufacturability costs because you're building one part instead of five."

If you haven't seen additive manufacturing in action yet, it's pretty neat.

After engineers have created a digital model of the product using computer-aided design (CAD), the machine prints by adding multiple layers of material until it's finished – hence, the term "additive" printing.

Companies offering 3-D printing services are beginning to sprout on the Internet. With a digital design in hand, anyone can have an object printed and shipped to them, all through an online transaction. In five to 10 years, Wicker

envision auto parts and home improvement stores serving customers with additive printers, much like having digital photos printed at the drugstore down the street.

"If you need a custom part for your vehicle, you could download the design from the Internet or design it yourself, and print it in the store," he said. "It wouldn't be cheap, but it also wouldn't require the store to have all those parts in their inventory or to order them."

As for owning a printer and printing products like the iPhone in your garage – MacDonald thinks that's further away, but ultimately, inevitable.

"The problem with the adoption of all this is that the majority of us are not well-versed in CAD, and the process requires a 3-D design file," Wicker said. "So it's going to be just like the Internet age, where everyone had to learn how to use it. Once we are that well-versed in CAD, anyone will be able to print virtually anything." 📄

## FACULTY PROFILE: ERIC MACDONALD, PH.D.



### POSITION:

Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Associate Director of the W. M. Keck Center for 3-D Innovation

### EDUCATION:

Ph.D. in electrical engineering, 2002, The University of Texas at Austin

### HOBBIES:

Six kids and a beautiful wife, golfing, snow skiing, raising chickens.

### MY GREATEST INSPIRATION IS...

Steve Jobs.

### I CHOSE MY CAREER BECAUSE...

I relish technology.

### THE BEST PART OF MY JOB IS...

helping engineering students find gainful employment.





Benjamin Alire Sáenz sits outside Cinco Puntos Press in El Paso just after hearing of his PEN/Faulkner Award for *Everything Begins and Ends at the Kentucky Club*.

“AN AWARD LIKE THIS  
ISN’T EVER JUST FOR  
THE PERSON THAT  
WON IT; IT’S FOR THE  
COMMUNITY WHO  
RAISED THAT WRITER.”

## UTEP PROFESSOR WINS 2013 PEN/ FAULKNER AWARD FOR FICTION

By Lisa Y. Garibay • Photo by Mark Lambie, *El Paso Times*





**T**AKING ITS TITLE FROM A STORIED JUÁREZ CLUB JUST OVER THE U.S.-MEXICO BORDER, *EVERYTHING BEGINS AND ENDS AT THE KENTUCKY CLUB* OFFERS SEVEN DIFFERENT STORIES EXAMINING THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIVING IN THE EL PASO-JUÁREZ BORDER REGION STRUGGLING WITH WHAT THE PEN/FAULKNER FOUNDATION FOR WRITERS CALLS “THE IMPOSSIBLE AMBIGUITIES OF BORDERS, WHETHER THEY BE SEXUAL, EMOTIONAL, NATIONAL OR ECONOMIC.”

This kind of liminal existence – being on one side of a border but ultimately straddling both sides – is one with which Benjamin Alire Sáenz is intimately familiar. He was raised on a small farm near Mesilla, N.M., and worked alongside his family at everything from roofing to picking onions to help the family after their farm was lost. Despite leaving home for seminary studies in Denver and Belgium, Sáenz returned to his beloved border region, first as a priest and then as a UTEP student. As he told PBS Newshour in 2010, “This is the place that really defines me, because it is such a difficult terrain to negotiate, because there is no sense of certainties, the fixed ideas of one’s identity, of one’s natural boundaries, the way one uses words, that they come from all sides.”

Now, after decades of never wavering in his devotion to writing about the border, Sáenz has been awarded America’s most prestigious peer-juried prize for fiction.

Sáenz, chairman of UTEP’s Department of Creative Writing, was named winner of the 2013 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction on March 25 and is the first Latino writer to receive the honor. He won the prize for *Everything Begins and Ends at the Kentucky Club*, published by El Paso’s Cinco Puntos Press.

First awarded in 1981, the prize is named for Nobel Prize winning novelist William Faulkner. Renowned novelists Walter Kirn, Nelly Rosario, and A.J. Verdelle served as judges for the prize, considering more than 350 novels and short story collections by American authors published in the United States during the 2012 calendar year.

“An award like this isn’t ever just for the person that won it; it’s for the community who raised that writer,” Sáenz said. “I’m really grateful to my students because they keep language alive and fresh for me and they remind me that no one needs permission to speak the English language. When I listen to my students, I learn new words and new ways of using language, and they remind me that language doesn’t

belong to me – it belongs to all of us. If this award brings anything to anyone, it’s to my students, it’s to UTEP, it’s to El Paso, it’s to the border and the people here.”

UTEP President Diana Natalicio said she was thrilled, though not surprised, to hear the news of Sáenz’s most recent honor.

“Well-known on our campus as an outstanding teacher and role model for UTEP’s creative writing students, Ben is also a living example of UTEP’s success in fostering both access and excellence,” President Natalicio said. “He grew up in the Paso del Norte region, earned his master’s degree in creative writing at UTEP, and now leads the Creative Writing Department with distinction as a nationally recognized, award-winning writer. We are all very proud of his many accomplishments and grateful to him for the spotlight that his excellence has brought to UTEP and this ‘impossibly ambiguous border region’ that we call home.”

Ilan Stavans, general editor of The Norton Anthology of Latino Literature, emphasized the importance of someone like Sáenz receiving such a prestigious accolade.

“What refreshing, welcome news: Benjamin Alire Sáenz as the recipient of this year’s PEN/Faulkner Award,” Stavans said. “I’ve followed his literary journey over the years with admiration. His voice opens up new vistas, enriching us all. His success is also a success for Latino fiction, bringing it from the margins to center stage.”

Since becoming a member of the faculty at UTEP in 1992, Sáenz has churned out an incredible amount of work. His first collection of poetry, *Calendar of Dust*, was honored with an American Book Award in 1991 and the following year he was awarded the \$50,000 Lannan Literary Poetry Fellowship. He has also been lauded with a Southwest Book Award, nominations for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, the Latino Literary Award for Best Novel, Best Children’s Book award from the Texas Institute of Letters, the Paterson Book Prize, the JHunt Award, and many more.

This year, in addition to his PEN/Faulkner

## PAST PEN/FAULKNER AWARD WINNERS

- 2012 – Julie Otsuka, *The Buddha in the Attic*
- 2011 – Deborah Eisenberg, *The Collected Stories of Deborah Eisenberg*
- 2010 – Sherman Alexie, *War Dances*
- 2009 – Joseph O’Neill, *Netherland*
- 2008 – Kate Christensen, *The Great Man*
- 2007 – Philip Roth, *Everyman*
- 2006 – E.L. Doctorow, *The March*
- 2005 – Ha Jin, *War Trash*
- 2004 – John Updike, *The Early Stories 1953-1975*
- 2003 – Sabina Murray, *The Caprices*
- 2002 – Ann Patchett, *Bel Canto*
- 2001 – Philip Roth, *The Human Stain*
- 2000 – Ha Jin, *Waiting*
- 1999 – Michael Cunningham, *The Hours*
- 1998 – Rafi Zabor, *The Bear Comes Home*
- 1997 – Gina Berriault, *Women in their Beds*
- 1996 – Richard Ford, *Independence Day*
- 1995 – David Guterson, *Snow Falling on Cedars*
- 1994 – Philip Roth, *Operation Shylock*
- 1993 – E. Annie Proulx, *Postcards*
- 1992 – Don DeLillo, *Mao II*
- 1991 – John Edgar Wideman, *Philadelphia Fire*
- 1990 – E.L. Doctorow, *Billy Bathgate*
- 1989 – James Salter, *Dusk*
- 1988 – T. Coraghessan Boyle, *World’s End*
- 1987 – Richard Wiley, *Soldiers in Hiding*
- 1986 – Peter Taylor, *The Old Forest and Other Stories*
- 1985 – Tobias Wolff, *The Barracks Thief*
- 1984 – John Edgar Wideman, *Sent for You Yesterday*
- 1983 – Toby Olson, *Seaview*
- 1982 – David Bradley, *The Chaneyville Incident*
- 1981 – Walter Abish, *How German Is It?*



Sáenz poses inside Cinco Puntos Press, the El Paso-based publishing house behind nine of his works.



"I'M REALLY GRATEFUL TO MY STUDENTS BECAUSE THEY KEEP LANGUAGE ALIVE AND FRESH FOR ME AND THEY REMIND ME THAT NO ONE NEEDS PERMISSION TO SPEAK THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE."

Benjamin Alire Sáenz,  
chair of UTEP's Department  
of Creative Writing

honor, Sáenz was awarded the American Library Association's Pura Belpré Award and the Stonewall Book Award for his latest young adult novel, *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*.

Sáenz received his PEN/Faulkner Award and \$15,000 on May 4 during the 33rd annual ceremony at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. Previous winners include E.L. Doctorow, John Updike, and E. Annie Proulx.

Sáenz is currently at work on a new book of poems, *Night Disappearing Into a Patient Sky*, in which he uses his own mixed-media paintings to push him into more innovative territory.

"A painting can tell a story in a different kind of way," he told the Chicago Public Library. "I think really that I am just addicted to telling stories. It doesn't matter if the story is for adults, or young people or children. It doesn't make any difference to me whether the vehicle for the story is a novel, a poem or a picture book. Or even a painting!"

Daniel Chacon, one of Sáenz's colleagues in the Creative Writing Department as well as his co-host for KTEP-FM's Words on a Wire radio program, said Sáenz had been a mentor for his own writing.

"We have the chance to talk to some of the greatest writers in the country (on Words on a Wire), and together we are able to extract a lot of valuable information and advice from these writers," Chacon said. "But the ironic thing is that Ben himself is one of the country's most distinguished writers." ▢



Use your smartphone to scan this code to view an interview with Benjamin Sáenz. You can also view the video at [utepnews.com](http://utepnews.com).

Photo by J.R. Hernandez





## BEEMS CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF IMPROVED BILINGUAL EDUCATION

By Daniel Perez • Photos by Joshua Garcia



Left: Texas State Sen. José Rodríguez told teachers at the legislative panel discussion at the BEEMS Conference that students must learn to think critically and creatively.

Right: College of Education Dean Josefina V. "Josie" Tinajero, Ed.D., thanked Jana Echevarria, Ph.D., professor emerita from California State University Long Beach, who presented a lecture about helping English learners access complex texts.

This year's BEEMS conference at The University of Texas at El Paso had a more celebratory atmosphere as the program marked its 20th anniversary of sharing the best practices and latest technology that help English Language Learners.

More than 600 educators – including a large contingent from East Texas and a small group from Central American countries – participated in the two-day Bilingual Educators Emphasizing Multicultural Settings meeting Feb. 1-2.

Conference attendees benefited from a bilingual buffet of more than 40 presentations,

many of them tied to the most current research, curriculum and materials that can be used to enhance teaching.

The national need to stay on top of bilingual education continues to grow as the Hispanic population increases throughout the country. The U.S. Census Bureau reported in 2010 that America had a Hispanic population of 50.5 million and that more than 35 million of them spoke Spanish at home.

While the focus was on the future, conference organizers scheduled a few moments to reflect on the positive work accomplished through 20 years

of BEEMS. They presented a commemorative plaque and 20 red long-stem roses to Josefina V. "Josie" Tinajero, Ed.D., dean of UTEP's College of Education. Tinajero wrote the original U.S. Department of Education grant that created the BEEMS conference and offered tuition support to bilingual education majors.

"There is still a lot of work that needs to be done to improve the professional development of teachers, administrators and even the parents," Tinajero said. "Everyone needs to understand that being bilingual is an asset." 📌



## HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING CENTER OPENS

By Lisa Y. Garibay • Photo by Laura Trejo

From left, Director of Research Computing Patricia Teller, Ph.D.; Vice President for Information Resources and Planning Steve Riter, Ph.D.; and UTEP President Diana Natalicio celebrate at the *Star Wars*-themed ribbon cutting for RADC.

A little less than two years after construction and relocation plans were announced, the Research and Academic Data Center (RADC, pronounced "rad-see") has opened atop the sky bridge connecting the third floors of the Classroom and Engineering buildings at UTEP. The RADC now offers a secure, environmentally controlled and around-the-clock-monitored home for research and academic servers and the Research Cloud @ UTEP.

Before the February ribbon cutting, Director of Research Computing Patricia Teller, Ph.D.; Vice President for Information Resources and Planning Steve Riter, Ph.D.; and UTEP President Diana Natalicio spoke about the tremendous

return on investment that these computing capabilities would provide for the University, including faculty and student recruitment, research funding and enhanced recognition for UTEP.

"With each day, the role of computing grows in terms of how it's interrelated to research," said Teller, who was named the first director of research computing in early 2012. "And with this growth comes the need for computing infrastructure, especially at institutions of higher learning."

The RADC is part of the \$26.5 million in construction and enhancements that UTEP has invested in the Engineering and Sciences Complex.

The RADC and research cloud have benefited greatly from the University of Texas Research Cyberinfrastructure (UTRC) initiative, which cultivates high-performance computing, networking, data storage, education and training within the UT System. IBM pledged more than \$90,000 in hardware and services toward the research cloud, contributing to the establishment of this first-ever cloud and virtualization computing environment for the University and enabling researchers to employ multiple processing elements to solve a problem in less time. 📌



# MEET THE DEAN:

## Q&A WITH ROBERT KIRKEN, NEW DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Robert Kirken, Ph.D., professor of biological sciences, joined The University of Texas at El Paso in 2005. Since then, he has become the chair of the Department of Biological Sciences, the director of UTEP's Border Biomedical Research Center (BBRC), and in March, the new dean of the College of Science. UTEP Magazine writer Nadia M. Whitehead talked with Kirken about his love of science and new position at the University.

### NADIA M. WHITEHEAD (NW): HOW AND WHEN DID YOU FIRST 'FALL IN LOVE' WITH SCIENCE?

Robert Kirken (RK): I can remember being interested in science forever – all the way back to even first or second grade. In one of my classes there were cartoon stickers of various professions and you had to pick one out as your own. There was a scientist in a white lab coat holding up a flask with some type of chemical – and that's really one of my earliest science recollections. I think my parents also instilled some of it in me. A lot of my presents were chemistry and biology kits, which I really enjoyed.

### NW: WHAT ORIGINALLY ATTRACTED YOU TO UTEP AND EL PASO?

RK: I think what attracted me to UTEP overall was the mission of access and excellence. I really believed in it and I also saw it as a great opportunity to have an impact – not only for the students, but also for the faculty and the region as a whole.

Before, when I was in Houston, which of course is a huge city, I was a little bit like a drop in the ocean. But this was a chance to become chair of a department, to be a mentor, and to really foster and expand the strengths of our research and academic programs in the biological sciences – both in the ecology and the biomedical aspects. And of course, there was this new bioscience research building and all the promise of infrastructure development. It's been exciting to be a part of everything. And that's what I had hoped for when I came here – that UTEP would continue to grow.

### NW: WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS AS THE NEW DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE?

RK: My goal is to continue to build upon what's already been developed here in the College of Science, and at the same time, have a greater impact on what we're trying to accomplish here in the region. I want us to make a lasting impression in the STEM disciplines, and to have UTEP and the College of Science be recognized for our outstanding efforts and successes. My responsibility is to grow the college in key areas of undergraduate and graduate education and research. I look forward to helping UTEP get closer to its many goals, including its Tier One aspirations.

### NW: DESCRIBE YOUR LIFE OUTSIDE OF WORK.

RK: My family and I are very active people. We love sports and go to all the UTEP football and basketball games. We love to travel and we're very fortunate to have the opportunity to. As a matter of fact, my wife is Italian so we visit her family in Italy on a regular basis. I think spending that precious time together as a family is very rewarding. Right now we have fairly young kids and it's something we don't want to miss out on.

### NW: IS THERE ONE PIECE OF ADVICE YOU WOULD OFFER TO STUDENTS?

RK: Don't give up. Persevere, and don't turn away from challenges – just try to make steady progress forward. If you do that, good things will happen. My family was economically challenged, and I remember my parents always telling me that the way to more opportunity was education. I recognized this immediately when I came to UTEP, where many students work long hours or several jobs, trying to create something better for their families. I really identify with that mission because that's where I came from in many respects. They should know that the hard work they're putting in right now is going to pay off. You just have to persevere through these more difficult times. 📌



Robert Kirken,  
dean of the UTEP College  
of Science



Some of the 1,450 members of the Miner Nation who participated in the 4th annual Project MOVE gathered at UTEP's Glory Field March 9 before volunteering at 71 project sites around the community.

# PROJECT MOVE MAKES BIG IMPACT

By Víctor García • Photos by J.R. Hernandez



Students help clean up the grounds at the Animal Rescue League of El Paso in Canutillo, Texas.



At Therapeutic Horsemanship El Paso, students broke pallets and did other physical labor to help maintain the property.

On a cool, breezy Saturday in March, 1,450 UTEP students, alumni, faculty and staff got together to help the El Paso community through service. The 4th annual event, known as Project MOVE (Miner Opportunities for Volunteer Experiences), spanned the El Paso region, reaching 71 different project sites.

"The El Paso community really rallied behind it and gave opportunities; and our students came through as well by capitalizing on those opportunities, showing up and performing," said Ryan Holmes, associate dean of students.

Paul Dutchover, media advertising major and National Society of Leadership and Success member, was one of about 20 volunteers who spent the morning at Great Dane Rescue of El Paso. They swept and washed the kennels, filled holes, trimmed bushes and collected trash.

"Might as well have a good time doing this and help out El Paso," Dutchover said.

Luan Folkner, president of the board of directors of Great Dane Rescue of El Paso, said she appreciated the help with maintaining the grounds, because it keeps the area safe for the dogs that run and play, as well as the volunteers who work there.

Student volunteers at the other 70 sites painted, helped in offices and warehouses, worked with the elderly and youngsters, landscaped, did carpentry, assisted with neighborhood clean ups, translated for medical students, and more.

"I love helping people," said Briana Pinales, a biological sciences major and chair of the National Society of Leadership and Success. "I really wanted to get involved with Project MOVE because this is where UTEP gets involved with the whole community." 📍



# DISTINGUISHED GUESTS



## Eugenio Aleman

In March, the senior economist for Wells Fargo Securities presented a seminar to students and faculty of the UTEP Department of Economics and Finance that focused on the current and lingering issues that the U.S. economy faces.



## Richard Fisher

Students, faculty, staff and members of the El Paso community listened to the president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas speak about the El Paso economy and monetary policy in the United States.



## Romelia Flores

The IBM Distinguished Engineer and Master Inventor advised future engineers to find joy in contributing to society through the use of technology during her Centennial Lecture in February.



## Francois Fouinat

The senior advisor to the United Nations Secretary-General on migration and development spoke about the importance of engaging in alternative conversations about security policy that center on citizens' well-being, and on humanizing borders beyond militarization and surveillance during his February lecture.



## Philip Levine

More than 1,000 people were on hand to hear the 18th poet laureate of the United States read his work and discuss his life during his March Centennial Lecture. Levine, whose accolades include a Pulitzer Prize and an American Book Award, talked about the magic that lies in poetic form for people who live in regions that have been traditionally underrepresented in American poetry.



## Julio Ortega

The accomplished scholar, poet, playwright and novelist entranced the audience during his Centennial Lecture in March with information about author Carlos Fuentes' impact on politics and culture. His discussion was in conjunction with the 18th annual Contemporary Mexican Literature Conference.



## Johann Rafelski

Armed with his compact ultra dense objects (CUDO) theory, the University of Arizona professor of physics discussed how some meteorites and asteroids could be made of dark matter during a lecture at UTEP in March.



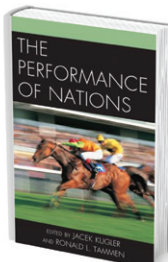
## Ayanna Thompson

The Arizona State University English professor and associate dean of faculty analyzed race in the works of Shakespeare during the UTEP Department of English's 28th Annual Literature Lecture in March. As an author and scholar, Thompson provided insight on her research on Shakespeare, early modern drama, and issues of race and performance.

# FACULTY MUST READS



**The Book of Kayiané**  
**Rebecca**, by Rebecca S. Hendrick, art lecturer (under the pen name of Ferrell Beck) (2011)



**The Performance of Nations**, contributor Gaspare M. Genna, Ph.D. associate professor of political science, et al. (2012)



**The GHD Book of Water Treatment**, contributor Anthony Tarquin, Ph.D., professor of civil engineering, et al. (2012)



**Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe**, by Benjamin Alire Saenz, professor and chair of creative writing (2012)



**Soot: Sources, Formation and Health Effects**, contributor Lawrence E. Murr, Ph.D., professor and chair of metallurgical and materials engineering (2012)



# UTEP *alumni* PICK-NIC

By Victor Garcia • Photo by Laura Trejo

## Coast *to* Coast *and* Border *to* Border PICK-NIC TRADITION ENTERS SECOND YEAR

On July 13, UTEP alumni will paint the globe orange as they gather in what is expected to be a worldwide event – the second annual UTEP Alumni PICK-NIC. Last summer, in 17 cities around the world, nearly 1,000 Miners participated in the first ever PICK-NIC, a celebration of friends, family, traditions and UTEP.

“What I liked the most is hearing the stories of all the past alumni and the curiosity as to what was going to happen and what was going on,” said Helen Hernandez, ’87, host of the 2012 PICK-NIC in Los Angeles. “It’s a fun experience to get together and reminisce. You’re with people who did the same thing you did, went to the same school, and shared similar experiences.”

This year, the UTEP Alumni Association hopes to grow the number of Alumni PICK-NICs hosted. With UTEP preparing to celebrate its

Centennial, the new PICK-NIC tradition is on its way to becoming a legacy of the University’s first 100 years.

“By the time we hit our Centennial in 2014, there will be a large group of people across the country and the world that will be celebrating their alma mater and the traditions of UTEP, all while enjoying the company of fellow UTEP graduates,” said Richard Daniel, Ph.D., associate vice president for university advancement and special projects and executive director for alumni relations.

Among the many goals of the Alumni PICK-NIC is to develop a sense of being part of the Miner family.

“I think the Miner spirit was alive and well at the event, and the idea that similar gatherings were taking place all over the world at the same time gave the participation a special meaning,”

said Col. Raul ‘Gabby’ Garibay, retired army colonel and UTEP alumnus who attended the first El Paso PICK-NIC at Memorial Park in 2012. “It will grow more in the future and I urge all alumni and current students to plan to attend. Be part of something special.”

UTEP alumni interested in hosting a PICK-NIC in their city can visit the Alumni Association website at [alumni.utep.edu/picnic](http://alumni.utep.edu/picnic) or call 866-GO-MINERS.

The Alumni Association will provide hosts with picnic baskets containing UTEP-branded Frisbees, cups, plates, coolers and cozies. This year, the Alumni PICK-NIC will get some kick with the addition of a special UTEP Centennial dip and salsa in honor of the University’s upcoming Centennial Celebration. ▣



UTEP alumni show their Miner spirit at the first Alumni PICK-NIC in El Paso’s Memorial Park in July 2012. The second annual PICK-NIC is scheduled for July 13.

VISIT

[alumni.utep.edu/picnic](http://alumni.utep.edu/picnic)

for a list of alumni picnic sites or to learn how to host your own event!



**UTEP ALUMNI**  
**ASSOCIATION**





(Top left, top right, bottom left): UTEP Alumni in Dallas prepare to cheer on the Miners during a pregame gathering before the basketball game with Southern Methodist University on March 9.  
(Bottom right): Alumni Association President Elect Russell Autry (front row, center) is joined by Alumni Association members and Miner Ambassadors during the softball tailgate on Feb. 23.

## ALUMNI CHAPTERS OFFER CONNECTIONS, CAMARADERIE AND TRADITION BEYOND COMMENCEMENT

By Victor Garcia

No matter where you are or where you go, chances are you will meet someone with ties to UTEP. With more than 96,000 active UTEP alumni scattered across the nation and in 80 countries around the globe, the UTEP Alumni Association fosters a sense of unity, pride and tradition, bringing together UTEP graduates and allowing them to stay connected and involved with their alma mater.

The UTEP Alumni Association has eight active chapters including geographic chapters in major cities such as El Paso, Austin, Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and Juárez, Mexico. These chapters are always looking for volunteers to engage in their activities and to serve as officers on their boards of directors.

"UTEP is rich with so many unique traditions. The UTEP Alumni Association gives not only UTEP graduates, but friends and family of UTEP grads, the opportunity to keep those traditions alive and strong," said Richard Daniel,

Ph.D., associate vice president for university advancement and special projects and executive director for alumni relations. "The UTEP community is proud of its university, and the Alumni Association allows people to display their pride beyond graduation."


In addition to the geographic chapters, the Alumni Association is also the home to academic chapters for the College of Engineering and the College of Business Administration, where graduates from these colleges can go beyond staying connected to UTEP, but also to their specific college and academic discipline.

Aside from the official chapters, the Office of Alumni Relations also hosts special interest groups like UBAN, a group for African-American alumni; Young Alumni, a group for graduates who earned their degrees in the last 10 years; and the LGBT group, for alumni who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered.

UTEP alumni are encouraged to stay

connected through the Alumni Association and participate in the activities sponsored throughout the year, volunteer their time or even run for office within a local chapter.

"It's always a lot of fun, especially building relationships with fellow alumni that I didn't know before, and especially now that I'm in New York," said Alex Muñoz, a 2011 UTEP graduate who earned degrees in finance and accounting and now is an investment banking analyst at J.P. Morgan in New York City. "You don't have many alumni here [in New York], or at least I thought there weren't many alumni. Through the Alumni Association, however, I have been able to meet and connect with a lot of UTEP graduates who also live in the New York City area."

Anyone interested in learning more about activities in their area, or serving as a member of their local chapter is encouraged to contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 866-GO-MINERS or [alumni@utep.edu](mailto:alumni@utep.edu) for assistance. 





***“If you’re going to give [to UTEP], then the thing to do would be to honor the people that loved you ...”***

Katherine McIntyre

Katherine McIntyre '64, right, has established a scholarship in her parents' names to support undergraduates pursuing degrees in multimedia journalism. Sophomore Renee L. Malooly is one of the students who has benefited from the scholarship.

## ALUMNA CREATES JOURNALISM SCHOLARSHIP **IN HONOR OF MOTHER**

By Isela Ocegueda • Photo by Laura Trejo

Katherine McIntyre, upon graduating from El Paso High School in 1960, was intent on finding a job and earning her own money. But her mother, Helen Magruder, had different plans for her, telling her, “You’re going to college.” As McIntyre recalls it, “That was the end of that.”

It was this direction and encouragement from her mother that partly inspired McIntyre, a 1964 graduate of Texas Western College (now UTEP), to establish the Helen and Roy S. Magruder Endowed Scholarship in 2011.

The endowed scholarship supports UTEP undergraduates pursuing degrees in multimedia journalism. Helen Magruder herself was a journalist during the 1920s, writing first for the *Baltimore Sun* and later for the *El Paso Times*.

“She was always very interested in the news, and she made us curious, too,” McIntyre said.

Understanding how the field of journalism has dramatically evolved because of technology, McIntyre wanted the scholarship to support students pursuing their studies in the

comprehensive field of multimedia journalism while simultaneously honoring the memory of her mother.

In addition to working as a journalist, Helen Magruder was a talented singer, actress and horsewoman, participating in horse jumping competitions and riding with the Fort Bliss Cavalry. But, her daughter remembers Helen Magruder simply as a wonderful person.

“She was an extraordinary, kind, loving person,” McIntyre explained. “I absolutely adored my mother. My mother and I were very close — we were extremely close.”

This affection between mother and daughter is evident in the stories McIntyre tells of her mother. For example, she recounts that in 1963 her mother joined her in Spain, where McIntyre spent her junior year of college. During that summer, McIntyre and her mother traveled across Spain and through Europe in a Volkswagen Beetle.

“She was an outstanding human being,”

McIntyre said. “She was extremely giving; very generous.”

That generosity lives on through Katherine McIntyre. The endowment created in her mother’s memory is the second one she has funded at UTEP. A scholarship for geology students was established in tribute to her father, Roy, in 2007.

Roy and Helen Magruder never had the opportunity to attend college, so McIntyre says she feels fortunate to be able to give talented students a chance to attain a college education. She hopes that others will be encouraged by her example of giving to support talented students and pay tribute to cherished family members.

“If you’re going to give [to UTEP], then the thing to do would be to honor the people that loved you,” she said. “My parents are the ones who gave me every opportunity. They’re the ones that made sure I did well.” 📌



## 1950s

**Mimi R. Gladstein** (B.A. '59; M.A. '66), professor in UTEP's Department of English, was named to the El Paso Holocaust Museum and Study Center's 2013 board of directors in February.

**Rosa E. Guerrero** (B.A. '57; M.Ed. '77), motivational speaker, humanitarian and educational consultant in El Paso, was selected as the First Lady of El Paso by the worldwide cultural organization Beta Sigma Phi. Beta Sigma Phi is a nonprofit organization that honors local women who have contributed to their community.

## 1960s

**Robert W. "Bill" Gilmer** (B.A. '68) was named the executive director at the University of Houston C. T. Bauer College of Business's Institute for Regional Forecasting in October.

**Carolyn M. Legoretta** (B.A. '69; M.Ed. '74), assistant principal at Andress High School in El Paso, was promoted to principal in February.

**Beth R. Lipson** (B.A. '69), of El Paso, was named to the El Paso Holocaust Museum and Study Center's 2013 board of directors in February.

**Lionel Nava** (B.A. '67; M.Ed. '76), retired principal and teacher in El Paso, was named to the 2013 Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of El Paso in February.

**Rose L. Schecter** (B.S.Ed. '67), of El Paso, was named president-elect of the El Paso Holocaust Museum and Study Center's 2013 board of directors in February.

## 1970s

**Gerald G. "Jerry" Barrett** (B.S.E.E. '70), of Austin, completed all the requirements in September 2012 to become a Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM), the highest educational achievement awarded by Toastmasters International (TI). TI is an educational organization focusing on the development of communication and leadership skills. Jerry was honored in the DTM Ceremony during the Toastmasters District 55 (Central and South Texas) 2012 Conference, held in Austin in November. At the same conference, Jerry was recognized as the District 55 Toastmaster of the Year for 2012-13.

**Vernon L. Butler, Jr.** (B.A. '71; M.S. '74), interim superintendent of the El Paso Independent School District, was the guest speaker at the El Paso Independent School District Military and Community Parent Academy in February.

**Lee O. Cannell** (B.B.A. '79; M.Acc. '93), El Paso Community College accounting instructor, was named vice president of finance for the El Paso Holocaust Museum and Study Center's 2013 board of directors in February.

**John Ceballos** (B.A. '78; M.S. '97), of El Paso, was recognized in January by the Benavidez-Patterson "All Airborne" Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association as Trooper of the Year for his meritorious and exemplary service. Trooper of the Year is the unit's highest honor.

**Hugo A. Clemente** (B.S. '79), of El Paso, received the Benavidez-Patterson "All Airborne" Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association's President's Citation in January for his support of the chapter.

**John F. Cook** (B.B.A. '77), mayor of the City of El Paso, was named the fifth-best mayor in the world in January by the City Mayors Foundation. The City Mayors Foundation, a London-based think tank intended to encourage solutions to problems such as housing, transportation, education and employment, recognizes mayors for their problem-solving abilities and high ethical standards.

**Norma De La Rosa** (B.S.Ed. '76; M.Ed. '86), El Paso Teachers Association president, was a panel member of the educational forum, "Social Justice in Public Education: A Call to Action from Ground Zero," in El Paso in January.

**Blanca E. Enriquez** (B.S.Ed. '75; M.Ed. '85), executive director of the Region 19 Education Service Center Head Start Program in El Paso, was appointed to the El Paso Independent School District's board of managers in December.

**Oscar G. Gabaldon, Jr.** (B.A. '79), El Paso County judge, spoke on "The Perilous Intersection between Immigration Enforcement and the Child Welfare System" in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on Nov. 14 at the annual retreat of the Board of Trustees for the Casey Family Programs. He also made the same presentation at the 2012 GCYF Annual Conference, "Investing in Promising Futures for All," at the El Paso Civic Center on Oct. 10.

**Carl H. Green** (B.A. '73), partner of law firm, Mounce, Green, Myers, Safi, Paxson & Galatzan PC in El Paso, was named a "Super Lawyer" by *Texas Monthly* magazine for 2012 in October. Super Lawyers is a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement.

**Debra C. "Debby" Hester** (B.B.A. '77) was named the No. 1 producer for El Paso real estate firm ERA Sellers, Buyers and Associates in January. Hester also was honored in December with the 2012 Leader's Circle award as a platinum top producer.

**Michael J. Hutson** (B.B.A. '79; B.A. '80), partner and attorney at the law firm Ainsa Hutson, LLP, in El Paso, was selected in November for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2013 in the area of real estate law. Best Lawyers is the oldest and highly respected peer-review publication in the legal profession.

**Lorraine Gordy O'Donnell** (B.S.Ed. '75; M.Ed. '85), of El Paso, joined Capella University as a Doctoral Mentor in September 2012. O'Donnell also instructs research and design courses at the University of Phoenix in El Paso.

## 1980s

**Laura A. Aguilar** (B.B.A. '86), paralegal at the law firm of Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP in El Paso, was named the 2013 secretary of the El Paso Paralegal Association's board of directors in February.

**Julio R. "Randy" Bañez** (B.B.A. '84), of El Paso, retired from the Alaska Army National Guard as a commander in February 2012.

**Annette R. Brigham** (B.S. '89), of Canutillo, Texas, was appointed interim superintendent of the Canutillo Independent School District in December.

**Lynda Camacho** (B.A. '82), paralegal at the law firm of ScottHulse P.C. in El Paso, was named 2013 president of public relations for the El Paso Paralegal Association's board of directors in February.

**Thomas J. Carrillo** (B.S.Ed. '82), an El Paso Baseball Hall of Fame inductee, retired as the Montwood High School head baseball coach in December.

**Peggy L. Dieter** (B.B.A. '87), paralegal at the law firm of Kemp Smith LLP in El Paso, was named the 2013 parliamentarian of the El Paso Paralegal Association's board of directors in February.

**Sara Y. "Bonnie" Escobar** (B.S. '85; M.P.A. '97), grant writer at El Paso consulting firm MJD & Associates, was named the vice president of programming for the El Paso Holocaust Museum and Study Center's 2013 board of directors in February.

**Yolanda A. Garcia** (B.B.A. '83), of El Paso, was named area president for Wells Fargo's Southwestern Border division in January. She will manage 800 Wells Fargo team members and 42 bank stores from western Arizona to southwestern New Mexico, including El Paso.

**Christopher L. "Chris" Jacke** (B.B.A. '89), former Green Bay Packers field goal kicker, was inducted into the NFL team's Hall of Fame in June.

**Annabell "Anna" Perez** (B.S. '89) was elected El Paso County 41st Judicial District Court judge in November.

**Guillermina Solis** (B.S.N. '86; Ph.D. '10), assistant clinical professor at UTEP's School of Nursing, received a \$2,500 grant in January from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health to implement the fall prevention program, A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model. The program will offer 40 El Paso County women, ages 55 and older, strategies to reduce their risk of falls and fall-related injuries.

**Alfonso Soto, III** (B.B.A. '86; M.Acc. '89), of El Paso, was named a FEMAP Foundation board officer for the fiscal year 2013-15 in February.

**John A. Wenke** (B.A. '89), attorney at the Law Office of John A. Wenke in El Paso, was named a Texas Super Lawyer in plaintiff's employment litigation. He was also selected to be included in the Best Lawyers in America in the area of employment law.

**David Zubia** (B.S.E.E. '89), associate professor of electrical and computer engineering in UTEP's College of Engineering, was awarded a three-year grant of \$895,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy to research the defects of solar cells and learn how to improve their efficiency.

## 1990s

**Matthew J. Aguilar** (B.A. '93), *El Paso Times* boxing columnist, of Chicago, was inducted into the El Paso Boxing Hall of Fame in April for his knowledge and insight of boxing history.

**Enrique Bernal, Jr.** (B.B.A. '96), of El Paso, was named Las Palmas Del Sol Healthcare's chief financial officer in November.

**Ana M. De Coste** (B.B.A. '91), accountant at Chisholm Trail Operating Co. LLC in El Paso, was named to the 2013 Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of El Paso in February.

**Edward "Ed" Escudero** (B.B.A. '92), president and chief executive officer of High Desert Capital LLC in El Paso, was named to the El Paso Electric Co. board of directors in December.



**David M. Hatton** (B.B.A. '94), of El Paso, joined Mt. Franklin Insurance agency in November.

**Elvia G. Hernandez** (B.A. '91), of Dallas, retired from LULAC, the largest Latino Civil Rights and advocacy group in the United States, in December. Hernandez was the director of District 4.

**Adan Lopez** (B.B.A. '93; M.Ed. '98), assistant principal of MacArthur Elementary/Intermediate School in El Paso, was named principal of Hughey Elementary School in February.

**Norma A. Mendoza** (B.A. '92), owner of MerKadoTeknia Research and Consulting in El Paso, conducted a workshop on marketing goals, sales, objectives and strategies at El Paso technology incubator The Hub of Human Innovation, in November.

**Richard D. Pineda** (M.A. '98), associate professor in the UTEP Department of Communication, was named the director of the Sam Donaldson Center for Communication Studies in February.

**Roderick G. "Rod" Ramirez** (B.B.A. '99), president and chief executive officer of El Paso financial services company Eagle Capital, Inc., was named to the 2013 Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of El Paso in February.

**Socorro E. Rodriguez** (B.B.A. '96), vice president and deputy controller at WestStar Bank in El Paso, was named to the 2013 Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of El Paso in February.

**Keith A. Rutherford** (B.S.C.E. '93; M.S.C.E. '95), professional engineer at Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc. in El Paso, was installed as vice president-technical, by the Texas Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers in November.

**Jesus J. "Jesse" Teran** (B.A. '97; M.Ed. '02), of El Paso, was named principal of Bowie High School in February. Teran is a 1989 Bowie High School graduate.

**Maribel Villalva** (B.A. '97) was named the UTEP Centennial Museum director in January.

**Jorge Villegas** (B.B.A. '94), attorney at Villegas Law Firm in El Paso, was named to the 2013 Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of El Paso in February.

**Lawrence P. Welsh** (M.F.A. '97), an El Paso Community College associate professor, whose eighth book, *"Begging for Vultures,"* was named a Notable Book by Southwest Books of the Year, won a 2012 New Mexico-Arizona Book Award for his newest collection of poetry, *"Begging for Vultures: New and Selected Poems 1994-2009,"* in its second printing, it also won a Southwest Notable Book of the Year Award.

**Sonia Zubiate** (B.A. '96), founder and director of the business etiquette coaching, training and consulting firm The Protocol Academy in El Paso, was the guest speaker at HireTimes Career and Coaching Group's networking event in November.

**2000s.....**  
**Loretta G. Aguilar** (B.I.S. '03), first grade teacher at Tornillo Elementary School in Tornillo, Texas, was named a STAR Discovery Educator by the Discovery Educator Network for her creative educational methods. The network, a subsidiary of Discovery Communications, which produces the Discovery

Channel, is made up of 10,000 educators around the globe who use digital media and technology to engage their students.

**Erik A. Baray** (B.A. '08) was named marketing and development manager at the Boys and Girls Clubs of El Paso in February.

**Marshall C. Barclay, Jr.** (M.B.A. '05), of El Paso, was honored as Lincoln Financial Advisors Corp.'s 2012 Financial Planner of Year in February.

**Miranda C. Barton** (M.A. '07), of El Paso, joined ScottHulse in November as an associate lawyer in the law firm's corporate and securities, lending and financial institutions, farm and ranch, and real estate sections.

**Jacob R. Boggs** (B.S. '03) was named executive director at SunRidge Senior Living at Desert Springs in El Paso in February.

**Sandra E. Braham** (M.Ed. '02; Ed.D. '05), executive director of the El Paso del Norte Region's YWCA, was selected in January to participate in the 2013 class of Leadership America. The program picks outstanding women from across the country that came from diverse personal, professional and geographic backgrounds.

**Roberto A. Coronado** (B.B.A. '00; M.S. '02), a visiting assistant professor in UTEP's College of Business Administration, spoke of the El Paso-Juárez economic trends at an El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce event in January.

**Kandolite N. Flores** (B.A. '09) joined the Humane Society of El Paso as the new program coordinator in January.

**Sofia M. Gonzalez-Garcia** (B.B.A. '07; M.B.A. '10) joined Security Service Federal Credit Union as manager of the Americas location in El Paso in November.

**Hafid A. Guerrero** (B.S.N. '07), a registered nurse at Sierra Providence Hospital in El Paso, received his Bariatric Nurse Certification from the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery in November 2012.

**Adrian Juarez** (M.S.N. '08), of New York City, earned his Doctor of Philosophy from New York University in August 2012. Also, Juarez has joined New York University as an adjunct professor.

**Isabel A. Meza** (B.B.A. '04), of El Paso, was promoted to assistant vice president of mortgage lending at Evolve Federal Credit Union in February.

**Jesus "Pablo" Oñate** (B.S.E.E. '05), NERC Compliance Group supervisor at El Paso Electric Co., was named to the 2013 Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of El Paso in February.

**Dyana Perez** (B.A. '07), paralegal at civil litigation firm Ray, Valdez, McChristian & Jeans in El Paso, was named the 2013 vice president of public relations for the El Paso Paralegal Association's board of directors in February.

**Laura Ponce** (M.P.A. '07), executive director of community action agency Project Bravo in El Paso, was named a Texas Lyceum director in February. Texas Lyceum is the state's pre-eminent non-profit, non-partisan leadership building organization.

**Punya Prakash** (M.S. '09), an applications engineer with Texas Instruments in Dallas, was named Top Innovator in the Engineering Stars Contest by *Design News*. Each year, *Design News* seeks the most innovative and influential design engineers.

**Justin M. Pretiger** (B.B.A. '03), financial adviser at Morgan Stanley in El Paso, was named to the Ysleta Education Foundation board and the El Paso Holocaust Museum and Study Center's 2013 board of directors in February.

**Jana L. Renner** (M.P.A. '08), of El Paso, was named an associate program officer at Paso del Norte Health Foundation in November.

**Guillermo "Willie" Romo** (B.S. '03) was named Montwood High School's head baseball coach in December.

**Linda A. Samples** (B.A. '02) joined the El Paso Independent School District as the district's first in-house attorney in January.

**Margarita "Magali" Silva Reyes** (B.A. '00), a Lone Star College-Montgomery student success adviser and 2012 Lone Star College Leadership Academy graduate, was accepted to Prairie View A & M University in Prairie View, Texas in January. Reyes, who was awarded a full tuition scholarship, is pursuing a Master of Education in Educational Administration.

**Zahira Torres** (B.A. '07), a former *El Paso Times* reporter, was honored in January with *Governing* magazine's top public service journalism award in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes her work in uncovering a widespread cheating scheme in the El Paso Independent School District.

**2010s.....**  
**Jorge R. Almuina** (B.B.A. '10) joined the accounting firm of White + Samaniego + Campbell in El Paso as an assurance services and audit team member in February.

**Gregory C. "Greg" Foster** (B.M.S. '11), former UTEP basketball standout and 1990 WAC Tournament MVP, was honored as a Miner Legend in February. Foster was a member of the Los Angeles Lakers' 2001 world championship team and also reached the NBA Finals twice with the Utah Jazz.

**Cynthia Ann Gabaldón** (B.S. Chemistry '11, B.S. Biology '12) was awarded First Place for Best Oral Presentation at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Paul L. Foster School of Medicine's 6th Annual Research Colloquium (May 1 - 3, 2012) for Outstanding Professional Achievement in Research.

**Alejandra Maynez** (B.S.C.E. '10; M.S. '11) was promoted to chief estimator at Venegas Engineering Management & Construction, Inc. in El Paso in February.

**Alexis Montoya** (B.M. '11), of Mexico City, was voted the winner of Mexico's singing competition series, *La Academia*, in December.

**Jalyssa J. Walker** (B.S. '12), a 2nd Lt. in the U.S. Army, broke the Guinness World Record for backflips in November when she completed 49 backflips.



## IN MEMORIAM

Steven R. Ward (B.A. '02) El Paso; Aug. 18, 2012.

Betty Helen Donovan (B.A. '52; M.Ed. '72) Garland, Texas; Sept. 22, 2012.

Phyllis H. Meserow (B.A. '42) Sauk City, Wis.; Oct. 17, 2012.

Barbara J. Penn (M.Ed. '79) El Paso; Oct. 25, 2012.

William J. Butterfly (B.S.Ed. '73) Puyallup, Wash.; Oct. 26, 2012.

Geraldine C. "Jukie" Myklebust (B.A. '51; M.A. '65) El Paso; Oct. 26, 2012.

Sigurd "Sig" Rosen (B.B.A. '50) El Paso; Nov. 1, 2012.

Lois F. Walker (B.S.Ed. '67; M.Ed. '71) Horizon City, Texas; Nov. 1, 2012.

William F. "Bill" Mayhall (B.B.A. '56) Albuquerque, N.M.; Nov. 4, 2012.

Jacqueline E. Crysler (B.A. '55; M.Ed. '66) El Paso; Nov. 6, 2012.

Evangeline O. "Vangie" Sotelo (B.A. '72) El Paso; Nov. 6, 2012.

Gordon L. Hanna (M.Ed. '63) Colorado Springs, Colo.; Nov. 8, 2012.

Edward H. Casner, Sr. (B.B.A. '46) El Paso; Nov. 9, 2012.

Michael C. Aguirre (B.S.E.E. '56) Bloomington, Minn.; Nov. 11, 2012.

Patrick E. Ready (B.A. '73) Austin; Nov. 11, 2012.

Mary M. Smarr (B.S.Ed. '65) El Paso; Nov. 13, 2012.

Kevin T. Von Finger (M.S. '76) El Paso; Nov. 14, 2012.

Arturo Hernandez (B.A. '73) El Paso; Nov. 20, 2012.

Roberto R. Suarez, Jr. (B.S. '86; M.P.A. '89) El Paso; Nov. 20, 2012.

James M. Carroll (B.S.Ed. '84) El Paso; Nov. 27, 2012.

Doris I. Goodman (B.A. '80; M.A. '82) El Paso; Nov. 30, 2012.

Charlie R. Beasley (B.B.A. '73; M.Ed. '77) El Paso; Dec. 1, 2012.

Tedford C. "Ted" Baker (B.S.Ed. '67) El Paso; Dec. 03, 2012.

Ethel R. Schwartz (M.A. '53) El Paso; Dec. 5, 2012.

William R. Plumbley (B.A. '54; M.Ed. '70) Marfa, Texas; Dec. 6, 2012.

Emma Velasquez (B.B.A. '77) El Paso; Dec. 6, 2012.

Tony E. Lama, Jr. (B.A. '54) El Paso; Dec. 7, 2012.

Otis W. Patrick (M.S. '64) Loveland, Colo.; Dec. 8, 2012.

Barbara Bohmfalk (B.S. '44) Waynesboro, Va.; Dec. 9, 2012.

James H. "Jim" Black (B.B.A. '49) Glendale, Ariz.; Dec. 12, 2012.

Humberto A. Fierro (B.S.C.E. '67) El Paso; Dec. 13, 2012.

Walter A. "Ray" Raymond (B.S.Ed. '69) El Paso; Dec. 14, 2012.

Adolfo Fernandez, Jr. (B.B.A. '80; M.B.A. '91; M.Ed. '96; Ed.D. '00) El Paso; Dec. 15, 2012.

William H. Brown, II (B.A. '67) El Paso; Dec. 21, 2012.

ja E. Given (M.Ed. '74) El Paso; Dec. 21, 2012.

Martha E. Bullington (B.A. '46) Austin; Dec. 22, 2012.

Robert M. Stevenson (B.A. '36) Santa Monica, Calif.; Dec. 22, 2012.

Tom "Tommy" Augustain (B.S.Ed. '82) El Paso; Dec. 24, 2012.

Jesse E. Ashley (B.S. '53) Glen Ellyn, Ill.; Dec. 26, 2012.

Robert W. Warden (B.A. '51; M.A. '52) Flagstaff, Ariz.; Dec. 26, 2012.

Rochelle Nieman (B.S.Ed. '71) El Paso; Dec. 30, 2012.

Roger G. Parks (B.S.Ed. '64; M.Ed. '68) Socorro, Texas; Dec. 30, 2012.

James C. Hargraves (B.A. '71) El Paso; Dec. 31, 2012.

Ann Gray Noblett (B.A. '56) Buford, Ga.; Dec. 31, 2012.

Godofredo R. "G. R." Sundermann (B.B.A. '73) El Paso; Jan. 1, 2013.

Alfred M. Villanueva (B.A. '92) El Paso; Jan. 5, 2013.

Waldo R. Allen, Jr. (B.B.A. '69) El Paso; Jan. 6, 2013.

Paul W. Tims (B.S.Ed. '77) Clint, Texas; Jan. 7, 2013.

Aileen Marston Stenbridge (B.A. '44) San Antonio; Jan. 8, 2013.

Dorothy E. "Dot" Hunt (B.A. '41) El Paso; Jan. 11, 2013.

Luis Miranda (B.B.A. '71) El Paso; Jan. 12, 2012.

Newton D. "Bud" Lassiter (B.A. '43) El Paso; Jan. 13, 2013.

George F. Schabel (B.B.A. '74) San Antonio; Jan. 13, 2013.

Lloyd H. Nations (B.A. '49) Bakersfield, Calif.; Jan. 14, 2013.

Terry A. Flores (B.I.S. '96) El Paso; Jan. 18, 2013.



## Ralph Martinez

By Daniel Perez

Ralph Martinez, Ph.D., whose grandfatherly appearance belied his fiery passion for his students and his research into cyber security and renewable energy, died suddenly of a pulmonary embolism on April 2. He was 69.

Martinez was the George W. Edwards, Jr./El Paso Electric distinguished professor in the College of Engineering and was The University of Texas at El Paso's director of energy initiatives and of its Regional Cyber and Energy Security Center.

The center, one of the few in the country that focused on the critical areas of energy and information security infrastructure, was his dream job because of the subject and the chance to work with students, said Ricardo L. Pineda, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Industrial, Manufacturing and Systems Engineering.

"He was dedicated to his students and committed to their academic and professional success," Pineda said. "He will be a tough act to follow."

Martinez grew up in a working class El Paso family. The first-generation college student earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from UTEP in 1966 (then Texas Western College) and '68, respectively, and his doctorate from the University of Arizona in 1976. He worked in academia and industry, including stints with the U.S. military and defense contractors.

"His legacy could be his joy in everything in life," said his wife, Nina Alvan-Martinez. "He had an innocence about things even though he knew the ugliness of the world because of what he did and why he had to do it."



## Moira Murphy

By Lisa Y. Garibay

Moira Murphy, Ph.D., visiting professor in the Latin American and Border Studies Program, died March 18 at age 49.

"She was a very kind human being and will be missed a lot by many faculty members and students," said Sandra Garabano, Ph.D., associate professor and graduate director/Spanish interim director of the Center for Inter-American and Border Studies. A number of Murphy's UTEP colleagues and students expressed their gratitude

for what she had done for them in an online guestbook linked to her obituary in the *Boston Globe*.

Murphy received her bachelor's degree from Brown University, a master's degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, and her doctorate in Latin American Studies from the University of New Mexico. She was a Fulbright Scholar in Mexico in 1996 and a Rotary Fellow in Peru in 1986.

She taught for more than a decade at the Tecnológico de Monterrey in Juárez, Mexico, where she won several distinguished professor awards. She began teaching at UTEP in 2006 while also publishing books and articles on border trade and human rights.

Throughout her career, Murphy studied how changing global economics affect people in Latin America, with a special focus on business relations between the United States and Mexico, as well as the effects of capitalist development on women.



## Robert Tappan

By Lisa Y. Garibay

Robert L. Tappan, Ph.D., retired associate professor in the Department of Languages and Linguistics, died on March 7 at age 89.

Tappan was born in El Paso, then moved around the United States with his family as his father's military posts changed. He returned to El Paso at age 9, graduating from El Paso High School in 1940. He attended UTEP (then known as the Texas College of

Mines) until he enlisted in the Army Air Corps, serving 18 months in the United States and 18 months in the Caribbean where Nazi subs were operating.

In 1946, after finishing his tour of duty, he resumed his education at UTEP, receiving his B.B.A. in 1946 and his master's in business in 1948.

He went on to earn a Ph.D. in foreign languages from Tulane University in 1954. In the summer of 1964, he studied in France under a Fulbright Scholarship.

Tappan taught at UTEP from 1954 to 1982, taking an early retirement at the age of 58.

After retirement, he traveled the world and became known as a celebrated thespian.

"He had many friends in Ruidoso (N.M.), where he had a cabin and many wonderful times for 45 years," said Tappan's niece, Claire Lewis. "He had a great love for animals, supported many charitable organizations, and loved to entertain his many friends and family members." 🐾



# MINERS AROUND THE WORLD



The University of Texas at El Paso asked Facebook fans to submit photos of themselves wearing UTEP gear during their travels around the world. Here are some of the photos submitted.



**1)** Eric Hernandez, senior management student, wore his UTEP Miners shirt while traveling through Europe. Here he poses in front of Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin.



**2)** Margarita Medina, M.Ed., rhetoric and writing studies graduate student, takes in the sights atop the Empire State Building in New York City. She was part of an English graduate class taught by UTEP Associate Professor Ezra Cappell, Ph.D., titled, "New York Through the Literary Imagination."



**3)** Miguel Ayala (B.A., 2006) former UTEP basketball player, and his wife, Libby Ayala (B.S., 2008), are all smiles in Chichen Itza, Mexico.



**4)** Darrell Cleavenger (B.B.A., 1980; B.S., 1982) proudly displays UTEP colors while visiting the Great Wall of China just outside the city of Beijing. He says he loves to meet people and experience cultures while traveling around the world.



**5)** Alfredo Tovar (B.B.A., 1974) and his wife, Nell, pose with a giant tortoise in the Highlands of Santa Cruz Island, Galapagos Islands.



**6)** Liz Paxton, senior criminal justice major, wears her UTEP Miner gear while visiting Guanacaste, Costa Rica.

To submit a Miners Around the World photo for possible inclusion in *UTEP Magazine*, send the photo and caption information to [univcomm@utep.edu](mailto:univcomm@utep.edu).





The University of Texas at El Paso  
University Communications  
500 W. University Ave.  
El Paso, Texas 79968-0522  
[www.utep.edu](http://www.utep.edu)

NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
BURLINGTON, VT  
05401  
PERMIT 67

SAVE *the* DATE

# HOMECOMING GAME

2013

OCTOBER 5



## HOMECOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 29 — OCTOBER 5

4TH ANNUAL UTEP COMMITMENT TO FITNESS 5K RUN/ 2K WALK

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AND GOLD NUGGET AWARDS

HOMECOMING PARADE AND PEP RALLY

CHEER ON YOUR UTEP MINERS AS THEY TAKE ON LOUISIANA TECH OCT. 5 IN THE SUN BOWL.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO