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Centennial Newsletter

UTEP 2014 Commission

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO CENTENNIAL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 3 (JUNE 2012)



From the UTEP 2014 Commission

During the month of May, the Marketing, Outreach, and Keepsakes & Publications committees met to determine key strategies and to prioritize initiatives for the Centennial Celebration. All three committees prepared extensive plans outlining their portion of Centennial planning. On June 5, the Executive Committee endorsed the recommendations prepared by these three committees. It also reviewed the emerging big picture of Centennial events and the ideas for reaching the defined audiences as the first step toward identifying priorities for the immediate future. These proposals and priorities are now en route for review and budgetary planning by the University's leadership. The transition from brainstorming to implementation is now fully underway.

UTEP History

The campus of The University of Texas at El Paso has grown extensively over the past century. After a fire destroyed its original site, the school moved to its current location where it has grown from five buildings in 1917 to more than seventy today. Nearly all of the buildings have incorporated Bhutanese architectural elements—massive sloping walls, high inset windows, overhanging roofs, and dark bands of brick inset with mosaic-tiled mandalas. Today, Bhutanese tapestries, wood carvings, and flags also decorate the campus.

The inspiration for the architecture came when Kathleen Worrell, wife of the school's first dean, saw pictures of Bhutanese monasteries in a 1914 issue of *National Geographic Magazine*. Her husband, Dean Stephen Worrell, agreed to adopt the style and the Board of Regents allocated \$100,000 to fund construction. The Worrell home has also become part of campus and is today known as the Heritage House. Here Mrs. Worrell's scrapbook is on display in a vast collection of memorabilia including everything from freshmen beanies to legislative records. Learn more at alumni.utep.edu/heritage.

Centennial on Campus

Historical treasures are hiding on campus. Dozens of old maps and plans were nearly thrown away in Planning and Construction. Hundreds of reels of film were discovered in a storage facility near Memorial Gym. Newspaper clippings, departmental histories, and administrative records have been recovered. Staff and faculty who find these treasures win prizes in the "Centennial Treasure Hunt." Follow the hunt on the *Transformations* history blog (<http://transformations.utep.edu>).



Centennial Conversation

On January 30, a distinguished group of faculty, staff, and students met at the Hoover House to share plans for the Centennial. The guests discussed the installation of public art or a water fountain on campus, the need to establish traditions and make them central to campus life, and the mechanisms for incorporating student contributions into Centennial planning.

On the Team



In the spring semester of 2012, nearly 100 undergraduate students were named to the inaugural class of 21st Century Scholars, chosen by their respective deans for their demonstrated leadership, academic achievement, and potential to become a campus leader.

In February, President Natalicio and 2014 Commission Co-Chairs Laura Tate Goldman and Ed Escudero met with the scholars to discuss plans for the coming Centennial. Working in teams, the scholars compiled several ideas for strengthening traditions on campus and celebrating UTEP's Centennial. Among their ideas for new traditions were to celebrate community service, encourage "Orange" Fridays around town, host a "Bring Your Family to UTEP" day, visit elementary schools, invite more involvement with alumni, and decorate the campus during the winter holidays.

Contact Information

For anything to do with UTEP's Centennial Celebration, please email 2014@utep.edu.

Learn more about UTEP's history at the *Transformations* history blog, <http://transformations.utep.edu>.

Donate to the Centennial Campaign at <http://www.campaignforutep.org/>.

The official website of the Centennial Celebration is <http://2014.utep.edu>.

The Centennial staff works in room 403 of the Administration Building. Call them at 915-747-5362.

UTEP Culture Quiz



Many UTEP buildings are decorated with colorful mandalas. Which color represents the thing that every student hopes for—memory?

- A. yellow
- B. blue
- C. red

[Click here for the answer](#)

