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Roberto Dominguez, SGA president shares his plans for presidency

Roberto Dominguez

He assured them that his main goal was to have more direct contact with the student body at UTEP. “I definitely want to see more interaction between SGA and the student body this year,” Dominguez said. Casually dressed in a T-shirt, blue jeans and a cap, Dominguez seemed at ease. The following is a Q and A with the newly appointed SGA president.

Q.) You ran as an independent candidate during your campaign for president. Do you feel that is reflective of the current student body?

A.) A lot of the student body are independent, we’re on our way. We come to school, we work, we do our jobs. We are a commuter school. We all have our own agenda. That being considered, I thought that maybe more people would want to run for SGA seats independently, but they shy away because they don’t know people from a party or reasons of that nature.

That is one of the things I want to communicate this year—that if you want to, you don’t have to run with a party. You can run by yourself. If you have the initiative and the objective for change, you should run regardless of belonging to a party. Perhaps more people can identify with people who don’t necessarily belong to a group.

Q.) During your campaign, you had to socially put yourself out there. How do you plan to continue doing so now as president?

A.) That is exactly what I want to do with SGA as president. My main concern is talking to students. It starts with going to the classroom and around campus to introduce myself and let them know what my plans are. Not only the classroom, but if people are just sitting around campus, then I have that opportunity, too. During my campaign, I wasn’t always looking for a big group of people. I would sit down with two people and introduce myself. I would get on Miner Metro, in the Union while people ate and introduced my plans. I plan to continue doing the same now as SGA president. If we’re going to be the students’ voice, we need to listen to them.

Q.) The keys jingle as he opens the door to his new presidential office and Roberto Dominguez, junior biochemistry major, smiles back at his fellow Student Government Association-elected officers.

He welcomes them in. “This is your office as well,” he tells the other representatives, who walk in to see the spacious quarters. “Feel welcomed all the time.”

Dominguez officially began his presidential term on June 9, and he’s the time. “Feel welcomed all the time,” he tells the other representatives, who walk in to see the spacious quarters. “Feel welcomed all the time.”

According to Waggoner, the UTEP Women’s Studies Program has been involved with the LGBT community, and next year’s pride week will kick off the opening of the exhibit at the Centennial Museum. “This project will be a reflection of a community that had been disrespected by the community leaders,” Waggoner said. “There are plenty of people of power who do not re espect [LGBT] work or ours. There is strong institutional biases in the community.” He also reported that UTEP was not a sponsor of the event, but El Paso Community College was.

During the event, four scholarships were awarded to one absent recipient, two college students including Waggoner and one high school senior, Sylvia Turnan.

Turnan is a student–at Andrews High School and identifies herself as a lesbian. She explained that she applied for the scholarship because she plans on attending the nursing program at New Mexico State University. As a requirement, Turnan wrote three essays and in one included the memory of her deceased friend who saw PRIDE on page 3.
Save the Lincoln Center

By Aaron Montes

The Lincoln Center situation highlights the reality that if the local or state governments wanted to, they could more than likely use your property where the Lincoln Center is located, it is not a private company. The agency, as a government entity, is supposed to be designed to work for the people, not the other way around.

It is a question of whether state government is overstepping its bounds. It is also valid to point out that TxDOT suggested that "flying cars" were an issue of concern for the area, and pointed out the accident that included two road construction workers, who were working near UTEP and were hit by a car, as an example.

The Lincoln Center situation highlights the reality that if the local or state governments wanted to, they could more than likely use your neighborhood for a project whether you protested or not.

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Sunday night, the Lincoln Center quickly retaliated and said "when was the last time a car flew over the area?"

Despite protests from Lincoln Center preservationists, the chair of TxDOT, Ted Houghton, explained that there was not enough "heat in hell" to fly over the area.

Want one?

I've eaten of worse things before.

Typical El Paso Heat!

This pool was located south of the Centennial Museum. It opened on August 18, 1945. It was built for interscholastic swimming and diving meets. Students paid a 25-cent fee, which covered the pools’ upkeep and operations. In 1975, a roof structure was built to enclose the pool and in the mid-1990s the pool was torn down and the Undergraduate Learning Center was constructed.
CAMPUS

Spring commencement makes UTEP history

BY ERIC ALBA
The Prospector

The May 17 centennial commencement ceremony was special, there was a huge audience, "I was among 2,800 graduates, and although we were from different colleges, we all shared that special moment," Diaz said. "The celebration of this shared success was special, there was a huge audience, the fireworks display was amazing, I loved it. It was an incredible graduation." Assistant Vice President for University Relations Alberto Lopez took the lead in organizing the commencement ceremony. Lopez said the biggest goal for the ceremony was putting up their events up on social media as soon as possible. "I want to bring more attention to them. That is something that I want to do," Lopez said. "It will forever be memorable," he said. "Not only did I graduate at the age of 21, but I could not be more proud to have been part of UTEP's centennial graduation."

Lopez said the centennial graduation was special because it was the first time since May of 1998 that it was the first since May of 1998 that the information was not readily available, "The university was prepared due to different conditions such as the weather. Everything is still being planned out, but the department plans on making the commencement just as special as the spring ceremony."

Lopez added what made this centennial graduation most special was that it was the first since May of 1998 to take place at the Sun Bowl Stadium. 

Q.) You've said you plan on a lot of student interaction during your presidency, especially with bringing student ideas up during discussions. How do you plan on doing so?
A.) First off, we're going to continue to have a white board, where students can write their opinions, ideas, suggestions or comments—whether they're good or bad. We will divide all the comments into categories and hold panels. During the panels, we'll invite the different administrations or departments involved with the student's comments.

For instance, if the comments entail parking, we'll bring in parking administration. Of course, students are invited to attend.

I also want to establish a community where students can be directly involved with SGA. Where you don't have to be part of it to help us out. We'll transform, hear their ideas and suggestions.

A simple, but also big thing is that I'm going to have everyone's office hours posted outside of the office, and a website so that when someone wants to speak to anyone, we are here for them. Accessibility is key with me.

Q.) You've mentioned you want to better student events and student life. What are your plans for that?
A.) I want to establish a lot more community service. Project More is great, but it's only once a year. If we can have more events like it, that would be great. I plan on teaming up with Minor Volunteer Corp. We have a committee called Student Affairs, and I want to help students from different colleges interact. Of course, during the first few months, I'm going to talk to students and see what kind of events they would like.

Q.) You've mentioned you have ideas for monetary awards for students. How do you plan on implementing them?
A.) We already have that going on! It's called the D.L.G. symposium (Dream Innovative Grow). The concept behind it started last year, where we wanted to award financial help not just to those with the adequate GPA, but for anyone that get that assistance. What students need to do is present an idea of how to improve different aspects of our university. We pick the top 10 and present at the symposium. A panel of judges will choose the three winners. VPSA (Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs) also helps us award money to students with innovative ideas on how to improve student life.

Q.) As a biochemistry major, what plans do you have regarding your department? What about other less predominant departments?
A.) We have a lot of undergraduates doing research that students are just not aware of. The UTE System publishes a magazine with all of the research they are undergoing, and I think that something of the kind would recruit more undergraduate students.

A mentoring program would be ideal, too. We want to generate encouragement to share ideas.

That's the only way to ensure that all the voices are heard. That helps that voices outside of SGA are heard as well. At the end of the day, we all decided we all wanted to serve the student.

As long as we all want to serve our student body, we all should have the same platform. Yes, different ideas and different perspectives will fly and we will grow throughout the term, but the same idea will remain. We are all excited to help the university and its students.

"I plan to continue with that. For example, I want to post video monthly reports that showcase what we are working on. I realize that most students don't always check their email, but they constantly check their social media outlets. SGA will definitely be putting up their events up on there."

PRIDE from page 1

Q.) You've mentioned you want more collaboration between SGA officials and yourself during your term. You've stated everyone had great ideas, but it works better if you work in unity. How are you going to ensure that happens?
A.) I start with helping one another. We need to get to know each other so well that we understand that we are a team. I advocate for transparency amongst ourselves and encouragement to share ideas.

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**Miguel Juárez fights to save the Lincoln Center**

**BY AARON MONTES**

The Prospector

At night, his mind is lost in thought—the only source that powers his brain is his ambition to preserve the historic Lincoln Center. Some think he’s nuts, but he feels that it’s his duty to fight for the community that he loves. His passion is evident in the way he talks about the building, which he has called home for over a decade.

Miguel Juárez, doctoral student in borderlands history at UTEP, is an LCCC spokesperson. When approached, he automatically brings his hand up to shake yours.

As a spokesperson, Juárez is usually one of the first contacts the media makes when talking about the Lincoln Center. As a communicator between supporters and the public, Juárez has 5,000 followers on Facebook. After city council meetings, business meetings and plans for the future, he is either on Facebook feeding information to other supporters or scheduling an event.

In the morning, he is up by 6 a.m. to give a presentation or lecture aside from his daily efforts to preserve the center. A constant reminder that a whole community relies on him arrives when his phone lights up with a notification from Facebook. A glimpse at the conversation shows concerns and the need for water bottles, food, and business plans for the future. He takes this with him and where or when the next rally will take place.

Not a vocal person, he is still able to articulate the cause for the supporters’ efforts during a celebration in front of the center.

"¡Viva la Raza!" he said. "¡Viva la Raza!" they reply.

"Si Se Puede!" he said. "Si Se Puede!" they reply.

"We need to preserve our culture and our arts," he said.

That’s all the fiery speech he has for the audience, but it’s effective enough for them to understand he is with them and understands them. During the rally, children play soccer and run around the stage area happily, not knowing why their parents brought them. Noticing them, he points and says, "We want a place for them to come and learn about the history of their culture. These are the people, the children that we are doing it for. And the rest of the pueblo that doesn’t know their identity.”

After advocating for the center, he returns home to his wife and begins thinking about his next move.

Brought up in L.A. during the 1960s, Juárez was influenced by the Chicano movement. Juárez met people, the children that we are doing it for. And the rest of the pueblo that doesn’t know their identity.”

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Brought up in L.A. during the 1960s, Juárez was influenced by the Chicano movement. Juárez met many Chicano artists including the late Gilbert "Magú" Luáñ. Juárez explained that the work of Chicano artists and what writers wrote about in their literary works dealt with social issues, and this is what inspired him to do the same in El Paso.

Juárez has a bachelor’s degree in history from UTEP. He also has a master’s degree in library science from the State University of New York in Buffalo, and in border history from UTEP. As a doctoral student, Juárez focuses on borderland and urban history and digital humanities.

He has authored the book "Colonos on Desert Walls: the Murals of El Paso" and has had work cited in "Since the beginning, we knew this would be 50-50," said. "I feel that they (the city and TxDOT) are broken our momentum, " Juárez said. "We intend on fighting them to the end."

"I think TxDOT thinks they have it’s not another. It keeps changing, " he said. "It’s a war of words, rhetoric."}

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Miguel Juárez, LCCC Spokesperson

Juárez said he was frustrated with city council’s vote not to fund the center and to cancel its injunction against TxDOT. Though he is disappointed, he remains hopeful that the community will prevail.

“I think TxDOT thinks they have broken our momentum,” Juárez said. “We intend on fighting them to the end.”

Aaron Montes may be reached at theprospectordailynews@gmail.com.
StreetFest exceeds fans expectations

BY ANDREA ACOSTA

El Paso continues to be entertained by numerous events such as the annual StreetFest, which will take place downtown on June 21-22. Organizers said they will tune everyone to the same happy frequency.

Three Days Grace and The All-American Rejects will be featured on the Budweiser main stage as headlining bands at this two-day festival. Other bands, such as The Wallflowers, Fozzy and other local bands, will be performing in one of the five music stages, playing all types of music, including country/alternative, Latin and electronic.

“I’m very excited to attend StreetFest this year. They seem to be adding a lot more activities in which people can participate in, ” said Edgar De La Torre, graduate electrical engineering major. “I always have a blast and this year will be no exception. Two of my favorite bands made it to the lineup and I can’t wait to see them live. ”

According to Veronica Hernandez, live events manager, this festival has improved over the years and as a result has constantly attracted tourism to the city, which has brought more positive exposure to El Paso.

“It is very important that we continue to bring in large international acts, ” Hernandez said. “For many years we’ve heard that there is nothing to do in El Paso, which is why I feel that with the growth and movement we have seen these past few years, we are making our way to put the city on the map as an entertainment destination. ”

New this year is the incorporation of the Arts and Craft Park, which will feature live art from local artists. All types of art including graffiti, chalk, art, paint and wall murals will be considered in this contest. The StreetFest committee will then select the best work that will be featured at the Arts and Craft Park.

“Each artist selected will then be given a 10-by-10 foot canvas area on the ground of the Arts Festival Plaza and will have approximately three hours to complete their art work,” Hernandez said. “After the festival, the committee will vote on the best art display and the winner will receive $100. ”

In addition, the rest of the artists will be able to sell their work to StreetFest guests.

PRIDE WEEK

Festival and parade promote awareness

The El Paso Sun City Pride Fest and Pride Parade took place June 7 in honor of the annual pride week festivities.
Top 5 summer getaway places to vacation

BY ASHLEY MUÑOZ / THE PROSPECTOR

This summer, it’s all about vacationing. No more projects or homework to worry about, unless you’re stuck in a summer job or school. However, a simple getaway to these places can be easy. Just pack up for a weekend to get away from it all.

1. CLOUDCROFT, NEW MEXICO

Deep in the heart of New Mexico, Cloudcroft offers a weekend’s worth of fun away from El Paso or just plain old work. Cloudcroft offers many family-friendly activities such as hiking, camping or wearing the “cloud-climbing” railroad located in the Lincoln National Forest. The Lodge, a well-known hotel/lodging resort, offers fine dining and even a little terror. A ghost named Rebecca is said to haunt the halls of The Lodge. Other attractions include the Sacramento Museum, a small quaint cabin-like museum that tells the stories of how people adapted back in the day. Just an hour away from our Sun City, Cloudcroft can be a small town with big fun for any age in mind.

2. SITTING BULL FALLS, CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO:

Just past the city of Truth or Consequences, Elephant Butte Lake State Park offers a day out—enjoying the water and good company. The lake is pet friendly, which is great for bringing the family mascot out on a little trip. There is hiking and water activities available as well as campgrounds for fishing and gathering. The state park also provides the opportunity to visit nearby ghost towns of Kingston and Hillsboro. Nothing can beat the classic family road trip to a lake, and with the park being only one hour away, it’s worth it.

3. ELEPHANT BUTTE LAKE STATE PARK, NEW MEXICO

The state park also provides the opportunity to visit nearby ghost towns of Kings- ton and Hillsboro. Nothing can beat the classic family road trip to a lake, and with the park being only one hour away, it’s worth it.

4. HATCH, NEW MEXICO

Located in Doña Ana County, Hatch is a small village known for its chile and its annual chile festival. However, this small village has a geographic wonder of its own. As you drive up the back roads of Anthony, New Mexico, the mountains will begin to captivate you. The greenery and charm allows you just to enjoy the open road and nothing else. Along the road is a hamburger diner known as Sparky’s, where you can get a quick bite while getting a taste of the scene.

5. EL PASO, TEXAS

Home sweet home, sure there is some who say there is nothing to do in El Paso, but many haven’t explored and truly appreciate what we do have. El Paso offers the Franklin Mountains National Park, where hiking can be good for the soul. The museums of El Paso showcase interesting exhibits. The new ballpark adds another exciting activity for the family. Ascarate Park, is a man-made lake, that brings beauty to the Sun City. Families can go and have a small picnic and share stories that will surely make it worthwhile. You may not be able to vacation some- where else, but who says you can vacation here at home and have a wonderful time and make new memories.

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4
Miners advance to NCAA Championships

Rotich leads the pack in hopes of repeated success

BY LUIS BARRIO
The Prospector

Eugene, Oregon will be the site of the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships from June 11-14. It will be the culmination of a season based on the discipline and hard work of every athlete in the country who performed well enough to qualify for a spot there.

In total, the Miners have seven athletes making the trip to Oregon. Needled in the greenness of the Pacific Northwest, Eugene is known as Track Town USA.

The sport is as large, if not larger, than the football and basketball programs at the University of Oregon. Since the season began, the Miners recognized this was the ultimate goal, but stayed grounded on the task at hand. The Miners have been training since the fall semester.

The most recent hurdle to Eugene was the NCAA West Preliminaries. The women's 4x100-meter relay team consisted of All-American Janice Jackson, Anna-Kay James, Ayanna Stoverene and Florence Uwakwe. This team was the first of the preliminary competitors to qualify for a national spot.

Of the members on the relay team, Jackson and James will both compete in the 100-meter hurdles. Jackson posted a time of 13.40—her best of the season.

"My coach told me to run my preliminary like it was the finals. I really tried to focus on that," Jackson said.

For the most part, head coach Mika Laaksonen said that the competition participating in the preliminaries would resemble that of the competition to be faced in Oregon.

For Jackson, it's her start to every race that she is not happy with. She'll come out a little slower than she would like, then turn on the jets and finish strong. It is something she says has been a problem all year, but is getting better.

"Part of it is a habit. The other part is I am thinking too much," Jackson said. "I'm not as in the zone as I should be in the beginning as I am in the end." Jackson has been leading the squad all year—with her performance, her preparation and her willingness to guide the younger runners.

"Janice is the natural leader. She is kind of the leader of the whole team, boys and girls side," said Laaksonen.

Jackson would offer little tidbits of advice throughout the season to her teammates. The one thing she has stressed was relationships with the coach. She preached that it is not enough to simply ask the coach about their times, but to sit down and establish good and productive sessions with the coach.

"The Miners' track and field team is a hidden treasure that many are not aware of," said the coach. "The team has plenty of talent and are precious gems. In 2013, Anthony Rotich claimed six first-place finishes, including the NCAA Championship in the steeplechase, recording a school record time of 8:21.9.

Expectations for Rotich are nothing short of victory.

A sad sight will not be seeing All-American Mark Jackson competing for the West Preliminaries. Jackson injured a hamstring, which sidelined him and ended his college career. The team has been prepping and taking their season one day at a time. They do not get ahead of themselves and they stick to a routine.

In a sport where every millisecond matters, patience seems a bit out of the question.

"Janice is the natural leader. She is kind of the leader of the whole team, boys and girls side."

- Track and Field Head Coach
Mika Laaksonen

MICHELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Top-Freshman Florence Uwakwe and Senior Janice Jackson are two of the four Miners competing in the women's 4x100-meter relay.

Bottom-Junior Anthony Rotich is the odds on favorite to win the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase in Eugene, Oregon.

It is no longer a marathon race to the NCAA—the time has come and gone. This team was the first of the preliminary competitors to qualify, with the Men's 4x400-meter relay. Jackson and James are postured in running, timing and awareness when passing the baton and getting the right acceleration on the gun will all be showcases for one weekend in June.

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The champion will be South American. In the previous four South American World Cups, the last team standing was South American. The last time the World Cup was held in Brazil, the host made it to the final in Maracana Stadium in front of a record crowd of 173,850 only to be upset by massive underdog Uruguay.

Sixty-four years later, I think Brazil will reach the final again in Maracana, in front of its people against a South American country. It will be Argentina against Brazil—Messi against Neymar, which will be the new Maradona against the next Pela, with the most coveted trophy hanging in the balance.

For Argentina, the tournament will not start until the second round—because of the little competition they have in group F. Coach Alejandro Sabella should be able to use this time to fine-tune the squad and reach the critical part of the competition at full strength.

Sabella has also built the team around Messi, the best player I have ever seen. He will be surrounded by players like Angel Di Maria, and Sergio Agüero. Just like Brazil, the expectations for Argentina are great, the pressure is immense, but that is exactly when the great players become legends.

My favorite team in this year’s World Cup is Germany. Germany always seems to keep their line-ups consistent every year. In the past few World Cups and the Union of European Football Associations Euro’s, they have made it to the semi-finals and to a couple of championship matches, but they just haven’t had that extra push to win the titles.

After falling short in the 2010 World Cup Semi-final, and collapsing in the 2012 UEFA Euro Final (they lost both to Spain), now is their time to finally hold up a trophy. They have added young players to their squad, and they seem considerably quicker and more aggressive on offense and defense.

Mario Götze is one of the newest players on the German squad, and he has the chance to be one of the best. Not too many soccer fans have heard his name, but I believe he can make a name for himself this year and be the best player in this world cup.

My championship match prediction: Germany beats Spain 2-1.

So how does the world come together for two months in solidarity? With performances from the Earth’s greatest athletes performing on the biggest stage, it’s easy to forget politics.

In the 2014 World Cup, undoubtedly Lionel Messi will be looking to decorate his already colorful career with a golden boot and tally up his goal count. With Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iran and Nigeria in Argentina’s group, there is much potential for Messi to have a lights-out group stage performance, which will catapult his team deep into the next round.

The final score will be a 3-2 result in a Confederation’s Cup final rematch when Brazil defeated the formally unstoppable Spain team.

It will not be an easy road for Brazil despite home country advantage. They will more than likely meet the Netherlands in the round after the group stage, then Germany in the round before the championship.

My championship match prediction: Brazil beats Spain 3-2.