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News and Publications Office, UTEP

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Distinguished Alumnus

FALL • 1998
FROM THE EDITOR

This is the most difficult editor’s column I have ever written. With this column I will be saying good-bye to NOVA Quarterly and to Texas Western Press.

I am leaving the university to pursue a new career and a long-held dream of running my own business. While I am certainly excited about this new endeavor, it is also with great sadness that I say farewell to the magazine’s readers and to the wonderful staff who produce a magazine that provides you with news about the university in a manner that is educational and enjoyable. The News and Publications staff members — who work so diligently and with great pride on the magazine — are among the most creative individuals with whom I’ve had the honor to work.

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During the past several months, I’ve also worked at Texas Western Press, helping to publish its spring and summer line-up of books. Contrary to the rumors that have abounded recently, Texas Western Press is not closing. The press will continue to publish outstanding books that meet its mission of producing books that deal with the history, literature or culture of the Southwest, but within a new configuration.

University presses have traditionally relied on institutional support to carry out their mission of publishing serious scholarly works. While this is certainly an important endeavor, it is not necessarily a profitable one. The current academic publishing climate of declining university subsidies, shrinking library budgets, falling sales of academic publications, and rising production costs has had a dramatic effect on university presses. Smaller presses, such as TWP, are especially feeling the financial pinch — only a handful of small presses with sales of more than $6 million break even, or at least come close, according to the Association of American University Presses.

UTEP has entered into a partnership with the University of Texas Press in Austin to take over the distribution and marketing of Texas Western Press books. UT Press will act as the sole distribution agent for TWP’s current publications and 15 backlist titles. The press will continue to publish selected titles, thus ensuring that the TWP imprint will live on. One book each year will receive the prestigious C. L. Sonnichsen Award, which provides a remuneration to an author whose original and outstanding non-fiction manuscript is selected for publication. This new arrangement with UT Press will provide TWP’s books with increased national sales representation and, for the first time, international sales representation. UT Press also will be able to use its larger resources to actively and effectively market TWP’s books. Be sure to look on the back cover of this issue of NOVA for information on how to order TWP books through the University of Texas Press.

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Through the years, Texas Western Press and NOVA Quarterly have had a symbiotic relationship. For many years, NOVA contained the column "Books/South by West" that provided readers with reviews of TWP publications. Another column offered essays by one of the press’ most favored authors, Elroy Bode. During the past several years NOVA has displayed current TWP books on its back cover. The News and Publications Office, which produces NOVA, also has had a hand in the design and production of the press’ books. Art director John Downey has produced some truly memorable designs for TWP’s books, such as Arbuckles: The Coffee that Won the West, and Tom Lea: An Oral History. His recent design work on Bode’s latest book, Home Country, earned this praise in the July issue of The Texas Observer:

"The handsomest book published in Texas in 1998 may well be Home Country, by Elroy Bode. John M. Downey, designing both book and jacket for Texas Western Press, has produced a big, elegant, enormously appealing object, something that suits very well the material inside."

NOVA Quarterly will continue to provide its readers with insightful and intriguing stories about the university and its alumni in the hands of the new editor and director of the News and Publications Office, Michael Ross. Texas Western Press will persevere in publishing scholarly works of importance to the Southwest region. These two entities deserve and need your support — financially and in readership.

Working on the magazine has been among my most pleasurable duties, whether as a graphic artist, production coordinator or editor. As an avid lover of books, I also found tremendous satisfaction in the editorial and production process of book publishing. NOVA and Texas Western Press both have an award-winning tradition of excellence, and I shall truly miss them.

— Kathleen Rogers, Editor
Highlights of 5 Decades of Publishing at Texas Western Press

50s
The Spanish Heritage of the Southwest
by Francis Fugate

Frontier Newspaper
by John J. Middaugh

60s
Pass of the North: Four Centuries on the Rio Grande Vol. 1 & 2
by C. L. Sonnichsen

Captive Mountain Waters
by Dorothy Jensen Neal

70s
The Lasater Philosophy of Cattle Raising
by Laurence Lasater

Down Went McGinty
by Conrey Bryson

Mimbres Mythology
by Pat Carr

80s
El Paso's Geologic Past
by Earl Lovejoy

Riders Across the Centuries
by Jose Cisneros

Apache Women Warriors
by Kimberly Moore Buchanan

Literature and Landscape: Writers of the Southwest
by Cynthia Farah

90s
El Paso: A Borderlands History
by W. H. Timmons

Jose Cisneros: An Artist's Journey
by John Q. West

The Edge of the West
by Bryan Woolley

Tom Lea: An Oral History
VOLUME 35 NO. 1: NO. 135

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ON THE COVER

U.T.E.P's 1998 Distinguished Alumnus Edward Egbert, one of El Paso's most trusted physicians, shares the university's commitment to ensuring quality educational experiences to the people of the region. Through his work with the Legacy Campaign, Development Board and Matrix Society, Egbert has secured endowments to support faculty members and students at the university. Cover design: John Downey.

Above right photo: Therese Knecht Dozier, the special advisor on teaching to U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley, touted UTEP's successful teacher preparation program during her visit to El Paso in September. She also met with teachers at H.D. Hilley Elementary School who partner with the university to increase educational standards throughout the community.

FEATURES

Fulfilling a Legacy of Caring and Community
Edward Egbert, M.D.: 1998 Distinguished Alumnus
By Laura Jasso

Homecoming Calendar

Hispanic Heritage Month Calendar

DEPARTMENTS

AlumNews
Legacy Legend
Highlights
Faculty Profile
"Adios, doctor," a young boy says as he jumps off the examining table with a clean bill of health. His doctor, Edward Egbert, smiles and waves the enthusiastic child on his way.

Each year, Egbert watches as the ritual of physical exams brings many El Paso children and their parents to the Southside Baptist Clinic where the retired physician continues to volunteer his time and talents.

These Saturday-afternoon treatments are as important to Egbert as they are to the families visiting the clinic. From the time Egbert was a child, he visited hospitals and clinics with his father, who was a respected El Paso physician. The lifelong lesson passed from father to son — from doctor to doctor — went beyond academics: being a doctor involved a commitment to caring and a commitment to community.
Following in his father’s footsteps, Egbert, a University of Texas at El Paso alumnus, became a highly recognized physician, specializing in allergy and chest diseases. Today, he remains one of El Paso’s most trusted physicians, revered by patients and colleagues alike.

He is dearer still to UTEP, having devoted himself to securing endowments through his work on the Legacy Campaign, the Development Board and with the Matrix Society. Dr. Egbert, himself, is a co-founder, with Dr. Laurance Nickey, of the Anton Berkman Endowment in Biological Sciences and was named the 1997 Gold Nugget for the College of Science. He and his wife, Barbara, also established a chair in the department of biology. He also chairs the advisory board of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

In recognition of his many efforts to benefit the university and the community, Dr. Egbert has been named the 1998 Distinguished Alumnus. This distinction is the highest honor the university bestows upon its alumni. Dr. Egbert’s commitment to his alma mater is an extension of his lifelong mission to improve the quality of life for the people of this region.

“Dr. Egbert has been an enthusiastic supporter of UTEP for as long as I can remember,” UTEP President Diana Natalicio says. “He has generously dedicated his time, talent and resources to a variety of programs on this campus, especially in biological sciences and nursing and health sciences.”

“His and Barbara’s generosity to the university recognizes the importance of UTEP’s role in preparing professionals to meet the health care needs of the El Paso community,” Natalicio says. “During the past several years, we have successfully grown from nursing to a broad range of health science programs, including physical therapy, occupational therapy and pharmacy, and Eddie’s leadership has been key to that growth.”

The Egberts of El Paso

During the rampant pandemic of tuberculosis that plagued this country from the 1880s through the 1920s, medical practitioners determined that the desert southwest was an ideal climate for treating patients suffering from this formidable disease. Sanatoriums - treatment facilities where patients with the highly contagious disease could be isolated for focused and specific treatment - sprang up in El Paso during the height of the pandemic. TB patients, or “consumptives,” were treated with a daily regimen that included basting on a sunlight-drenched porch.

Having contracted tuberculosis in World War I, Dr. Orville Egbert moved to El Paso in 1919, seeking care at the Hendricks-Laws Sanatorium, which is now the Roger Bacon Seminary on Marr Street. He remembered Col. C.M. Hendricks of El Paso from a chance encounter on the Verdun Battlefield. Dr. Egbert received treatment at Hendricks-Laws, becoming the sanatorium’s resident medical officer. He referred to himself as the “working wounded,” treating patients while he was recovering under Dr. Hendricks’ care. Dr. Egbert settled in El Paso and opened his private practice once his disease was determined to be arrested.

In the twenties, medicine was being organized into various specialties under boards that would oversee certification of specialists and enforce maintenance of proper credentials and continuing education. Drs. Egbert and Hendricks assisted in founding the American College of Chest Physicians, and Dr. Egbert became El Paso’s first board certified physician in internal medicine.

As an internist and a recovering tuberculosis patient, Dr. Orville Egbert understood that the disease often triggered allergies, and decided to focus his practice on allergy and immunology. During his post-graduate study, his son Edward was born at Hotel Dieu Hospital, becoming the city’s first incubator baby.

The Caduceus is Passed

Edward Egbert attended New Mexico Military Institute where he set his sights on becoming a U.S. Army officer. By the time he returned from duty in 1945, he decided to apply his talents to medicine. He entered Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy, now UTEP, in the fall of 1945 and received his bachelor’s degree in biology in the summer of 1947. He earned his medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) where he met and married Barbara Brown, a fourth-grade school teacher, at Christmas time in 1948.

After an internship at the University of Kansas Medical Center, he began his residency in internal medicine with an emphasis on pulmonary diseases at UTMB.

Dr. Egbert’s residency at UTMB was distinguished by several firsts. He spent a total of 12 months in the pulmonary service, and administered the first dose of radioactive iodine used for therapeutic treatment of hyperthyroidism.

The school had no pulmonary lab, and had ordered a multitude of equipment to begin such a facility. Dr. Egbert, being a pretty fair carpenter and possessing the ability to read blueprints and put things together, was charged with assembling all this equipment.

“After assembling all this stuff, I tested only one truly sick patient before it was time for me to leave the service. I did, however, do some practice tests on some attractive clerical and nursing personnel,” he slyly grins.

Around the time of his residency, polio had grown into annual summer epidemics, and many otherwise healthy adults and children were stricken with the often fatal and paralytic disease. In Dr. Egbert’s senior class,
From the time Edward Eghert was a child, he was influenced by his father, a respected El Paso physician.

(Clockwise) As a child, Eghert enjoyed afternoon rides with his father; in 1941, he entered the New Mexico Military Institute; in 1951, he was an intern at University of Kansas Medical Center after he completed his studies at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.
there were six cases of polio; one classmate died. He explains that, during his residency, the hospital maintained a separate call roster in pediatrics and internal medicine because of the volume of polio cases.

"It was scary," he recalls grimly. "A polio case would keep you up all night watching the patient in an iron lung. Once you put someone in that contraption, you suddenly felt terrifyingly incompetent." Compounding that fear was the fact that he was a father of a little girl, who was among the first group of children to receive the Salk vaccine to protect the human system against polio.

El Paso Medicine

After his residency, he returned to his home town to go into private practice with his father. He took leave a year later to pursue specialized allergy training at the Institute of Allergy at New York's Roosevelt Hospital.

"I realized that there were some intriguing diagnostic problems to be solved that required some real detective work," he says: "I drew upon my knowledge in internal medicine and pulmonology and my experience in treating tuberculosis, and, like my father before me, concentrated on allergy and immunology."

"My father worked long and hard, well into what could have been his retirement, to see me through," he says. Dr. Egbert has remained true to that devotion, keeping a very successful private practice in El Paso for 38 years, enjoying a loyal patient following and an outstanding reputation among his peers.

A Lifetime of Service

Dr. Egbert sat on the Board of Directors of El Paso Medical Corporation for three years, during the time their major expansion with the Plaza Building was completed. This in turn led to him becoming the organizing chairman of Sierra Medical Center. In 1975, he joined the corporate board of National Medical Enterprises, now Tenet Healthcare Inc., and when he retires in October of this year, he will have been the longest-serving director of that corporation. He says he is especially proud of Sierra Medical Center and the merger three years ago with Providence Memorial Hospital, as well as Rio Vista Rehabilitation Hospital and the Sierra/Providence eastside facilities.

In 1995, Dr. Egbert received the S.T. Turner Award, the El Paso County Medical Society’s highest honor for outstanding contributions in patient care and community service. He is active in the Rotary, served 20 years on the Surety Savings board, and is a long-standing board member of the Yucca Council of the Boy Scouts, receiving the Council's Silver Beaver award.

He was president of the El Paso Tuberculosis Association, now the Lung Association, and worked with Congressman Richard White to establish El Paso's Veterans Administration Outpatient Clinic. “I had quite a large veteran population in my practice, which was transferred to the VA clinic when we opened it,” Dr. Egbert says. Once the clinic was instituted, he worked as a consultant in chest disease and allergy and treated veterans, some of whom had been his patients, suffering from tuberculosis, asthma and emphysema.

He served as head of R. E. Thomason Hospital’s Chest and Allergy Clinic for two decades and worked in the hospital’s tuberculosis service. He says it was de rigueur for a young physician at that time to work at Thomason for a decade. Dr. Egbert also worked in the tuberculosis service for the El Paso City/County Health Department.

He is a fellow of the American College of Allergy and Immunology and a fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians. He also was a member of the American Academy of Allergy and all the regional allergy specialty organizations as well as the El Paso County Medical Society, the Texas Medical Association and the American Medical Association.

Dr. Egbert’s love of art is evidenced by his serving as a trustee of the El Paso Museum of Art for 12 years and two years as president. He enjoys attending auctions, particularly in London, and has given one of his works, Rauschenberg’s “Ally,” to UTEP, where it hangs in the lobby of the Bill and Marie Wise Family Theater in the Fox Fine Arts Center.

Since retiring from the practice of medicine, he has devoted his time not only to UTEP and the furtherance of its educational mission, but to the Baptist Clinic, which is run by a dedicated nurse, Eleanor Poe — one of his former patients — and supported by other physicians of the EPCMS who volunteer their time and expertise. "It is a tremendously good feeling to be needed in that endeavor, caring for patients who are grateful," he says.

Working Toward Excellence in Education

Dr. Egbert has worked diligently to further UTEP’s mission of providing excellent academic opportunities to this region. He was instrumental in establishing the occupational and physical therapy programs as well as the anatomy laboratory for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, in obtaining a $250,000 grant from Tenet Healthcare for those facilities. He has served as chair of the Advisory Board of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Dr. Egbert also held a seat on the UTMB Development Board and on the Chancellor’s Council in Austin. Each institution and each advisory body is unique and vary greatly from one another, he says, which affords him a state-wide perspective of advising and developing higher education.
“Dr. Egbert’s pride in his alma mater is evident each time he mentions UTEP in conversation, and I am delighted to say that he mentions us a lot!”

— Diana Natalicio

Edward and Barbara Egbert are committed to UTEP and the students the university serves. After being recognized for his many years of professional achievement and community service at Sierra Medical Center in 1994 (above), Dr. Egbert remained a full-time advocate of UTEP’s academic programs. In 1996, he and his wife established an endowed chair in biological sciences (bottom left). In 1997, Dr. Egbert was recognized as a Gold Nugget for his generous contributions that support the College of Science.
Edward Egbert participated in the groundbreaking for the Medical Center Plaza building in 1972. Dr. Egbert continues to make a difference in the lives of area residents by volunteering his time and talents with the Southside Baptist Clinic.

UTEP's biology department, home base for his own bachelor's degree, has been a favored benefactor of his work. In 1990 he helped create the Anton Berkman Endowment in Biological Sciences. "During my entire time at the college, Dr. Berkman was chairman of the biology department," he recalls. "Dr. Larry Nickey, former El Paso City/County Health director, and I worked to institute this endowment in his honor by raising $50,000 for a matching grant from Tenet."

Drs. Egbert and Nickey also worked to pay tribute to Dr. Berkman by dedicating a biology learning center in his name, also in 1990. The state-of-the-art center, on the first floor of the biology building, offers students an opportunity to learn in a technology-rich environment.

Larry Jones, associate dean of science, says the computers contain software for the study of anatomy and physiology. "Students can study an anatomical model on the computer, stripping away virtual layers to understand structure, form and other aspects of study. We also have microbes, flowers and other specimens for viewing and observation, along with systems of animals, plants and humans," he says.

As a result of Dr. Egbert's efforts for UTEP's ambitious Legacy Campaign to raise more than $50 million in endowment funds for the university, the Kresge Foundation donated $100,000 for magnetic resonance imaging equipment. Typically used for radiologic diagnoses, this machine will be housed in the chemistry department and will be used by a variety of departments: chemistry, engineering, biology, physics and other programs. "There are applications of use for the antique book collection, as well," he says. "Matching funds will maintain the equipment and I'm currently gathering commitments for this support."

He also is responsible for the creation of an additional endowment for the study of healthcare at UTEP, divided between Tenet Healthcare and the Sierra Providence Health Network.

"Dr. Egbert's pride in his alma mater is evident each time he mentions UTEP in conversation, and I am delighted to say that he mentions us a lot!" Natalicio says. "And, the twinkle in his eyes when he talks about us reflects the very special place that UTEP occupies in his heart."

**A Golden Gift for UTEP**

The Edward and Barbara Egbert Chair in Biological Sciences promises great advances in research for the department and for the university.

"As a medical student, I had some outside jobs which were research-oriented, but there was no research as part of a regular course of training," Egbert says. "This endowment effort will support research work, adding to our knowledge about biology and making that course of study at UTEP even stronger. We are pleased and proud to have done this for UTEP."

Funds from this endowment will be utilized in providing support to a faculty member who demonstrates exceptional skill as a teacher and also conducts research in basic or applied aspects of biological sciences, contributing to knowledge within the field.

"This endowment will greatly enhance the department's ability to attract bright and creative scientists to the recently established doctoral program in pathobiology," says Jack Bristol, former dean of the College of Science. "The Egberts' establishment of this professorship is concrete testimony to their commitment to the university, particularly the biological sciences department."

Friend and colleague Dr. Nickey says, "Dr. Egbert is an avid contributor to our community and a real El Pasoan. He has made some very positive things happen here that might not have otherwise been brought about. A person like Eddie Egbert comes along only once in a lifetime."
1998 Gold Nuggets Exemplify the Quality of UTEP

LOLA B. DAWKINS
College of Business Administration

Lola B. Dawkins is a 1954 business graduate from Texas Western College. She taught in the UTEP College of Business for 19 years before her retirement in 1984. Her dedication to the university has been demonstrated by her tireless efforts as chairman of the building committee for the Business Administration Building. She also served as the first managing editor of the Southwest Business and Economic Review.

Dawkins' excellence in teaching garnered her the Texas Business Education Association Teacher of the Year awards. Dawkins counts her recognition as professor emerita at UTEP as one of her greatest honors. She remains involved at the university and continues to be an active member of the First Baptist Church. Dawkins also is currently active with Hospice of El Paso, on the Board of Directors of the El Paso Lighthouse for the Blind and is a member of the Executive Council of the UTEP Heritage Commission.

ROBERT AMEZCUA
College of Engineering

Robert Amezcu received his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at UTEP in 1973. He is the vice president of Global Mobile Solutions for IBM Global Telecommunications and Media Industries. Amezcu is responsible for developing and implementing IBM's Mobile Solutions strategy by coordinating applications development, communications technology and services that link information technology to the mobile and wireless environment. He has received several awards from IBM and is listed in Who's Who of American Hispanics.

Amezcu remains active and committed to this community. He maintains his ties with UTEP by serving as the IBM Campus Executive and plays an important role in the recruitment of Hispanics to the study of engineering at UTEP.

TRIANA OLIVAS
College of Education

Triana Olivas can be considered a pioneer in education. As principal at Sageland Elementary in the Ysleta Independent School District, she has spearheaded many innovative techniques in teaching. Her micro-society school concept serves as a model for creative education throughout the country.

Since her graduation from UTEP in 1967 with a double major in education and biology, Olivas has been a shining example of leadership and innovation in public school education in El Paso, the state and the nation. Through her efforts, Sageland Elementary was the visitation site for Texas Accelerated Schools and she has garnered more than $400,000 in grant money for school innovation and technology.

HUGH PRESTWOOD
College of Liberal Arts

"Don't Get Me Started," one of Hugh Prestwood's many hit music creations, can also describe the many accomplishments of this Gold Nugget's life.

Prestwood modestly says that the main thing he does besides trying to write a good song is teaching. He teaches advanced song writing at the New School for Social Research in Manhattan and the Nashville Song Writers Association. He also conducts seminars across the country.

This 1965 graduate has written hit songs for top country vocalists such as Michael Johnson, Trisha Yearwood, Judy Collins and Randy Travis. Despite his success, Prestwood still considers himself an El Pasoan and his life at UTEP as the best years of his life.

LEO G. CANCELLARE
College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Leo Cancellare personifies the importance of physical fitness in the health field. He graduated in 1980 with a bachelor's degree in physical education and biology. Throughout his career he has been dedicated to the health and fitness of El Paso's youth.

The Cathedral High School principal volunteers his time teaching Techniques of Coaching Swimming in the college's kinesiology department. He was on the Texas All-Star Coaching Staff from 1979 to 1993, and worked with the Texas Age-Group Swimming Committee for the development of age-group swimming. Cancellare has coached many champion swimming teams and swimmers including Urbano Zea who swam in the 1988 Olympics. In 1994, he was inducted into the El Paso Sports Hall of Fame.

GERALD RUBIN
College of Science

Gerald Rubin graduated from UTEP with a bachelor's degree in science with a minor in chemistry in 1965. The ink on his diploma had barely dried when he founded the Helen of Troy Corporation in 1968. In spite of the international reputation of his corporation that might have lured him from his home, Gerald established El Paso as the world headquarters for Helen of Troy.

In addition to his busy professional life, Rubin is active on various civic and community boards as well as the Alumni Association Board.
UTEP's popular annual street festival welcomed university faculty, staff and students back to another exciting school year. The celebration, featuring music, food, games and camaraderie, hosted a crowd of more than 5,000 members of the UTEP and El Paso communities. Kids, students and parents enjoyed a wide assortment of entertainment and cuisine.

The festivities began with a rousing parade and during a pep rally fans were able to meet and cheer on UTEP athletes and coaches. Highlighting the evening were photo and autograph opportunities and mini clinics given by the UTEP athletes. The evening was made possible largely by the generous support of Chase Bank, the UTEP Department of Pharmacy and Montana Beverage Co.

WHAT IS THE UTEP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?
The Alumni Association is an organization of former UTEP students and faculty members that promotes the interests and welfare of the university. By sponsoring and supporting UTEP programs, projects and activities, the association assists the university in its mission to achieve academic excellence. The association brings alumni and friends together throughout the year for events such as pregame parties, Homecoming, Season of Lights and the Top Ten Seniors Banquet.

HOW CAN I JOIN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?
Simply send a minimum annual contribution of $25 per person to:
UTEP Alumni Association
Office of Development and Alumni Affairs
The University of Texas at El Paso
El Paso, Texas 79968-0524

Please include your year of graduation or the years you attended UTEP on your check. Indicate the college, department, academic program or scholarship for which your donation is intended. A membership card will be mailed to you.

FALL 1998 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 12</td>
<td>UTEP vs. Oregon</td>
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<td>Pre-game Party at the Alumni Lodge, 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td>UTEP vs. Colorado State</td>
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<td>Pre-game Party at the Alumni Lodge, 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Oct. 12-17</td>
<td>HOMECOMING WEEK</td>
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<td>Oct. 17</td>
<td>UTEP vs. San José State</td>
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<td>Homecoming Pre-game Party at the Alumni Lodge, 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Oct. 31</td>
<td>UTEP vs. Hawaii</td>
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<td>Pre-game Party at the Alumni Lodge, 1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 14</td>
<td>UTEP vs. BYU</td>
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<td>Pre-game Party at the Alumni Lodge, 1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 11</td>
<td>Season of Lights Opening Ceremony</td>
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50s

Robert Caroline (B.A.’54) retired as a stockbroker after 33 years in the business and has been a continuing education instructor at UTEP for 29 years.

Ralph Dickinson (B.B.A.’57) was re-elected as the Republican Chairman for precinct 264 in Houston, Texas, and is the new election judge for the precinct.

Morris Lamberson (B.B.A.’58; M.Ed.’60) retired from the University of Central Arkansas after 24 years of service.

Ray Noah (B.B.A.’57) received the 1998 William J. Pitstick Regional Excellence Award.

M.Ed.’60) with his wife,

years of service.

president for

precinct 264 in Houston, Texas, and is the

Space System

fied Insurance Counselor for the John

Cross

and a volunteer for the American Red

and has been a continuing education

unit College, outreach volunteer and vice

He retired from the

Electronic parts engineer from Boeing’s

invented the Space System Division.

Dick Holt (B.S.E.E.’61) lives in Hawaii with his wife, Susan Holt (B.S. Ed.’63). He retired from the U.S. Navy after 30 years of service.

Donald Mammel (B.S.Ed.’65) retired as a teacher with the Ysleta Independent School District after 29 years of service.

Judy Mammel (B.S.Ed.’63) has taught at Cedar Grove Elementary in the Ysleta Independent School District for 35 years.

J. A. Marquez (B.S. Met.’67), who has spent 24 years in dentistry, is conducting research on a new dental alloy in UTEP’s materials science and environmental engineering program.

John McCarden (B.B.A.’69) is a Certified Insurance Counselor for the John D. Williams Co.

Lane McDaniel (B.B.A.’67) practices law in Dallas.

Charlie McDonald (B.A.’63) retired from teaching in the Ysleta, Socorro and San Elizario school districts after 30 years of service. He is a freelance writer and folk singer.


D. James Metzgar (B.A.’68), report technician and company historian for a Chicago-based maker of automotive chemicals, celebrated 20 years of service with Gold Eagle Co.

Patricia Mora (B.A.’63; M.A.’71) received the 1997 national Premio Aztlán literary prize for her memoirs, House of Houses, a portrayal of Mora’s family and its history.

Nancy Sonnichsen (B.S.Ed.’67; M.Ed.’69) is a high school counselor at Lubbock High School.

70s

Victor Arias (B.B.A.’78) received the 1998 Jerry L. Porras Award for Latino Leadership from the Stanford Graduate School of Business’ Hispanic Business Student Association. Arias is executive vice president and managing director of DHR International and founder of the National Society of Hispanic MBAs.

Shirley Black (B.S.N.’78), a Lt. Col. in the U.S. Air Force, will assume command of the 22nd Medical Operations Squadron at McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita, Kan. She was deputy commander at the 52nd Medical Support Squadron at Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany.

Ben Cadena, III (B.B.A.’79) received an M.S. from Houston Baptist University and currently works as a rate analyst for the City of San Antonio.

Cecilia Cervantes (B.A.’71; M.Ed.’73) is dean of the El Paso Community College-Transmountain Campus.

Cynthia Corman (B.A.’75) is a project manager for America Online Inc. She also is a U.S. Navy Reserves captain and commanding officer of the Material Data System Group Unit in Virginia.

Dwight Deter (B.S.’73) is a physicians assistant with Southwest Endocrine Consultants in El Paso and chair of the Texas State Board of Physician Assistant Examiners.

Victor Diaz (B.S.’73) has been appointed to the District Review Committee of the State Board of Medical Examiners by Governor George W. Bush. Diaz is a partner in El Paso Surgical Associates.

Jane Dunbars (B.S.’71; M.Ed.’75) retired from American Airlines and is a customer service representative for Gulfstream Aerospace in California.

Stephen Enders (M.Ed.’78), who recently completed his eighth year as chief adult probation officer in El Paso County, received the President’s Award from the Texas Probation Association.

Raul Hernandez (B.S.Ed.’71) retired from teaching in the Ysleta Independent School District after 30 years of service.

Craig Hoover (M.A.’71) is the owner of Hoover’s Landscaping, Inc.

David Leibson (B.S.Ed.’74; M.A.’79) is a musician and plays the upright bass. He has produced and recorded a CD titled “Leti De La Vega” and began a European tour in July.

Robert Mathis (M.Ed.’76) has been appointed professor of administration at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas. He was the director of research doctoral programs and a professor of Christian education at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Joel Mosier (B.A.’79) teaches honors world history and journalism at Andress High School in the El Paso Independent School District. During the summer, he teaches journalism at Indiana University.

Olga Samaniego (B.S.Ed.’74), a teacher at Burges High School, was a finalist for the Teacher of the Year award.

Marguerite Simon (B.S.Ed.’75; M.Ed.’78), superintendent of the Region 9 Education Service District in Oregon, has been awarded Outstanding School Psychologist for the state.

Deborah Williamson (B.A.’77) has been named to a one-year term as president of the American Bankruptcy Institute.

80s

Efrain Aguirre-Prieto (B.A.’89) is the owner of four El Paso businesses. His painting is on display in the UTEP Union Building.

Thomas Dunwell (B.S.’84) is plant manager of United Metro Materials in Arizona.

Heriberto Godina (B.A.’83; M.Ed.’92) received a doctorate in curriculum and instruction from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is an assistant professor of language, literacy and culture at the University of Iowa.

Vicent Hernandez (B.A.’83) received the 1998 George Woods Award for Outstanding Service in Politics from the Lubbock Chapter of the NAACP. He also received the 1998 Community Leader Award for Leadership and Contribution to the Community from LULAC Council #263.

Sandy Martinez (B.A.’89) graduated from the Law School at the University of Missouri at Columbia. Martinez is running for prosecuting attorney in St. Francois County, Mo.

John Olivas (B.S.M.E.’89) has been selected for the NASA astronaut class of 1998. He is a senior project engineer for the Advanced Interconnect and Manufacturing Assurance program at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California. 
Marie Olivas (B.B.A.'88) received her M.Ed. from the University of Houston.

Luis Ronquillo (B.A.'82; M.Ed.'96) is a bilingual teacher at Roosevelt Elementary School in the El Paso Independent School District. He is a doctoral candidate at New Mexico State University and a finalist for a doctoral fellowship in Las Cruces, N.M.

Richard Ruiz (B.B.A.'86) was promoted to the rank of lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy. He was selected to attend a Navy sponsored MBA program at the University of San Diego.

Pamela Smith (M.S.N.'84) is a Ph.D. candidate in nursing from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Ellen Williams (B.S.W. '83) is an ordained deacon with the United Methodist Church, and is currently serving as chaplain at the Sanchez State Jail Facility in El Paso.

90s

Michael Apodaca (B.B.A.'96), the executive officer for the 76th Military Police Battalion at Ft. Bliss, earned a M.S. degree in Industrial Engineering from Murray State University.

Shawn Blackshear (B.S.'95) received an M.S. degree from Sul Ross State University. He is pursuing a doctoral degree in microbiology at Texas A & M extension and UTEP.

Alfredo Garcia (B.B.A.'97) was named branch manager of UC Lending.

Kevass Harding (B.S.'91) is a deacon in the United Methodist Church.

Sylvia Jauregui (B.S.'95) is a student development specialist at the Student Development Center at UTEP.

Thomas Liss (B.B.A.'97) is working for Northern Telecom as part of the team testing and implementation of a new enterprise-wide software package.

Anne Pacheco (B.A.'93) graduated with a B.S. in physician assistant studies from UT Medical Branch in Galveston. She is working at UTMB as a physician assistant in cardiothoracic surgery.

Stefanie Pambrun (B.S.'95) has been selected as the 1998 Woman of the Year by the Sun City Chapter of the American Business Women's Association.

Guojie Song (M.S.'92) is an engineering specialist in automation at Motorola, Inc. He is a licensed professional engineer in Illinois, and is pursuing an MBA at Lake Forest Graduate School of Management.

Richard Taylor (B.A.'90) was named assistant sports editor of the San Angelo Standard Times.

Richard Zamora (B.S.C.E.'91) is a registered professional civil engineer in Colorado.

OBITUARIES

Sigmund Kowalewski (B.A.'44) April 7, 1998. He was a lifelong resident of El Paso and a salesman for Sears Roebuck & Co. Kowalewski was preceded in death by his wife, Janine. He is survived by his son, Fred; grandchildren, Daniel, David, Regina, Lorece and Ted; and great-grandchild, Omar.

Julius Furman (B.S.Met.'54) April 15, 1998. He had been a resident of Charlotte, N.C., since 1957 and retired from Homelite-Textron. Furman served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the Korean conflict and received the Purple Heart. He was preceded in death by his wife, Edith; and his brother, George. Furman is survived by his daughter, Judith; and son, Joseph Alan.

Irving Lazeres (NG) April 18, 1998. He had been a resident of Tucson, Ariz. Lazeres worked for insurance companies in west Texas and southern Arizona for 42 years, and was a lifetime member of the Blue Goose International Insurance Organization. He was preceded in death by his wife of 47 years, MacKay. Lazeres is survived by his children, Katie, Dick and Veet; and grandson, Kendrick.

John Hood (M.Ed.'70) April 21, 1998. He was a resident of El Paso and a math teacher at Crockett Intermediate School. Hood, a retired Air Force major, served 25 years in the Army and Air Force and was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He is survived by his wife, Mary; daughters, Martha and Sallie; and granddaughter, Nora.

Joseph Miskimins (B.A.'40) April 23, 1998. He was a lifelong El Paso resident and had practiced pediatric medicine for 38 years. Miskimins was preceded in death by his sister, Ruth. He is survived by his wife, Alice; sons, Mitchell and Scott; daughters, Madeline, Deborah and Diane; and 12 grandchildren.

Lavon Gschwind (B.A.'57) April 29, 1998. She had lived in El Paso for more than 50 years and was a longtime community activist. Gschwind was a member of the El Paso Women's Club, UTEP Alumni Association and the El Paso Women's Club. She is survived by her sons, Randall and C. Blake; her father, Wade Hartrieck; and granddaughter, Heather.

Nancy Vickers (B.A.'54) April 30, 1998. She was a resident of El Paso. Vickers, with her husband, founded Delta Engineering Co. She was a homemaker and artist and worked with hearing-impaired children. Vickers is survived by her husband, Dan; daughters, Donna and Martha; grandchildren, Conrad and Gillian; and sisters, Wanda and Arlene.

Gabriel Carrasco (B.A.'91) May 8, 1998. He had been a lifelong resident of El Paso and worked at the Universidad de Guadalajara as a academic coordinator and English instructor. He is survived by his parents, Frank and Carmen; brothers, Daniel and Frank; and grandmother, Concepcion.

Sally Rosen (B.A.'63; M.A.'68) May 13, 1998. She had been a resident of El Paso since 1934. Rosen was a teacher of languages and interpreter for the Immigration and Naturalization Service. She is survived by her nieces and nephews, Mimi, Holli, Daniel, Miriam, Henrietta, Lucy, Richard and William.

Kyle Washbourne (B.S.'71) May 19, 1998. He was a resident of El Paso for 34 years and a science teacher at Bel Air High School. Washbourne was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 7563, Vista Hills Optimist Club, Ysleta School Teachers Association, Texas State Teachers Association, and the National Science Teachers Association. He is survived by his father, Kyle; mother, Cecilia; and brother, Jay.

James Dewitt (B.A.'41) May 27, 1998. He was a lifelong resident of El Paso and vice-president of Dewitt & Rentack Inc. Dewitt served in the European Theater until the end of World War II. He was preceded in death by his wife, Billie. Dewitt is survived by his sister, Francis; sons, James and Ben; and daughters, Rebecca and Patricia.

Frances Hatfield (M.A.'57) June 9, 1998. She was a longtime resident of El Paso, Ysleta High School teacher and author of the School Song. Hatfield was president of the El Paso Medical Auxiliary and the Texas State Medical Auxiliary. She is survived by her sons, Haskell and Dolph.

John Byus, Jr. (B.S.Ed.'64; M.Ed.'67) June 9, 1998. He had been a resident of El Paso for 39 years and retired from the U.S. Army after 28 years of service. Byus was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War and received the Bronze Star, American Defense Service Medal, WWII Victory Medal and numerous other awards. Byus is survived by his wife, Lela; sons, John, Kent and Fred; and daughters, Tina, Gail and Lynn.
There is a warmth and awe in her voice when Rosa May Egbert Baker speaks of her father, an extremely handsome man with white hair who stood tall.

Her father, well-known El Paso physician Orville Egbert, exemplified decorum, professionalism, vision and hard work. It is in his honor that on Oct. 15, 1997, the fiercely independent Rosa May established the Orville E. Egbert, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Nursing and Health Sciences and the Orville E. Egbert, M.D., Endowed Chair in Nursing and Health Sciences at UTEP.

In 1924, Egbert established St. Joseph’s sanitorium for the treatment of tuberculosis in El Paso. He also was a pioneer in the then-infant science of allergy, and especially the effects on those who had been treated for tuberculosis. Egbert was no stranger to tuberculosis himself, having suffered from it during World War I, when he commanded a field hospital in France. Like many in his day, he counted on El Paso’s warm, dry climate to help cure him; and it did.

Rosa May says that even in the worst days of the Depression, her father was able to keep the 120-bed hospital open. The hospital was so successful and advances in medicine were so rapid, that tuberculosis was nearly wiped out.

Despite an enormously demanding medical practice, Dr. Egbert served as the president of both the downtown Rotary Club and the El Paso Medical Society. Baker recalls that her father also loved to fish at Elephant Butte and enjoyed deep-sea fishing in Corpus Christi, Texas. During his rare quiet time at home, Rosa May remembers that her father read medical journals, always striving to learn and to grow.

She credits his appetite for learning as the legacy he left to her. It was this desire for knowledge that led Rosa May to attend UT Austin, although she came home to El Paso each summer and took summer classes at UTEP.

Rosa May also perpetuates the family legacy of service through years of volunteer work at El Paso hospitals. Rosa May, who lived for 26 years in Pittsburgh before returning to El Paso two decades ago, was part of the original team of volunteers who opened Sierra Medical Center in 1976. When asked about the motivation behind her volunteer service, Baker says, “It never dawned on me not to help.”

Her father once said he owed everything — his health, his success and his happiness — to this town, the climate and its people.

Today, through her generous endowments which are designed to provide financial relief to UTEP students pursuing degrees in the health professions and to attract and retain talented faculty in the pre-med and/or nursing and health science fields, Rosa May Egbert Baker continues to help — and honors and carries forth her father’s long legacy of caring and commitment.
MONDAY, OCT. 12
MILITARY SCIENCE - ARMY ROTC
Noon
Alumni reunion for all ROTC alumni with the current cadre and cadets for a barbecue. Casual get-together to share war stories of UTEP ROTC past and present. 747-6692.

TUESDAY, OCT. 13
MILITARY SCIENCE - ARMY ROTC
Racquetball Tournament for beginner through senior brackets. Memorial Gym 747-6692.

THURSDAY, OCT. 15
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOME-COMING GOLF OUTING 11 a.m.
Join us for the first Alumni Association's Homecoming Golf "Outing." Limit 100 people. Fee includes beverages along the course, prizes and food. Fort Bliss Sunrise Course 747-8600.

HOMECOMING FRIDAY NIGHT PARTY
Friday, Oct. 16, 1998
PARTY - 8:00 p.m. SPIRIT RALLY - 9:00 p.m.

UTEP parades the spirit of the "Wild, Wild West" at this year's Texas-sized Homecoming celebration that pays tribute to the pioneers that shaped this institution, as well as the voyagers at UTEP, who today are making science fiction, science fact. So, kick up your boot heels and join us as we celebrate our history, our heritage and the promise of the future. It's going to be out of this world!
METALLURGICAL & MATERIALS ENGINEERING 4:30 - 6 p.m.
Annual alumni mixer for metallurgy and mining alumni and faculty. Home of Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence E. Murr. 747-5468.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION 4:30 - 6 p.m.

RECREATIONAL SPORTS 5 - 9 p.m.
Racquetball Tournament
Open and competitive divisions for singles tournament. $12 entry fee. Memorial Gym, racquetball courts. 747-5103.

LIBERAL ARTS 7:30 p.m.

PANDEMONIUM CONCERT 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCT. 16

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE 9 a.m.
Dean's breakfast reception honoring the college's Gold Nugget recipient. Geology Reading Room, Geological Sciences Building, Third Floor. 747-5536.

CIVIL ENGINEERING RECEPTION Noon

HOMECOMING PARADE 12:30 p.m.
Join the Student Development Center for this year's Homecoming Parade, honoring our Distinguished Alumnus and the Homecoming Court, as well as our own UTEP Marching Band. The parade route runs through University Avenue to the Undergraduate Learning Center. 747-5670.

HOMECOMING RALLY (approx. 1:30 p.m.)
This year's rally, sponsored by the Student Development Center, features the introduction of the Homecoming Court and the announcement of the parade winners. Undergraduate Learning Center. 747-5670.

DEVELOPMENT/ALUMNI (approx.1:45 p.m.)
The honored classes of '58, '68, '78, and '88 and the 25th Anniversary Class of '73 are invited to a complimentary Texas barbecue in honor of the Golden Grads of 1948. Alumni Lodge. 747-8600.

RECREATIONAL SPORTS 2 - 7 p.m.
Tennis tournament. $18 entry fee. Tennis courts across from Library. 747-5103.

ENGLISH 3 - 4:30 p.m.
Join us for our annual Homecoming Open House for English alumni, faculty and friends. 747-6240.

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS 4 p.m.
Reception for international students, alumni, faculty and staff. Conquistador Lounge, Union Building East, Second Floor. 747-5664.

HISTORY 4 - 6 p.m.
Wine and cheese reception. Faculty/Staff Lounge, Union Building East, Second Floor. 747-5508.

RECREATIONAL SPORTS 5 - 9 p.m.

PHYSICS 5:30 - 7 p.m.
Physics picnic for students, alumni and faculty. Leech Grove. 747-7527.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD RECEPTION 6:30 p.m.
A toast to the 1998 recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award at a coat-and-tie reception. The 1998 Gold Nugget Recipients from the individual colleges will also be honored. Tickets are $35 per person and are available at the UTEP Ticket Center, 747-5234. (There is a $2 service charge for phone or mail orders). Corporate sponsorships are available for $400. 747-8600.

HOMECOMING FRIDAY NIGHT PARTY 8 p.m. - midnight
Organizations will host an array of carnival booths while live bands provide musical entertainment. The Spirit Rally begins at 9 p.m. Join us afterward for the presentation of the Homecoming Court and then dance the night away. Fox Fine Arts, parking lot. 747-5584.

SATURDAY, OCT. 17

ENGINEERING 8:15 a.m.
Homecoming breakfast. Templeton Suite, Union Building East, Third Floor. $6.50 per person. 747-5460.

GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

POLITICAL SCIENCE 9:30 - 11 a.m.
Coffee and awards ceremony. Benedict Hall, Room 205, Main Floor. 747-7968.

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS 10 a.m.
The First Annual Miners Chili Cook-Off sponsored by Que Buena KBNA and Montana Beverage Co. Cooks will prepare award-winning chili sanctioned by the Chili Appreciation Society International. 747-6787.

COMMUNICATION 10 a.m. - noon

MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES 10 a.m. - noon
Coffee for math alumni and students. Bell Hall, Room 125, First Floor. 747-5761.

GOLDEN GRADS LUNCHEON Noon
Complimentary luncheon, hosted by UTEP President Diana Natalicio, for graduates of fifty years or more. Class of 1948 to be honored this year.

RECRUITMENT ROUNDOUP 1 - 4 p.m.
The Office of Undergraduate Recruitment welcomes high school juniors, seniors and their parents to campus. 747-5890.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE 4 p.m.
Pregame barbecue and tailgate party for science students, alumni and faculty. Leech Grove. 747-5536.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS 4 - 6 p.m.
Tailgate party for international students, faculty and staff. Heritage House, lawn. 747-5664.

BAND ALUMNI 3 - 6 p.m.
Practice with the Marching Miners in the Sun Bowl Stadium. Instruments available on request. 747-5665.

COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES 4 - 6:30 p.m.
Tailgate party for alumni, faculty, students, and staff. Ross-Moore Building, Free. 747-7212.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S 9TH ANNUAL PREGAME PARTY 4:30 - 6 p.m.
Join this year's Distinguished Alumni, the 1999 Alumni Association Board and this year's honored classes. Reservations requested. Alumni Lodge. 747-8600.

HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME 6:35 p.m.
UTEP Miners vs. San Jose State. Sun Bowl. 747-5234.

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

UTEP BOOKSTORE 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

WED. THROUGH SAT.

HERITAGE HOUSE 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
The Heritage Commission invites you to the Grand Opening of their "Mining the Americas" exhibit. Members will be available to walk you through our historical display. Heritage House (the old Cap Kidd House). 747-5592.
TEXAS MONTHLY NAMES NATALICIO AS ONE OF THE “20 MOST INFLUENTIAL TEXANS”

Texas Monthly presented its fifth annual listing of the year’s most impressive, intriguing and influential Texans in its September 1998 issue. In the category of education, UTEP President Diana Natalicio was given the honor due to the strides that have been made at UTEP during her decade of leadership.

- Ten years ago, Natalicio saw the future: a future where it would become increasingly important for the university to reflect the region it serves. This commitment to education our community has had a powerful impact: UTEP is known today as a strong leader in shaping the business leaders of tomorrow.
- Ten years ago, the university’s budget was $64 million. Through Natalicio’s efforts, UTEP has built on its strengths in science and engineering and garnered impressive research and grant funding. Capitalizing on UTEP’s unique location and student body, the president also increased the university’s presence throughout the state and nation. Today, the university’s budget is now $146 million.

- Ten years ago, UTEP offered only one doctoral program: a Ph.D. in geology — today, UTEP offers seven doctoral degrees, which means UTEP graduates are on the forefront of research and education in fields ranging from computer science and engineering to education and biology.
- Ten years ago, UTEP was one of the few universities in the country addressing the population of the future. Today, thanks to Diana Natalicio’s vision, UTEP receives national attention because it has defined who it is and who it serves. Now, the university is the largest Hispanic-majority university in the nation. It serves the nation we are today and the nation we will be in the 21st Century, and that makes for a stronger economy, a richer quality of life, and a lasting impact on the people of our region and our state.

FAST CENTER RESEARCH KEEPS AIRCRAFT FLYING LONGER

Student researchers at UTEP may help keep aging space shuttles flying longer by pinpointing defects in the spacecraft’s vertical tail. This and other research work is being done by students in the Future Aerospace Science and Technology Center.

The center, established in 1995, has formed a network of collaborations with agencies and other universities, including the Federal Aeronautics Administration, Sandia Laboratories, NASA, Los Alamos National Laboratory, UCLA, Texas A & M University, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Johnson Space Center and the Air Force Laboratory.

Understanding corrosion and how to prevent it in aging aircraft is another focus of the research. By studying the deterioration of the skin of the aircraft at the microscopic level, students in the FAST Center hope to find ways to retard the corrosion process and enable aging aircraft to stay flight-ready.

“The students are assigned to complete an internship. They are gone for two to three months of testing in other facilities, then bring back data for their thesis work,” Roberto Osegueda, director of the FAST center and associate professor of civil engineering, said. “This model has been very successful for us.”

During the past three years, 20 students have completed internships. They represent engineering, physics and computer science and enter the program at any level from doctoral candidates to undergraduate level students.

NEW LIBRARIAN CREATES MODERN LIBRARY

Patricia Phillips has a vision for the UTEP library that extends into the next century and beyond. “The UTEP Library is a beautiful complex that houses a wide variety of resources for the university and El Paso community. These resources are enhanced by talented, hardworking, and dedicated staff members,” the new University Librarian said.

“We are in the process of implementing a new strategic plan, which includes introducing NUGGET, a new online library system that will better serve the information needs of students, faculty, and patrons well into the 21st Century.”

Phillips, who has been the university’s interim librarian since last year, oversees UTEP’s library that houses a collection of more than 2.8 million items, including 828,000 books and bound journals. The library also subscribes to approximately 2,700 periodicals and numerous electronic databases.

She brings more than 30 years of experience in library services to her position. Phillips served as the librarian for the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., and the Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville. She also served as UTEP’s associate librarian for technical services.
UTEP’S LAW SCHOOL PREPARATION INSTITUTE WORKS TO INCREASE MINORITY ENROLLMENT IN LAW SCHOOLS

Only one in 25 lawyers is African-American, Hispanic, Asian-American or Native American — a statistic that is not an accurate reflection of the multicultural society we live in.

Unfortunately, the Hopwood decision — a federal court ruling that prevents universities in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi from making admissions decisions based on race — has had a chilling effect on minority law school admissions.

UTEP — the largest Hispanic-majority university in the United States — hopes to increase minority enrollment in law schools by offering students an intensive, hands-on program: the Law School Preparation Institute.

The brainchild of UTEP political science professors Robert Webking and William Weaver, the Law School Preparation Institute is a two-year program aimed at honing the critical-thinking skills of prospective law students and preparing them to do well on the Law School Admissions Test.

“Our students, as a group, tend to have lower LSAT scores than their grade point averages would warrant,” Webking said. “It’s true of minority students nationwide. Our thought was to address that issue.”

The program, now in its pilot phase, is designed in two parts. The first part — offered during the summer between the students’ sophomore and junior years — consists of intensive workshops that focus on critical reading and analysis and critique of complex arguments.

The second part of the program takes place before the students’ senior year. This course focuses on preparing students to do well on the all-important LSAT.

“There is also an introduction to legal writing portion of the program, which serves to reinforce what happens at law school,” Webking said.

The program, carried out in cooperation with faculty at the UT Austin Law School, currently has 30 students, 20 of whom are entering their junior year and 10 of whom are entering their senior year.

The criteria for entering the program are academic achievement and promise and maturity of interest in law school.

The problem of having too few minority attorneys is as complex as the people and situations lawyers deal with every day.

“Lawyers practice in the larger community and unless there’s some sense of the diversity of the people they represent, they’re practicing at a disadvantage,” Webking said.

Lisa Cervantez, an Institute scholar, said the program has heightened her understanding of what to expect in law school.

“I had no idea what law school would be like, but after meeting with a law professor from UT Austin, I have a good idea of what I have to do,” she said.

Even more important, Cervantez said, is her growing confidence in her ability to tackle the rigors of law school.

Funding for the pilot program has come from UTEP’s Public Policy Research Center, the UT System, UT Austin Law School, Southern Methodist University School of Law, Baylor University Law School, Texas Tech School of Law, the El Paso Bar Association and the Mexican-American Bar Association. Various private attorneys have contributed to funding the pilot program as well.

UTEP’s Law School Preparation Institute is making a valuable contribution on several levels: the students benefit by being well-prepared to enter law school, and the legal profession benefits from an increased number of minority attorneys, which in turn benefits our multicultural society.

“In this community, if we don’t do something to get people into higher education, the whole community suffers,” Webking said. “The Law School Preparation Institute is good for the students, it’s good for the law schools and it’s good for El Paso.”

GORE RALLIES FOR EDUCATION AT UTEP

Vice President Al Gore visited the UTEP campus to lead a discussion on “21st Century Schools and 21st Century Jobs,” at a town hall meeting at the El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center (formerly The Commons) June 25. Gore also addressed the citizens of El Paso at a rally held earlier that day at the university’s Memorial Triangle where Congressman Silvestre Reyes helped welcome him to the Sun City.
NO-NONSENSE MARKETER DIRECTS UTEP'S NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

Michael Ross is not taken in by flashy, colorful advertisements. Instead, when this professional image creator thumbs through a magazine or watches television, he analyzes each advertisement to determine how a company positions itself in the marketplace.

“Creating an image is not about one cute slogan or one clever commercial,” Ross said. “It is about building a reputation.”

As UTEP’s new director of the News and Publications Office, Ross will oversee the creation of the university’s image through publications and media relations.

CENTER MAKES INROADS IN TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

In the exciting hit movie Armageddon, finding the best place and tools to drill into the space-borne meteorite gives rise to some of the same questions that students at UTEP are working to solve.

In one of many projects of the Center for Highway and Materials Research students are developing drills and non-destructive methods that can be used to investigate the planet Mars. This particular project is being performed in collaboration with Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

In other projects here on Earth, the laboratory focuses on improving one of the most important structures of our civilization: the transportation infrastructure of our streets, bridges and dams. The goal is to increase their reliability, stability and longevity.

Even closer to home in El Paso, the students are involved in a pioneering project on Loop 375 in which tire chips are used to build an embankment. Using electronic equipment, the students record and analyze the results for the Texas Department of Transportation. By recording the movement of the material during a three-year period, the students will test the reliability of the tire chips as a construction material. The daily progress of the work can be observed on a Department of Civil Engineering Web site (www.utep.edu/civilltirechip/tirechip.htm) that includes maps, time lines and other details.

Soheil Nazarian, director of the Center for Highway and Materials Research, is a specialist in soil dynamics and wave propagation which uses sound to study the movements of the ground.

“Wave propagation is a tool used to see how safe our bridges and roads are,” Nazarian said. “Our goal is to advance the state of the art in this area and educate engineering students. When they graduate our students will be extremely competent and experienced.”

More than 20 students are involved in research at the center, which is in its tenth year and is funded by grants totaling $500,000 per year.

UTEPE AND PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR ENTER INTO LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR POTENTIAL TREATMENT OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

UTEPE and psychology professor Donald Moss recently received approval from the UT System Board of Regents to enter into a patent license agreement with Layton BioScience, a California pharmaceutical firm, to produce and sell methanesulfonyl fluoride (MSF). Moss, who discovered the drug's potential as a treatment for Alzheimer's disease more than a decade ago, also received approval to serve on the company's scientific advisory board.

“UTEP is already well-regarded as a university that provides quality educational opportunities for the people of this region,” Ross said. “My goal is to create an image for UTEP for the longterm. I want to take a hard look at what makes this university different to determine how we need to be positioned as an institution.”

By articulating the university’s mission and building on the reputations of nationally competitive and dedicated faculty members, Ross plans to bolster coverage of the university’s academic programs.

“Although aspects of the university such as athletics are important to the community, the media sometimes focuses too much attention on these areas,” Ross said. “It is important to inject the academic and research components of the university into the local dialogue about UTEP. After all, the university is a significant factor in the development of El Paso. From an educational and an economic standpoint, can you imagine what El Paso would be like if the university were not here?”

Ross, who attended UTEP as an undergraduate, completed his bachelor's degree in advertising at Texas Tech University. When he returned to El Paso in 1987, he joined deBruyn-Rettig Advertising.

After four years as an account executive and director of broadcast productions at the agency, Ross became the manager of the communications department for Providence Memorial Hospital. Prior to joining the UTEP staff, he was a partner and creative director for Enriquez, Enriquez and Ross Advertising.

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If appearances are deceiving, then Michael Topp, assistant professor of history, is a prime example of how wrong snap assessments can be.

Raised in upper-class surroundings, Topp surprised his family by becoming a radical thinker and a critical observer of the American experience. Through his studies, he has become a thoughtful chronicler of America’s underdog population and a champion of the working-class immigrant.

“My interest in the American working class came about over time,” Topp says. “It’s a cliché, but to me there’s no other way to understand what’s going on in this country unless you understand how we got here.”

Topp’s academic career in American studies and his specialization in the immigrant experience gives him a unique perspective. “The history of the working-class immigrants in the United States is the history of our country,” he says. “That’s how tons of people got here, not to mention their descendants.”

Topp believes that the American immigrant experience is complicated by overt and underlying prejudices that affected the ability of working-class immigrants to ease gently into their new lives. He tells the story of the struggles of this country’s immigrant population: about people from Asia, Eastern Europe, Italy, Africa, Mexico and other countries whose attempts at socialization, integration and acceptance were stifled.

Even today, the struggle continues. “Contrary to what we want to believe, racial identity is still all-important in this country and affects how people live their lives,” Topp says. He also says that racial discrimination is not as clear-cut as it once was and “political correctness” is simply an excuse for prejudicial practices to go underground.

MICHAEL TOPP
TRANSPLANT THRIVES IN THE SOUTHWEST
by Jeryl Marcus

“We don’t hear racial slurs as openly as before,” he says. “Now there are all sorts of code languages to hide racial prejudice.”

At the beginning of his teaching career, professor Topp hoped to change the world by enlightening his students with knowledge of the immigrant experience. Now he presents this alternative version of the history of this country and lets his students come to their own conclusions.

“Many of the students on campus here are first-generation Americans. It’s crucially important that these students have faith that this country will carry through with its promises,” he says. “I realize I’m not going to produce an army of radicals, but I want to get them to think and analyze the history of this country.”

Topp has been at UTEP for five years. He received his bachelor’s degree in American Studies from Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., and his master’s and doctorate degrees in American civilization from Brown University. Although a young professor just starting his academic career, the 37 year-old is undoubtedly knowledgeable and an enthusiastic expert on the immigrant experience.

Topp uses his expertise to concisely explain a point or provide an example, often literally stopping in mid-sentence, fingertips pressed to his temple, as if to keep the many thoughts from flowing out, and deciding just which example or statement would best clarify his point.

“I always knew I wanted to be a professor,” he says. “I love to talk and I love to teach. This is what I want to be doing.” He most enjoys those occasions when his students respond to a particular point in a lecture and a dialogue ensues.

With his knowledge of U.S. immigration history, his understanding of the good and the bad of immigration policies and practices, Topp is in the right place at the right time. UTEP is the largest Hispanic-majority university in the United States and is positioned to prepare the country’s next generation of Hispanic leaders. Topp can provide these future professionals and leaders with the knowledge they can use to have a positive impact on future immigration policies and practices.

He is excited about the university’s proposed doctoral program in Borderland History, which is currently under consideration by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and also about the prospects for the development of the El Paso National Immigration History Center, which will be dedicated to studying and preserving the history of Mexican immigration to the United States.

It’s no wonder that Michael Topp, a transplanted Easterner and immigrant to the Southwest, has found his home in El Paso and at UTEP to be a perfect match for his academic and personal passions.
Hispanic Heritage Calendar of Events

UTEP celebrates the rich culture and traditions of the Hispanic community, with a variety of exciting and informative events and programs.

Featured Presentations
• Oct. 8: "The Making of a Mexican-American Mayor: The Honorable Raymond L. Telles of El Paso," with Dr. Mario García, history and Chicano studies professor at UC Santa Barbara; 7 p.m. Opening reception: 6 p.m., Tomás Rivera Conference Center, Union Building East, Third Floor. Free. 747-5362.

Lectures & Readings
• Sept. 8: "America's Hispanic Authors," by Miguel Ángel Zapata, a Peruvian poet and UTEP languages and linguistics assistant professor; 9 a.m., University Suite, Union Building East, Third Floor. Free. 747-5767.
• Sept. 24: Readings of "Blessed with a Bilingual Brain," by Juan Contreras, Chicano Studies writer-in-residence and an assistant principal with the Ysleta Independent School District; and "Peace Time," by Elena Rodriguez, UTEP alumna; 7 p.m., Blumberg Auditorium, University Library, First Floor. Free. 747-6719.

Exhibits
• Through Sept. 29: "Retrospective," featuring the photographs, paintings, illustrations and graphic designs of UTEP graduate student Felipe Ruiz; Union Exhibition Gallery, Union Building East, Second Floor. Exhibit hours: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday - Friday. Free. 747-5461.
• Through Sept. 30: Art exhibit by Ernesto Martínez, Chicano studies artist-in-residence; Opening reception: 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, University Library. Exhibit hours: 7:30 a.m. - 11 p.m. Monday - Thursday; 7:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday; and 1 - 11 p.m. Sunday. Free. 747-6719 or 747-5462.
• Through Oct. 5: "Art in the Plaza: Hispanic Heritage Murals." Each Monday, a local artist will complete a mural honoring Hispanic heritage; 2 p.m., Union Plaza. Free. 747-5711.
• Through Oct. 15: "Rarámuri: The Tarahumara Indians," a photo exhibit documenting the lives and ceremonies of Mexico's Tarahumara Indians; Centennial Museum. Exhibit hours: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday. Free. 747-5697 or 747-5565.
• Oct. 2 - Nov. 2: "Conscious Equivalent," featuring artwork by El Paso artist Maria King; Union Exhibition Gallery, Union Building East, Second Floor. Exhibit hours: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday - Saturday. Free. 747-5461.
Music & Dance

Sept. 9: La Voz Hispana de UTEP; noon, Union Plaza. Fee: 747-5481.


Sept. 30: "Viva El Paso" cast members illustrate Spanish and Mexican contributions to El Paso through song and dance; noon, Union Plaza. Fee: 747-5481.

Oct. 2: MANA "Suenos Líquidos 98" concert tour; 7:30 p.m., Don Haskins Center. Ticket information: UTEP Ticket Center, 747-5234, and all Ticketmaster locations.

Films

Oct. 9 - 11: "Fish out of Water." The directors will be available to answer questions about their film and the business of making Hispanic films at the Saturday night screening; 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 5 p.m. Sunday, Union Cinema, Union Building East, First Floor. Free: 747-5481.


16 de Septiembre

Sept. 16: 16th of September Parade, with high school bands, mariachi music, Banda de Guerra and Charreada; 10:30 a.m., Union Plaza. Fee: 747-5664.


Special Events


• Sept. 30: El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Mercado; 5:30 p.m., Swimming and Fitness Center. Fee: 747-5775.

• Oct. 2 - 3: Lowrider car show, pep rally and festival; 10 a.m., Friday, Union Building East parking lot, and 2 p.m., Saturday, Sun Bowl Stadium. Fee: 747-5584.

• Oct. 5: Glamour en Español, Magazine Festival honoring UTEP for creating opportunities for Hispanic students of the El Paso region; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Union Plaza. Free: 747-5711.


Utepl
Fall Preview of Good Reading from Texas Western Press

Red, White, and Green: The Maturing of Mexicanidad, 1940-1941
by Michael Miller

This new addition to the Southwestern Studies series explores how the arts--film, music, fine art and publishing--were used by the Mexican state in its quest of national unity and identity during the presidency of Manuel Ávila Camacho.

The Vietnam War: Its History, Literature, and Music
edited by Kenton J. Clymer

This collection of essays drawn from a 1996 symposium examines the traumatic impact of the Vietnam War on American institutions, the country of Vietnam, American and Vietnamese women, and American literature and music.
ISBN 0-87404-277-1, paperback $15

Reaching Out/Dame la Mano, Utilization of Mental Health Resources in El Paso and Mexico
by Guido Barrientos and Harmon Hosch

The authors of this bilingual, English and Spanish publication conducted a survey in El Paso, Texas, and in Guadalajara and Saltillo, Mexico, as part of their research to identify the types of stress-producing problems experienced by urban families. The survey included not only families of Hispanic origin, but also those of Anglo-American origin, allowing for important cross-cultural comparisons.
ISBN 0-87404-240-2, paperback, $15

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