UNM to celebrate ‘Super U’ homecoming Oct. 1-7

By Steve Carr

Since 1925, UNM has celebrated homecoming festivities welcoming back not only its alumni, but also inviting every department and organization on campus and the local and greater New Mexico community.

UNM’s 88th annual homecoming celebrates the theme ‘Super U.’ The festivities, Monday, Oct. 1-Sunday, Oct. 7, look to save and build anew the schools’ spirit leading up to the installation of UNM President Robert Frank in November in a community building celebration.

Homecoming week features more than 50 events, most held on campus and free to all. The celebration culminates on Saturday, Oct. 6, at 4 p.m. when the Lobos take on the Bobcats of Texas State at University Stadium. Half time includes the coronation of the homecoming king and queen.

‘Each year, the homecoming committee challenges the world faces, but also inviting every UNM to celebrate ‘Super U’ homecoming Oct. 1-7

TEDxABQ talk delves into UNM professor’s research for his son

By Benson Hendrix

Since Clark’s journey to speak at the recent TEDxABQ started several years ago. It started with a father’s love for his son and his concern that his son wasn’t receiving proper medical care, despite having access to modern medicine and advanced medical techniques.

‘My son got very sick when he was nine. He developed a pain syndrome that developed into a motor illness,’ Clark said.

Clark’s son Ryan was suffering with constant, near crippling pain and had developed Tourette’s syndrome-like tics, motor problems affecting his posture, muscle spasms and tremors.

Clark pulled Ryan out of school and the child was looking for his son and his concern that his son wasn’t receiving proper medical care, despite having access to modern medicine and advanced medical techniques.

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JAR lecture presents ‘Neandertals & Folks Like Us’

Professor and Chair of the Anthropology Department at Illinois State University Fred Smith will present the 35th lecture sponsored by the Journal of Anthropological Research on “Neandertals & Folks Like Us” on Thursday, Sept. 20, at 7 p.m. in the Anthropology lecture hall, room 163.

He will also present a specialized seminar “Vindija Cave (Croatia): Late Neandertals in South-Central Europe” on Friday, Sept. 21, at noon in Anthropology, room 248.

Smith is one of the world’s leading experts on the Neandertals, those once-erstwhile near-humans who inhabited Europe and the Near East from 300,000 to 30,000 years ago. For more than 40 years, he has conducted research in Croatia, former Yugoslavia, and has specialized in the anatomy of the Neandertals of the Balkans, most notably the large assemblages of remains from Krapina and Vindija caves.

UNM SCHOOLS RANKED AMONG BEST FOR HISPANICS

UNM graduate schools are ranked among the “2012 Best Schools for Hispanics” as reported by HispanicBusiness.com. The School of Engineering ranked fourth, the School of Law fifth and the School of Medicine eighth. UNM’s Anderson School of Management ranked 21st of Master of Business Administration degrees awarded to Hispanics.

The School of Engineering has 22 percent Hispanic enrollment. Retention rate for Hispanics in the 2010-11 academic year was 74 percent.

Hispanic students represent 27.6 of the School of Law’s student body, with 31.1 percent of Juris Doctorate degrees earned by Hispanics. Graduate enrollment at the School of Medicine is 28.9 percent Hispanic, with 31.3 percent of Medical Doctorates earned by Hispanics.

In Brief

Cancer Center to receive next-generation genome sequencer

The UNM Cancer Center is among a small number of sites worldwide selected to receive one of the first 20 units of the next-generation ion proton genome sequencer.

Genome sequencers help researchers discover the exact sequence of an individual’s DNA, which carries the instructions for protein manufacture inside a cell. If these instructions go awry, the proteins that the cell builds may not function properly, and improperly functioning proteins can sometimes lead to cancer.

Existing whole genome sequencers can take two weeks to sequence an entire genome at a price of around $10,000. The new ion proton genome sequencer will be able to sequence the entire human genome of 3 billion bases in half a day for $1,000.

Comparison of the entire genome from cancerous and noncancerous cells from the same individual could be used to individualize cancer treatment, a process known as precision medicine.

Cyberinfrastructure Day set for Sept. 28

Managing research data is becomingly increasingly paramount at institutions of higher learning. UNM is addressing data including storage, curation and access need to be addressed. On Friday, Sept. 28 at New Mexico Cyberinfrastructure Day 2012, managing research data is the focus of a one-day, statewide conference for science and humanities researchers at the Hyatt Regency Hotel Downtown.

The agenda focuses on data management best practices and other related topics, with speakers from New Mexico’s research institutions including UNM, New Mexico State University and New Mexico Tech, targeting the humanities and hard science audiences.

Also featured is a keynote with an Apple Computer representative, “Create, Curate, and Connect with iTunes University.”

Conference registration is $30 and includes a welcome reception Thursday, Sept. 27, at 4:30 p.m., and a light breakfast and lunch on conference day. The deadline is Friday, Sept. 21. Visit cyberday.unm.edu.

Lobo Growers Market open Wednesday

UNM’s Sustainability Studies Program arranged for the Lobo Growers Market to open every Wednesday through Oct. 7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on the Cornell plaza. The market builds upon two spring semesters, Jessica Rowland, the Lobo Growers’ market coordinator, has offered a hands-on practicum class that explores N.M.’s foodsheds and teaches students how to organize and manage a growers’ market on campus.

“Numerous students have suggested that our program create a market that operates on a weekly basis during the fall semester, when local produce is at its best and most abundant,” Rowland said.

“I’m so pleased that this dream is now a reality and that one of our very own Sustainability Studies students (Kimberly Barnham) is the market manager.”

UNM, SFCC agreement clears college pipeline

UNM President Robert Frank and Santa Fe Community College President Sheila Ortego signed an agreement recently with Santa Fe Community College Higher Education Center, a learning district established by SFCC. Under the agreement “UNM shall offer, at its discretion, courses facilitated through the Extended University operation.”

The Higher Education Center will provide computer laboratories and library facilities as well as testing and tutoring services at no cost to students. Textbooks for the courses will be available for purchase online.

Ortego said that the agreement allows UNM to have space at SFCC. Students can talk to advisers about courses of study, taking UNM courses online or plotting an academic plan.

Health Forum

HSC to enrich N.M. middle school science program

NM CARES Health Disparities Center opens doors to research

Student News

By NORA CHAVEZ

Marisa Rivera

Marisa Rivera knew in high school that she wanted to come to UNM. Her father was a graduate of the UNM School of Medicine, and as a child she often visited his practice. But it wasn’t until she was in college that her love of biology led her down the path to medicine.

During her senior year, Rivera applied to the Undergraduate Pipeline Network, a summer internship with stipend, and was one of 30 students selected out of 300 applicants. The program cultivates student interest in research while teaching skills needed to apply for and succeed in post-baccalaureate academic programs.

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Because of her interest in public health, Rivera mentored UNM’s salsa citation, Cass-Anne Stone. Cass-Anne Stone is director of the community engagement core at New Mexico State University’s Center for Health Policy at UNM.

Rivera was excited to learn that Caust-Caust was mentoring her with the Programa de Investigación Migración y Salud (PIMSA) as one of two international teams whose research focuses on migration and health within current policy contexts. Caust-Caust just received a grant to research health disparities along the border region.

Rivera visited a colonia just outside of Las Cruces and saw continued on page 3
University of New Mexico Technology Business Plan Competition helps create high-paying jobs

By Steve Carr

The Walmart initiative trans-projects or respond to short of UNM’s list of courses with time for students to collaborate, form of education. Studies have collaborative, learner-centered to replace lectures with a more

Walmart’s settlement along the U.S-Mexico border characterized property, firms that can be funded proprietary intellectual property to replace lectures with a more

A five-year grant for $3.8 million has been awarded through UNM’s Technology Business Plan Competition. New entering it for the first time, the competition has become a staple for students from all UNM schools and colleges to collaborate on teams that commercialize technology products developed by UNM’s National Labs and Los Alamos National Lab. The central theme of the competition is the creation of wealth and high-paying jobs. By venture and angel capital groups. Through the competition, students have the opportunity to work with small businesses and gain exposure to the entrepreneurial world.

Offering a top-prize of $25,000, the Technology Business Plan Competition is specifically focused on creating new technology companies with proprietary intellectual property that can be funded by venture and angel capital firms. That funding can help create high-paying jobs and increase wealth in a community, said Distinguished Professor of management, longtime UNM professor, Phillip Kassicieh, who coordinates the competition.

Teams present business plans based on technological intellectual property, with the expectation that they will turn that intellectual property, to a group of judges consisting of successful entrepreneurs, students, and other business experts. The judges evaluate the teams’ business plans and select the winners.

The competition is open to students from all UNM schools and colleges. Now in its sixth year, the competition has been a success, with teams from all schools and colleges participating. The competition is designed to provide students with real-world experience in entrepreneurship and business planning.

Continued from Page 2

Student News

The disparities facing residents in health care, housing and economics. Colonia, one of the poorest neighborhoods in the U.S., faces the greatest challenges. The neighborhood suffers from high unemployment, low income levels, and poor housing conditions. In order to help improve the situation, UNM cosap promotes ‘Fun in the 505’

By Karen Wentworth

Mathematics Lecturer Tamra Mason is part of a group building a safety net for students facing the uncertain depths and hidden obstacles of mathematics: “Stressed,” which offers students ways to combat stress, “Hungry,” which offers students a way to find food, and “Artsy,” which offers students a way to find art. These programs are designed to provide students with fun things to do.

Continued from Page 1

Walmart

of UNM’s list of courses with problematic pass rates in one semester. The project worked primarily with math and science faculty to replace lectures with a more collaborative, learner-centered form of education. Studies have shown that balancing lectures with activities that engage students consistently leads to better learning outcomes.

The Walmart initiative transformed large lecture rooms and auditoriums where students traditionally learned in passive, didactic learning communities where students learn from each other as well as from the expert instructor. The instructors are peer learning facilitators.

Participating instructors said that they were better connected to their students and that attendance improved in the collaborative-learning class rooms. Most instructors in the one-year project saw improvement in average grades. Survey responses show that students felt they learned more working with classmates and peer learning facilitators than they would have by lecture alone. Further, while students perceived greater learning in a collaborative learning environment, that preference was greater among first-generation college students.

The programs began through the Walmart initiative and have continued and expanded under the umbrella of the Project for Inclusive Undergraduate STEM Success, or STEM Gateway, which received a five-year federal grant for $3.8 million from the U.S. Department of Education.

Mexico border characterized by substandard housing, inade-quate water, poor drainage and substandard or no water and sewer facilities. The place reminded her of her father’s childhood home. “I just knew it as the place where my father grew up,” Rivera said. “I didn’t see or understand the disparities until I was involved in this project. It was eye-opening to see another aspect of medicine and how health policies affect the individual – who seeks care, who doesn’t and why.” The experience cemented her commitment to medical school and to becoming a family practitioner.
ISSUES IN EVOLUTIONARY ANTHROPOLOGY

Victor Strasburger

militant achievements is raising challenges to the hot button is the issue for the American Academy of Pediatrics and for pediatricians around the country, helping to create the current television ratings system. He founded the only clinical research center in the state, the Institute of Adolescent Medicine. State of the Art Reviews, and his textbook, "Children, Adolescents & the Media" is used on college campuses across the country.

Metamorphoses brings myths of Ovid to stage

KATHLEEN CLAUSON

This is the first time that Assistant Professor Joe Alberi will direct for the Department of Theatre and Dance at UNM. Originally from Boston, Mass., Alberi joined the faculty last year. He has directed more than 60 plays and has voice and dialect-coached professional and college productions. The set design for "Metamorphoses" is by Associate Professor Gordon Kennedy and student designers mentored by faculty, Michael Hidalgo, lighting design, and Sarah Wymann, costume design. Student Kimberly Jenning is the stage manager. Originally composed and sound design are by Casey Mraz, who will perform live during the production. He is using an ancient Egyptian instrument, the duduk, for much of the music in "Metamorphoses." Performances of "Metamorphoses" are Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Experimental Theatre, located in the lower level of UNM's Center for the Arts. Student discounts are recommended for teens and above. Ticket prices include $7 for UNM students, $12 UNM faculty and seniors, and $15 general admission, and are $10 UNM staff and all others. Tickets are available at the UNM Ticket office or by calling (505) 925-3858, or online at unmtickets.com. Visit theatre.unm.edu or call (505) 277-4332 for more information.

From left: Alexandra Pina, Jenny Hoffman and Francesca Thorpe. Photos by Max Whittaker.

I t's the classic experience of undergraduate and graduate anthropologists who live in the southwestern desert dream about. Beautiful, vivid fragments of charcoal collected from hearths row the time frame after bits of clay off of them. And then all of the small seeds and all of the really fine pieces of charcoal were collected. David Schade

From left: Alexandra Pina, Jenny Hoffman and Francesca Thorpe. Photos by Max Whittaker.

Howard Yonas

Yonas is a nationally recognized pediatric cerebral vascular surgeon and an internationally recognized expert on cerebral blood flow, metabolic and monitoring brain activity. Yonas established the UNM Department of Neurosurgery in 2005, a prolific writer, has received more than $10 million in grant funding and has an ongoing project to develop a statewide telemedicine network to evaluate and manage acute stroke. In recognition of his seminal contributions to the science of neurosurgery and the health and well-being of his patients, Yonas was named the inaugural A. Earl and Agnes M. Walker chair of neurosurgery in 2009.

Strasburger, professor of pediatrics, is chief of the Division of Adolescent Medicine. He is an internationally recognized leader in academic dermatology and dermatologic surgery, as well as in improving adolescent medicine. He lectures nationally and internationally, wrote six textbooks and seven other books. Among his most sig-

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Rodriguez disentangles speech
By Carolyn Gonzales

When teaching, Barbara Rodriguez, professor, Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences, might mention to her class that she is from Esperanto, N.M. “Students come up to me and say, ‘I’m from Esperanto,’ too or they might say they’re from Las Vegas, Taos or Mora. I think they respond that way because it’s the first time they’ve come across a faculty member from home,” she said.

Like many students from Northern New Mexico, she set her sights early on attending UNM. “I come from a long line of educators on my mother’s side,” she said. Rodriguez earned both bachelor’s and master’s degrees in communication disorders from UNM before going to the University of Washington for her doctorate.

She said that people view the scope of the practice very narrowly. “They know that speech-language pathologists work with children who have a lisp or a stuttering problem. But they don’t know that speech-language pathologists assess and treat voice, speech and swallowing in adults with head and neck cancers.”

“They don’t know that we help children who are non-verbal, use augmentative and alternative communication devices. Nor do they understand the speech and language connection to reading,” she said.

Speech-language pathologists don’t just work with those with communication disorders. “We work with the spouse or family of a patient with dementia to help them remember and use compensating strategies. For example, we might suggest the spouse put together a communica tion notebook with photos of family members, places and objects,” Rodriguez said.

Another way they help is for individuals undergoing gender reassignment. “If we have a transgender male transitioning to female, she needs to learn female speech patterns and non-verbal communication,” she said.

Rodriguez and her colleagues also work with indigenous national students who teach to reduce or modify their accents to promote effective teaching. “We also work with people who have voice disorders from misuse or overuse of their voices,” she said.

For students interested in a field where jobs are readily available, speech-language pathologist is a good option. “New Mexico has a huge need right now,” she said. “Each graduate gets multiple job offers. People come looking for them, from in-state and out-of-state,” she said. She said there’s a particular need for bilingual and Native American speech language pathologists.

Rodriguez’s research, with colleagues in Pennsylvania and Florida, involves developing tools to use to ascertain if English language learners whose first language is Spanish have legitimate speech disorders or if their speech is typical for speakers of a particular dialect. “The test we’re developing takes dialect into account,” she said. The project has a five-year grant from the National Institute of Health.

UNM group studies border issues in Chiapas
By Carolyn Gonzales

Verónica is a 28-year-old migrant from El Salvador who is taking the arduous journey north to the United States for the first time. When the Cross-Border Issues Group caught up with her in late June in Arriaga, Chiapas, she and her husband had been on the road for two months. They left their home, children, jobs and family because the economic situation prevented them from meeting their family’s basic needs. They had no other options, she said. Their plan is to stay in the United States for five years. She and her husband have thoughts about going to Houston, but they aren’t sure.

Verónica worked 6 a.m.-6 p.m. for $5 per day to help support her children, who are 13, six and three. She stats when she talks about leaving her children behind. She is all too aware as she speaks about the dangers she and her husband will face in the years north of the border, of the beatings, rapes, robberies and deaths. Her voice quivers and she can scarcely get the words past the tightness in her chest. She took the train to Arriaga, but wary of dangers she was given a ride in a car.

The Cross-Border Issues Group set out to visit some of the hotspots in Mexico, including Lechería, a migrant shelter on the north end of Mexico City, and Hermanos en el Camino (Brothers on the Road), a shelter in Ixtepec, Oaxaca. The trip also included a first visit to the shelter in Arriaga, a point along the rail route between Tapachula on the Mexico-Guatemala border and Ixtepec in southern Oaxaca.

This year’s group was just three members: Barbara Rodriguez, associate professor, Department of Communication and Journalism; Carolin Gonzales, senior communication representative, University Communication and Marketing, and Barbara Rodriguez.

During the trip, they went wrong about the diagnosis. “When the dust settled we started to look at the whole adventure and look at what went wrong and what it took to diagnose and cure him,” Clark said.

His research led to an interesting conclusion. As a society, Clark feels we have become used to the idea that “big medicine” — expensive medications costing billions of dollars to bring to market, complex surgery, electrodes implanted in patients — is seen as the silver bullet to better health care. It is the notion that more complicated medical procedures are required to provide people with the best possible care.

“Both doctors and patients have made an assumption that this is the best solution and that there is no other solution available,” Clark said.

What Clark feels is missing, and what he addressed in his TED Talk, is the idea of “small medicine” — less expensive, simpler and safer procedures are often as effective, if not more so, than more expensive medical cuts.

“What I’m proposing is that first of all we all look at whether or not it’s appropriate to look at big medicine as the only solution. And then to give small medicine a chance, or at least to take it seriously,” he said.

Read the complete story at news.unm.edu/2012/09/ vince-clark-feature-1
Appointments

Krause named dean of Honors College, University College

UMN Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Chaouki Abdallah announced the appointment of Catherine (Kate) Krause, dean of both Honors College and University College.

Dr. Krause distinguished herself as a faculty member and in the last year as the interim then dean of University College. She has provided steady leadership during a challenging year, quickly establishing herself as a champion of student success,” Abdallah said. “A national search for the permanent dean position began in the fall.

I am honored and humbled to be given this opportunity at exactly this moment. This year UMN will launch several significant initiatives, including the new Honors College, an intensive review of the freshman year experience and innovative interdisciplinary programs in University College,” Krause said.

Krause is a professor in the Department of Economics. She earned her bachelor’s degree at the University of Minnesota in 1977 and a Juris Doctorate from Stanford Law School in 1981. After a few years as an associate professor in St. Louis, Mo., she returned to school. She earned her doctorate in economics in 1996 at the University of Wisconsin Madison and joined the UMN faculty that year.

Leadership change at UMN Gallup

UMN President Robert I. “Bob” Goering appointed Vanya Baca, special assistant to the president for Branch Affairs, interim executive director of UMN Gallup. Sylvia Andrew announced that she is leaving her position to return to teaching.

“We are grateful for the effort he has given to understanding the relationship between the University of New Mexico and the community of Gallup,” Frank said. “We’re going to do everything we can to improve the success of the UMN Gallup campus and its students.”

The UMN Gallup directorship will be the second such post for Goering, who served as interim executive director of UMN Crookston in 2004-05. He has held a variety of administrative positions at UMN main campus, most recently as vice provost for Academic Affairs, 2007-12.

Dr. Goering knows more about UMN’s branches and their development than anyone else at UMN,” Frank said. “We’re counting on him to ensure the continued well-being of UMN Gallup.”

Iriart brings focus to Latino health issues

Velma Baca

Eliot Iriart has brought the plight of Latino and Native American health issues into sharp focus. One of her recent projects looks at the prevalence of diabetes affecting Latino children.

Her team analyzed chronic conditions among 32 Latino children and how it tied in with their socioeconomic and demographic conditions.

“Today we observed that so many children affected by obesity, and also chronic illnesses,” Iriart said. “This research underlines the con-nection between social deter-minants and health and the importance of not just the amount of calories consumed, but also the quality of nutritious meals and the environment.”

Iriart brings focus to Latino health issues

By Velma Baca
UNM ticket offices, (505) 925-5858 or unmtickets.com. For events requiring tickets, most may be purchased at UNM ticket offices. Popejoy present Disney’s “The Lion King,” a Tony Award-winning spectacle of animals brought to life by award-winning director Julie Taymor. Tickets are available at UNM ticket offices. Popejoy Hall, Tuesday-Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 6:30 p.m. popejoyresents.com.

1:30 p.m. See the UNM Lobos v. Texas State in the traditional Homecoming football game. Half-time festivities include the coronation of the homecoming queen and king. Discount tickets are available at $10 each. Call the UNM Alumni Relations office, (505) 277-3908 or (800) 258-6560 or order online at unmalumni.com/homecoming. University Stadium, 6 p.m.

Popejoy presents “Dancing with the Dark: Joan Snyder Prints 1963-2013,” the first exhibition about Joan Snyder’s adventurous approach to printmaking, a medium in which she has worked extensively for more than 45 years. She is recognized as one of the pioneering voices that championed feminism. Through Dec. 15.

The Transformative Surface is the first group exhibition of its kind at the UNM Art Museum to feature innovative new media, video and sound works of art by nine faculty artists from the Department of Art and Art History and the Interdisciplinary Film and Digital Media Program and six guest artists from San Francisco and Santa Fe. The exhibition is part of the International Symposium on Electronic Art 2012: Machine Wilderness. Through Dec. 15. Open Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday, 1-4 p.m.

Maxwell Museum of Anthropology • 277-4405

Ancestors” displays 4 million years of human origins, including distant ancestors like Lucy, Neanderthals and Homo Habitos, featured in a reconstructed cave setting, complete with ice Age drawings and sculptures. Permanent exhibit.

“Ancient Image: The Photographs of John Collier, Jr.” An online exhibit exploring John Collier’s work during the war years of the 1940s. americanimage.unm.edu

“People of the Southwest.” This exhibit explores 11,000 years of the cultural heritage of the Southwest and highlights major excavations and the archaeologists who directed them. Permanent exhibit.

“Instruments from Around the World.” An online exhibit at umn.edu/maxwell/exhibits/instruments. Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Guest column: Health care for all in Cuba

By Terry Crowe, Professor, Pediatrics Occupational Therapy

The first week of July I had the opportunity to spend eight days in Cuba. The U.S. recently opened up travel to Cuba with restricted visas. I went with 10 other UNM faculty and staff to explore the possibility of creating courses for our students in Cuba. My interest is in developing a course focusing on integrative medicine, how Cuba integrates complementary and alternative medicine into their health care, and traditional medicine, the Santeria religion facilitating healing. After receiving official approval through the Cuban Ministry of Public Health, two colleagues and I observed at three clinics or hospitals.

The U.S. is struggling with how we will provide health care for all of our citizens. Cuba has established a government-run health care system that is significantly less costly. 7.3 percent of its gross domestic product in Cuba as opposed to 16 percent in the U.S., with similar health outcomes. Infant mortality, average from 2008-10, is 6.9/1,000 live births in Cuba while in the U.S. it’s 7.07. Life expectancy is 77.9 years in Cuba and 78.5 in the U.S.

The Cuban health care system is based on six health care principles: 1) Health care is a basic right; 2) health care is free including dental care; 3) health care is accessible to all; 4) government is responsible for health; 5) primary care is the foundation; and 6) health care requires community involvement. They have set up a multiphase system which includes: 1) neighborhood consultorios/clinics that serve 1,500-2,000 people; 2) polyclinics that serve as outpatient, small health clinics; 3) municipal and regional hospitals; and 4) specialty hospitals such as rehabilitation or cardiovascular.

I was particularly impressed with the primary level of health care, which provides a clinic with a family physician residence in each neighborhood across the country. The professionals live and work in a house with the clinic on the first floor. Mornings are spent seeing neighbors in the clinic and afternoons conducting home visits with the emphasis on health promotion and disease prevention.

A strong public health philosophy guides the model with a commitment to equality in social services such as education, nutrition and housing, addressing how these factors impact health. At the polyclinic we observed primary care, urgent care, occupational therapy, physical therapy and natural health providers giving comprehensive treatments such as acupuncture.

We spent a morning at a rural medicine outpatient facility where health care workers were seen mostly providing Chinese medicine. This was a busy facility with many people waiting to receive treatment.

We also visited the national Rehabilitation Hospital in Havana, which has an impressive inpatient program including occupational therapy. Doctors and at least one caregiver live at the hospital for one to six months to receive intensive services. All of the health care providers we observed seemed committed to their job, proud of their programs, open to questions and passionate about keeping their clients healthy.

While the general health care provided is impressive, especially in contrast to the inequitable care we provide, everything is not rosy in Cuba. The health care providers receive an unbelievably low salary, reportedly $20 per month across disciplines. Facilities have limited resources, some facilities are in poor condition and there is limited client privacy or informed consent. The Rehabilitation Hospital had no air conditioning and none of the impressively built therapy pools had water. At the rural medicine outpatient facility the treatment rooms were crowded and hot.

Cuban health care is multi-dimensional, both good and bad. I think we can learn from Cuba about national health priorities.

UNM Valencia receives high marks from students

UNM-Valencia received high marks from its students in a national community college survey and the campus also was ranked by a national organization.

UNM-Valencia exceeded national benchmarks in all areas in the Community College Survey of Student Engagement. CCSEE is administered by the Community College Leadership Program at the University of Texas at Austin. Students rate the campus and instructors. UNM-Valencia students were randomly selected to rate the campus on five benchmarks:

- active and collaborative learning, student effort, academic challenge, student-faculty interaction, and support for learners.
- The campus was compared to more than 700 community colleges throughout the United States.
- UNM-Valencia also ranked 12th in the nation among community colleges for awarding certificates or degrees in the physical sciences for Latinos to the 2009-10 academic year by Excelencia in Educacion Excelencia in Educacion accelerated higher education success for Latinos by providing data-driven analysis of the educational status and promoting educational policies and institutional practices that support their academic achievement.
- UNM-Valencia is the only two-year school in New Mexico to receive national recognition from Excelencia in Educacion.

Designing a revolution

Unflinshed Spaces will take place Sept. 19, at 7 p.m. at the Guild Theatre. The film features intimate footage of Fidel Castro, showing his devotion to creating a worldwide show-case for art, and documents the struggle and passion of three revolutionary artists. Tickets are $7.

In 1961, Castro said, “Cuba will count as having the most beautiful academy of arts in the world.”

That year, Castro and Che Guevara commissioned three young, visionary architects to create Cuba’s National Art Schools on the grounds of a former golf course in Havana, Cuba. Construction of their radical designs began immediately and the school’s first classes soon followed.

Dancers, musicians and artists from all over the country reveled in the beauty of the schools, but as the dream of the revolution quickly became a reality, construction was abruptly halted and the architects and their designs were deemed irrelevant in the prevailing political climate. Forty years later the schools are in use, but remain unfinished and decaying. Castro has invited the exiled architects back to finish their unrealized dream.

Cuban ambitious National Art Schools project, designed in the wake of Castro’s Revolu- tion, is neglected, nearly forgotten, but ultimately rediscovered as a visionary architectural masterpiece.

File-Muriel receives Fulbright to Colombia

Richard File-Muriel, assistant professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese at UNM, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture and carry out research in linguistics at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia and Instituto Caro y Cuervo in Bogotá, Colombia, during the 2012-13 academic year, the United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board announced recently.

File-Muriel’s research deals with the role of language usage in emerging linguistic structure. As part of this research, he will work on the creation of an oral corpus of the Spanish spoken in Bogotá.

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UNM Professor Burke Gurney, Department of Orthopedics Physical Therapy Program, and Dr. Asuncion Tosar Perez, director of the Centro de Desarrollo de Medicina Tradicional y Natural, discuss treatments employed in Cuba.

UNM Valencia – State, National & International

Richard File-Muriel

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