

# unm-gviews

A quarterly newsletter published by the University of New Mexico-Gallup

News of Note

## Advisors to Meet on Gallup Campus

The New Mexico Academic Advising Association's 2005 State Conference will be held Oct. 20-21 at UNM-Gallup. Registration is \$45. The conference includes two keynote speakers, four panel sessions, lunch, entertainment, and regional cultural activities. There will be a reception at Gallup Cultural Center from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 20, followed by a wine and cheese social from 7 to 9 p.m. at Galanis Trading Company.

Breakfast will be at the college from 8 to 9:45 a.m. on Oct. 21, with lunch from noon to 1:15 p.m. Indian dances will follow at 1:15 on the patio.

For registration and information, contact Maggie Robinson at (505) 863-7578.

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## Gallup's History Takes Shape on A Downtown Wall

An art student at the University of New Mexico-Gallup is one of the eight muralists chosen by the City of Gallup to create art on the walls of downtown Gallup.

Paul Newman is painting what is officially known as "The Greater Gallup" mural,

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Photo by John Van't Land



## Chemistry Prof Wins SACNAS Award

Dr. Kamala Sharma, Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the University of New Mexico-Gallup, has been named recipient of the 2005 Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science award.

She will be formally recognized at the annual meeting of SACNAS in Denver Sept. 29-Oct. 2.



Dr. Kamala Sharma

Sharma has been active in a National

Institute of Health-supported Bridge Program that seeks to foster the transition of American Indian students from community colleges to four-year institutions for completion of the Bachelor of Science degree. She has recruited and helped nearly 50 American Indians student to make the transition to four-year universities.

"This record stands among the very best in the USA for successful enhancement of American Indian students at the post-secondary level in the sciences," said Dr. Glenn D. Kuehn, a colleague of Sharma's from New Mexico State University. "Her transferred students are completing B.S. degrees with 48 percent

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# From the Desk of the Executive Director



**Beth Miller**

First I want to welcome everyone back to campus after the summer break.

Even though the campus was relatively quiet this summer compared to our current activity, the faculty and staff worked hard during the summer months on a number of exciting programs that will have a far-reaching impact on UNMG in the coming years.

Last spring the campus was notified that we had been awarded a New Mexico state grant for the purpose of developing the Advanced Regional Technical Network (ATRN). The ATRN initiative is intended to create a strong relationship between area high schools and the college for the purpose of offering students a range of solid technical training. As a major part of this effort we are actively working with area employers including companies such as GIANT, Conoco and McKinley Paper. By partnering with the college these companies can give us the benefit of their technical expertise and experience which enables us to better prepare students for good paying jobs right here in McKinley County.

Associated with the ATRN program, we submitted a major grant request to the United States Department of Labor. If we are successful with this application the college will receive substantial federal support to expand the ATRN program. In addition we are currently working on a major proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF). Funds from this grant would help us to further expand the ATRN programs. Our goal is to create a powerful program that offers local high school and college students the opportunity to gain meaningful technical training and skills that are sought after by employers not only in McKinley County but also throughout the United States.

These are exciting times for UNMG. Our campus is changing on the outside with the road improvements and the planned expansion of our buildings. On the inside we are building new programs designed to meet the needs of our students and area businesses.

Our success is truly a partnership of students, faculty, staff, area schools, local businesses and the people of McKinley County. Thank you all for your hard work and support.

Sharma has been with UNM-Gallup since 2000. She has a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Oregon Graduate Institute of Science and Technology. She is currently administrator of the Extramural Associates Program of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

## Kamala Sharma, Continued from p. 1

success. Thus, her students perform slightly better than the average college enrollee in the state of New Mexico once they transfer to a four-year institution. This performance is better than twice the national rate of B.S. degree-completion for all American Indian students in all disciplines.”

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## Calendar

- October 15: Semester ends for first 4-week term.
- October 17: Second 8-week term begins.
- October 20-21: NMAAA Conference, Gallup Cultural Center, UNM-Gallup Campus
- October 1: Student Senate Halloween Dance, Gurley Hall, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- November 1: Ambassadors Luncheon, Gurley Hall Basement
- November 11: Veteran's Day. Campus open. No classes.
- November 24-27: Thanksgiving Holiday. Campus closed.
- December 4: Holiday Magic. 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Gurley Hall
- December 15: End of semester
- December 23-January 2: Holiday break

### UNM-Gviews

Published quarterly by the University of New Mexico-Gallup for faculty, staff & friends of UNM-Gallup.

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**Our Mission:** UNM-Gallup develops lifelong learners in a context that is responsive to the cultures of this region.

## Muralist, Continued from p. 1

which encompasses a broad view of the history and culture of Gallup. The seven other painters have taken other, more specific topics having to do with Gallup's history. Newman and the others worked with the City of Gallup to develop the focus for their murals. It is being painted on the west wall of the City Administration Building on Aztec Street.

"I focused on the things that made Gallup economically. Because 90 percent of history is about people going to work, I decided to portray aspects of Gallup such as coal mining, railroads, Highway 66, movie making, rodeos and Native American culture," Newman said. Rodeo will actually figure prominently in his mural: the first major figure emerging at this early stage of the painting is a barrel racer.

After steeping himself in the culture and history of Gallup, the artist decided to concentrate on the 1930s through the 1950s. It was during this period, he notes, when Americans took to the road – particularly on the fabled Route 66, which will figure prominently in the finished mural.

This is Newman's first mural, and although he is accustomed to working with large canvases, designing a mural has its own innate challenges.

"I decided to make the mural's shape a part of the overall image, in a sense. It's supposed to be evocative of the distinctive geological strata, the wind, a balloon filling with hot air, and other such aspects of the local ambience," Newman said.

Newman has also become well acquainted with the physical challenges of painting on large surfaces outdoors.

"There are a lot of gymnastics, clambering up and down the scaffolding, and then you're out in the elements, whatever they are—windy, cold, hot, dusty," he noted.

There is also the challenge of maintaining the scale as he moves from the original sketches to the mural.

"When you get up to the wall, you're going to make changes and modifications, and this can change perspective. Also, there are two points of view to consider—features that will look good from a distance, and some that will hold interest close up," Newman said. Furthermore, there is the ongoing distraction of passersby. Newman says it's easy to get his attention away from his painting, which starts every day of the week at 8:30 a.m. People pass by the muralist and his mural on their way to pay their electric bills. "This is a very public process, and I am a distracted sort of painter. Lots of people stop by to talk, but I don't mind."

Newman arrived in Gallup two years ago after retiring as an administrative professional at the University of Florida. With only one previous art course in drawing, he started studying art with UNM-Gallup Professor Ken Roberts, as well as other instructors such as Laura Bentz, Michael Gambill and Jeff Beekman.

Over the past two years, Newman has developed his own naturalistic style in oils and acrylics. And although he had never thought of doing murals before he applied for and was awarded one of the City of Gallup commissions, he has quickly warmed to the process.

The mural project is scheduled to be concluded in October.

## Around the Campus

Electronic Publishing Technology instructor **Carolyn Milligan** and Communications and Journalism Instructor **Pamela Stovall** were both awarded tenure. Both have now been given the rank of Associate Professor.

**Jeff Beekman** joined the Arts & Letters Department as Visiting Instructor in Studio Art and Curator of the **Ingham Chapman Gallery**, replacing **Laura Bentz**, who left to accept a faculty position in Nebraska. Other visiting faculty are **Alvin Hawkinson**, Health Careers; **Chris Platero**, Transitional Studies; **June Eastridge**, Nursing, and **Kristine Vierra**, Nursing. New regular faculty are **Lorraine Aguayo**, Cosmetology, and **Alok Dhital**, Math & Science

UNM-Gallup's **Student Senate of 2004-2005** donated two hand-crafted benches as its class gift.

**The Campus Voice**, UNM-Gallup's student newspaper, won second place in quality of publication in the National Scholastic Press competition for the scholastic year 2004-2005.

**Florentin Smarandache** presented two papers during the summer on his work on Neutrophics and Information Fusion. One paper was presented in July in Philadelphia, and the other in August in Pushchino, Russia.

**Dr. Anthony Mansueto**, Social Science Chair, and wife **Maggie Mansueto**, who teaches College Success, announced publication of their book, *Spirituality and Dialectics*, by Lexington Books, a division of Rowman & Littlefield Publishers of Maryland.

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200 College Road  
Gallup, NM 87301

*Register today for Fall Community Education classes!* Upcoming courses: Sign Language, French, Flower Arranging, Gift Basket and Bow Making, Dog Obedience and Basic Mexican Cooking. Call 863-7738 for more information. Space is limited, so call today!

## Around the Campus, Continued from p. 3

**Kathy Head**, chair of the Nursing Department, reports an 82 percent pass rate for UNM-Gallup's graduating nursing students.

**Charles Kaplan**, principal of The University of New Mexico-Gallup's Middle College High School, announced that MCHS had successfully met criteria specific to the No Child Left Behind Act. The criteria, known as Annual Yearly Progress, are based on graduation rates, attendance rates and student performance. The latter is based on standardized testing done in the spring.

Kaplan explained that if a school does not achieve AYP the first year, the state generally allows another year for the school to show better results by helping it develop a plan to improve. By the second or third year, however,

failure to achieve AYP means greater intervention. If a school still fails to achieve AYP after five years, the state can take it over.

MCHS was the only school in McKinley County to meet the AYP criteria.

MCHS, now beginning its fourth year, has also reached its maximum enrollment of 50 and now has a waiting list.

The Title III Grant Project, named "The Alliance for Responsive and Coordinated Curriculum Change", has moved from GH 2201A to GH 1107 and GH 1104. **Mary Snaden** is project Director and **Kari Lorensen** is Administrative Assistant II. **Pierre Laroche** of Dona Ana Community College is consulting Assessment Coordinator. Snaden reports, "We have been able to fill all our Learning Communities and we are off to a good start for the

Fall semester."

**Talan Lewis**, a spring graduate of the CCTE Auto Tech program, competed at Skills USA and took second place, competing against schools from all over the state. The competition was held at TVI on April 9. Talan was also chosen as student of the year for the CCTE program. He is also the first student from the CCTE program to pass his ASE certification test and qualify as a certified technician in Engine repair.

Zuni Program Manager **Dr. Dusti Becker** recently returned from London, where she was an invited speaker at the Royal Geographic Society. Becker spoke on June 23 to over 600 people about Ecuador's Colonche Hills, an area known for its efforts to preserve 7,000 acres of tropical fog forest and its diverse bird population.