Governor Susana Martinez visited the UNM-Gallup campus on Thursday, August 28th to speak with students, faculty and staff about the educational needs of New Mexico especially as they pertain to higher education. The Governor was warmly welcomed to the campus and received a standing ovation as she entered the Student Services Technology Center.

Executive Director, Dr. Christopher Dyer welcomed the Governor and her staff to the campus, then called Gallup Mayor Jackie McKinney to the podium. Mayor McKinney thanked Governor Martinez and introduced her as a “great friend to Gallup.”

The Governor’s message to UNM-Gallup was that there must be partnerships with the elementary, middle and high schools to form a true K-16 continuum. She emphasized the need for collaborations between all schools and universities to better prepare high school graduates thereby reducing the need for remedial courses. The Governor spoke to the need for workforce skills education as a means of meeting the requirements of current and incoming industries.

Governor Martinez spent the rest of her campus visit meeting the students, faculty and staff members who had come to hear her speak. She arrived on campus after visiting Juan de Onate Elementary School. Next on her schedule was the “Business After Hours” sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and a dinner party at the Gallup Cultural Center.
The Wealth in Diversity

When I was growing up in west Phoenix, Arizona, the suburb I lived in was basically “blue collar white”, with few opportunities to meet people of different ethnicities and cultures. Even my high school had few peers that were “different”, and it wasn’t until my college days at the University of Arizona that I could interact with fellow students from different backgrounds and places. Majoring in anthropology and biology, I was quickly immersed in issues of human diversity, both in space and time, and learned to appreciate the wealth in diversity. Learning about new ways of thinking and imagining through differences in languages, about tribal societies that lived free of stress and material goods, and about ancestor worship systems that allowed one to identify thousands of relatives by complex descent naming systems – these and many other lessons in diversity expanded my awareness and appreciation of the human experience.

As I advanced in my career, there were many opportunities to further expand my understanding and appreciation of diversity. Doctoral field work, research on resource management systems and disasters, and consulting with DC beltway firms took me around the globe – all total to 21 different countries. As I grew into positions of leadership, I applied my globe trekking lessons to better appreciate and interface with peers, students, and colleagues of diversity. Here at UNM-Gallup, we have a diversity of cultures, histories, and experiences that are a true wealth to our community and campus. We enjoy this richness at all three of our campuses, including Gallup, Zuni, and North Campus. At our North Campus, where we specialize in adult education, a recent ESL (English as a Second Language) class had a student body speaking fourteen different languages!! At Zuni (Shiwinna), our campus student body flows and ebbs with the cultural events of pueblo religious festivals, dances, and other community celebrations (such as the winter solstice – Shalako) that have origins that go back 3,000 to 4,000 years. With support from the Kellogg Foundation, the Zuni community has enacted bilingual and bicultural education to preserve this long-standing heritage for the next generation, while a similar effort is taking place with the Navajo STEP program.

The value in diversity - in different cultural and linguistic windows on the world – is of great import today as we face global challenges that threaten our very existence. Two hundred and fifty years ago, our ancestors mostly lived off the land as farmers and fishermen, while today less than 2% of our U.S. population fit that category. Living close to the land, it was imperative to sustain what the land had to offer. Today the traditions of environmental husbandry, respect for nature, and self-sustaining agriculture compete with the often destructive industrial food complex. Even though we live in a “food desert,” we are enriched by the diversity of food practices existing or being revived from the past such as our food pantry and Co-op, waffle gardens at Zuni, and traditional cropping systems for Navajo. Going back to...
traditional food practices can help us combat the ills of obesity, diabetes, and related cardiovascular diseases that plague our contemporary population. Sometimes it does pay to go “back to the future” and listen to the voices of our culture ancestors who lived hard but healthy.

At our UNM-Gallup campus, we are planning to host a diversity summit which will bring together the wealth of people and cultures that make up our region. Topics will include: (1) Celebrating the culture and diversity of all peoples, old and new who make up our region, (2) Common issues we explore that will improve multicultural understanding and respect for diversity and (3) Planning a “Diversity Fair” with the City of Gallup and McKinley County. We are also expanding our enrollment pipelines to increase the numbers of students of all cultures and backgrounds on our campus. This is truly a time to celebrate the wealth in diversity we all share - a wealth that enriches our lives through mutual respect and understanding.

Quilts of Valor Ceremony

The UNM-Gallup North Campus provided the perfect setting for the 2nd Quilts of Valor Ceremony in Gallup on July 18. Against the backdrop of beautiful and patriotic decorations prepared by the students and staff of the North Campus, a summer celebration was hosted to honor local veterans. The Tohatchi Veterans Organization began the ceremony with the posting of colors. The evening continued with a poem reading by Shawn Ashley, saxophone music by Richard Wade, and the presentation of handmade quilts to the Veterans. The veterans receiving quilts were Roy Phillips, Kathleen Leon, Lucretia Morris, Ryan Chee, Anthony Larry, Kyle White Eagle and Wyatt Stiger. Quilts were also presented to the UNM-Gallup Veterans Center, the City of Gallup, and Medal of Honor recipient Hiroshi Miyamura. Mayor Jackie McKinney accepted the quilt on behalf of the City and expressed his appreciation for the quilters as well as the support Gallup has given to all of its veterans. The Quilts of Valor ceremony was a joint project of Gallup Service Mart Quilters Guild and UNM-Gallup. The evening ended with an all-American picnic complete with hamburgers, hot dogs and apple pie. Approximately 200 guests attended.
UNM-Gallup is excited to release one of our newest initiatives which is the introduction of “UNM-Gallup Healthy U!” In collaboration with the UNM Employee Health Promotions, UNM-G will become a Wellness Ambassador to promote wellness programs within our worksite and to encourage employee participation. “UNM-Gallup Healthy U!” will work to improve the health of our employees to help all of us do a better job by encouraging fitness, healthy eating, stress management and preventive care.

We are looking for this to be a campus-wide project that will support and encourage employees and departments to do some or all of the following:

- Distribute promotional fliers on upcoming wellness activities;
- Create a “Health and Wellness Space” or small separate bulletin board with information about wellness programs;
- Reserve a “Healthy Minute” in staff meetings to pass along information on health topics and upcoming wellness events and programs;
- Work with colleagues to create a healthy work culture (i.e., offer healthy options at potlucks, celebrations and meetings; encourage lunch hour or break time walks; encourage stretch breaks in meetings that last over an hour, etc.)
- Encourage appropriate use of University policies that support wellness;
- Encourage a supportive environment that encourages all wellness initiatives;
- Promote the employee personal consulting services currently available from EHP including fitness, nutrition and lifestyle campaign advice.

Adult Education Center Leads the State

The UNM-Gallup Adult Education Program once again exceeded projected performance measures and ranked well above the state average in terms of program goals achieved for the 13-14 academic year. Per the chart above, the UNM-G Adult Education program was ranked as one of the top programs in the state. The Adult Education Program has sites at UNM-G’s north campus as well as the Zuni campus. Both sites provide instruction in GED preparation and English as a second language and the Gallup location also serves as a GED testing center. Project Director Laura Jijon oversees both programs.
Professor Carmela Lanza

Dr. Carmela Lanza, Assistant Professor of English, was a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) scholar in Florence, Italy from June 30 – July 24. Dr. Lanza attended the NEH Summer Institute “Dante’s Divine Comedy, poetry, philosophy and the city of Florence.”

In a recent discussion Dr. Lanza spoke about her trip. “The five week institute included the study of Dante’s Divine Comedy within the academic fields of theology, philosophy, literature and ethics. We held daily class meetings where I experienced rigorous scholarship and thoughtful analysis. Along with lively class discussions and visits from Dante scholars, we visited important sites in Florence. The city of Florence was an extension of our classroom, adding a cultural context to Dante’s life and work. We also took day trips to Siena, Assisi, and Ravenna studying the medieval art and architecture.”

Included in the group with Dr. Lanza as fellow NEH scholars were professors from Ivy league universities, state universities, private colleges and community colleges.

UNM-Gallup has been selected to host the Fall Service Learning and Leadership Conference of SkillsUSA New Mexico. The Conference will take place from Saturday, October 11 – Monday, October 13 and will involve 150-200 students enrolled in career technical education programs across the state.

SkillsUSA brings together students, teachers and industry representatives into a partnership of education, support and preparation for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations. Using an applied method of instruction, students are prepared to be high performance workers through education in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. An emphasis is placed on self-confidence, work attitudes, communication skills, high ethical standards, pride in work, dignity and education as a life-long process. The mission of SkillsUSA is to empower its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. Each year more than 300,000 students join SkillsUSA.

The students attending the Fall Service Learning & Leadership Conference will be participating in “Project Helping Hands” through involvement in the following projects:

1. Veterans Helping Veterans – The local veterans support group recently acquired a building that will give members a place to meet, eat and celebrate life. SkillsUSA New Mexico students will assist in renovation of the new building.
2. Playground of Dreams – This wooden playground was constructed one board at a time by community members nearly 20 years ago. Through “Project Helping Hands” the wood will be sanded, sealed and painted so children can continue to play safely.
3. Manuelito Navajo Children’s Home – Committed to making a difference one child at a time, the Manuelito Children’s Home has been specializing the care of Native American children since 1959, and will have its gym ceiling reinforced by SkillsUSA New Mexico students.

Generous Contributors to UNM-Gallup

UNM-Gallup is the beneficiary of two new scholarships:

- The “Robert and Mildred Holmes Memorial Scholarship” has been contributed to support students pursuing certificates and degrees in the allied health fields. The scholarship will be awarded in the amount of $500.00/semester. Robert and Mildred Holmes were wonderful citizens of Gallup and many remember Coach Holmes from his basketball days at Gallup Junior High School in the 1960’s. Thanks go to Chonita Holmes for memorializing her family with this generous contribution.
- The “GLP Entrepreneurship Initiative” will provide assistance to students in entrepreneurship/business programs in the amount of $2,000/academic year. UNM-Gallup is grateful to Robert Roche, Theresa Roche and the Gallup Land Partnership, LLC for their generosity to the students of UNM-Gallup.

Cool Things on Campus

- Call 505.863.7505 for the College Store (Books and more!!)
- Hungry? Have lunch at the Chili Factory Express, Gurley Hall
Levi Romero is the author of *Sagrado: A Photopoetics Across the Chicano Homeland*, UNM Press; *A Poetry of Remembrance: New and Rejected Works*, UNM Press; and *In the Gathering of Silence*, West End Press. He is from the Embudo Valley of northern New Mexico. Romero is a bilingual poet whose language is immersed in the regional manito dialect of northern New Mexico with its 17th century archaisms and melodic registers. His work has been published throughout the United States, Mexico, Spain, and Cuba.

**When:** October 2, 2014  
**Time:** 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Gurley Hall 1124

“Free Entry”

“Throughout the genizaro valle  
Las milpas de maíz  
Are lined in processions  
Their powdery tassels  
Swaying back and forth  
Like pueblo feast day dancers  
Atrás, adelante, atrás, adelante  
*Heya, heya, heya, ha*”  
- Levi Romero
Welcome Back - Fall 2014
The administration of UNM-Gallup extends condolences to the family, friends, students and colleagues of Dr. Teresa Wilkins who was a Professor of Anthropology at UNM-Gallup for over 19 years. Dr. Wilkins was born on March 7, 1952 and passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, August 19, 2014.

Dr. Wilkins received her Bachelor’s Degree from Gifted & Talented Appalachian State University in North Carolina after which she went on to earn her Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Dr. Wilkins was a published author whose books Beyond the Loom: Keys to Understanding Early Southwestern Weaving (co-authored and published in 1990), and Patterns of Exchange (published in 2008) are available in the Zollinger Library. Dr. Wilkins’ professional areas of interest and expertise included art and art markets.

Dr. Wilkins enjoyed outdoor activities such as landscape and architectural photography, cooking and learning languages. She practiced some textile arts which she learned in childhood. She also loved to read and write in many forms. She is survived by two sisters, one brother and several nieces.

A celebration of Dr. Teresa Wilkins’ life and memorial service was held Sunday, August 31, 2014 at 5PM at the UNM-Gallup Student Services Technology Center, Room 200.