College Awarded $40,000 Grant for Film Boot Camp

The University of New Mexico-Gallup has been awarded one of four New Mexico Higher Education Department grants of $40,000 each to run a film boot camp for high school juniors and seniors.

Pamela Stovall, Associate Professor of Communications and Journalism at UNM-Gallup, applied for the Film and Media Grant Film Boot Camp and received the news last week that the college was one of those chosen.

The grant will be used to buy equipment including cameras and computers. Students from McKinley County Schools and Zuni Public Schools will apply for admission by April 15, and after classes are out, will attend two weeks in the summer of classes and projects involving acting, directing, video work, editing on the computer and filming around the local area.

“It’s actually learn as you work, and they’ll be doing several film projects,” Stovall said.

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Nursing Program Continues to Shine

UNM-Gallup’s most dynamic program over the past few years has been Nursing--and 2006 has been one of the program’s most successful years so far.

The pass rate continues to grow—up to 82.1 percent in 2006 from 80 percent in 2005.

The nursing program graduated 31 students from December 2005 to May 2006. Another 18 are expected to graduate in December.

Nursing has a 95 percent retention rate, the highest retention rate on campus.

Nursing has an attrition rate of 10 percent in the first semester.

Nationally, nursing programs have an average attrition rate of 25 percent. The Nursing Program continues to admit 24 students each fall and spring, as well as transfer students and LPNs, as space permits. Four LPNs are expected to continue on to obtain their ADNs this fall. Four LPNs graduated during 2005-2006.

A new healthcare technician certificate program was developed by Barbara Ann Kline, nursing assistant program coordinator. The program is now being reviewed by UNM for approval of the curriculum, and the first students may be able to graduate in the fall of 2007.
From the Executive Director’s Desk

To the voters of McKinley County, I’d like to express my thanks for your support of Education Bond B and Library Acquisitions Bond C. Thanks to the voters UNM-Gallup will be given $2 million to build a Technical Center and Classroom. This tech center will do great things for our college and our community. With this facility we can focus on technical training for emerging technologies that will enable our students to secure higher wages in this region.

From Bond C, we will receive $61,700 for library acquisitions.

Those of us in higher education are aware that voters must consider carefully when deciding on measures that will increase taxes, even for the small increases that these bond issues represent. The financial challenges that face our citizens have heightened awareness of the need for prudence in spending and taxation.

For that reason, we are most grateful that local voters have rallied in support of this bond issue. We believe we have made a good case in stating the challenges we face in trying to plan for future needs in our community, and we believe that the recent vote is a signal acknowledging that we are headed in the right direction.

Again, my grateful thanks for the ongoing support of the voters of McKinley County. We can now look forward to building this new facility with the knowledge that the community is behind us and shares our vision for the future.

Nursing Program Shines, Continued from p. 1

Other highlights over the last year: Faculty Marji Campbell and Karen Hawkinson received awards from Faculty Senate for teaching and community service, respectively; the program received good reviews after an unannounced inspection by a representative from NACEP (the state nursing assistant certification exam organization); Faculty Marji Campbell and Program Specialist Anne Galanis developed a student mentorship program and submitted it as a mini-grant application and it was awarded funding. Also, more advanced students will be paid to mentor incoming students in such areas as academics, personal issues, time management; a fall learning community is being offered specifically for nursing and other health careers students; the program continues to to use SimMan, a $30,000 mannequin to provide students with realistic patient clinical experience to supplement learning that occurs in clinical sites at hospitals and clinics in Gallup, Grants and Fort Defiance.

Groundbreaking for the Health Careers II building took place in October. (see photo opposite page) This building will house nursing and other health careers programs and is expected to be completed in May 2007.

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 life-long learners in a context that is responsive to the cultures of this region.

CALENDAR

December 16: Last day of classes
December 25: Christmas Day
December 22-23: Holiday Break
January 2: Campus Closed
January 12: Financial Disenrollment
January 13: New Student Orientation 10 A.M.-2 P.M. Calvin Hall Auditorium
January 15: Martin Luther King Day Campus Closed
January 16: Spring Classes Start Welcome Event: 9-11 A.M.; 4-6 P.M.
January 17: New Student Orientation Zuni Campus, 1-4 P.M.
January 18: New Student Orientation 1-5 P.M. Calvin Hall Auditorium
January 24: Local Board meeting; 6 P.M., Gallup campus
Around the Campus

The first round of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges Competition at UNM-Gallup involved about 50 students, with five students qualifying for the team. They are Valerie Baker, Richard Sandoval-John, Hansen Tapaka, Fern Benally and Germain Jones. Moderators of this competition were Dr. Florentin Smarandache, assisted by Alok Dhital. The AMATYC Competition is nationwide and involves about 160 Colleges from USA and Canada. The second round of the competition will be in February-March 2007...

Jim Sayers, Associate Professor of Transitional Studies, has accepted an invitation by Longman publishers to provide input on integrated Developmental software currently under development. Longman is particularly interested in feedback from faculty associated with dedicated Developmental departments, such as UNM-G’s Transitional Studies. The international publisher is funding twelve invited academics nationwide to meet in Boston over the holiday season. Sayers also provided a last-minute presentation by invitation at the New Mexico Adult Education Association annual conference in early November. The title of the presentation was “Getting Students Ready to Write for College”. Sayers stood in for another presenter who canceled...UNM Gallup has received approval to conduct a new DWI pilot program targeted at multiple offenders. This is the first such program in New Mexico. The program was put together through the special efforts of Steve Peretti, Community Affairs’ Administrative Assistant III Louise Lopez, and Paul Campos. Mr. Campos is the Director of Juvenile Services and a DWI Coordinator.

Red Mesa Review Wins Small College Award

Volume 12 of UNM-Gallup’s literary magazine Red Mesa Review has won the Small College Award in the Southwestern Region of the Community College Humanities Association Literary Magazine Competition. The college previously won an award in the same competition in 1999.

RMR is published annually and contains the original artwork and literary compositions of students, faculty and staff.

The editorial board was composed this past year of Arts and Letters faculty Gloria Dyc, Fran Pawlowski, Jeff Beckman, Bill Kaul, Jennifer Boots-Marshall, Norman Smith, Mike Volz and Robert Hoffman, and Transitional Studies faculty Jim Sayers. Design/Layout Editor was Arts and Letters faculty Carolyn Milligan and Student Design/Layout Editors were Dillon Day and Jason Pawela.
From UNM-Gallup, wishing all our friends in the Gallup-McKinley County area the happiest of holidays.

Fall Events on Campus

Halloween Carnival and Haunted House
The UNM-Gallup Student Senate hosted a Halloween Carnival and Open House in October. Students and families gathered for a Haunted House, treats, and traditional fall games like bobbing for apples.

Above: Cassandra Barney, a senior at Fort Wingate High School, sang the National Anthem in the Navajo language during the college’s November 9 event honoring veterans for Veterans Day. In background are Cal Curley, aide to Congressman Tom Udall, and Alvin Harvey, president of the Student Senate and a member of the UNM-Gallup Veterans Association, organizers of the event.