

Chicana/o/x Studies Q-VO Newsletter

Spring Quarter

June 2019



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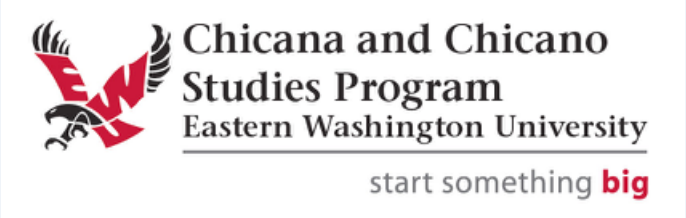


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Director's Note: Martín Meráz García, Ph.D.



Spring 2019 was an exciting and a busy quarter for all of us in Chicana/o/x Studies; the planning and executing of the Inaugural EWU Cinco de Mayo Latino Forum to kick off our institution's Hispanic Serving objective was a

success thanks to the core committee members whom planned, executed and implemented the various components of the forum. The committee was composed of Ms. Guadalupe Cannon; Aurelia Murguia, Marilyn Dreis, Maria Reyna, Victor Rodriguez, Vanessa Delgado, Darlene María, Jonatan Juarez, Liliana Diaz-More and Dr. Christina Torres García. The Latino Forum had two pieces; an academic/professional training and a fundraising (more on page 6) components both of which were implemented successfully. For example, over 150 staff, students, faculty, administrators, presenters and community members register and attended the workshops throughout the day and more than 100 attended the fundraising evening event, which allowed our Program to create the first Chicana/o Studies Endowment in its history (more on page 8).

Additionally, Chicana/o Studies was also engaged in a Tenure Track Faculty search and thanks to the diligent work of the search com-

mittee which included Drs. Stacy Warren from Geography, Nydia Martinez from Chicana Studies/History and Rie Kobayashi from Social Work, our program was successful in hiring Dr. Edwin Elias (more on page 5) who replaces the tenure track position held by the previous Chicana/o Studies Director Dr. Elisa Facio. We thank the Dean of the College of Social Science & the Provost for their commitment to Chicana Studies.

We encourage you to read Dr. Nydia Martinez column to learn more about her study abroad research being conducted in Oaxaca in collaboration with Dr. Gina Pitrie, Director of EWU English as a Second Language Program.

Furthermore, our Program had a successful Chicana/o Studies graduation celebration for our 2019 graduation class thanks to the efforts of the committee who organized it including Dr. Miguel Novella from the Spanish Department, Josiah Van Egdome, Aurelia Murguia and all of our work study students (see page 5 for names and photo).

Moreover, CAMP Program had a successful year with a great turnout for Noche de Familia; a total of 180 family members and guests were in attendance thanks to the hard work of all of its staff who worked tirelessly to make it happen. The Dare to Dream Academy which is funded by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and supported by Association of Washington State Principals (AWSP) was a success serving a total of 109 high school students from different parts of Washington State.

Collaborative Research

By Dr. Nydia Martinez



Currently, Dr. Nydia A, Martinez, is in the process of a collaborative problem-based research project with Dr. Gina Petrie, director of EWU's English as a Second Language Program. The

project is titled the "Impacts of Study Abroad Programs on First Generation Heritage Culture and Language Students." The goal of this research project is to explore the identity-impacting experiences of first-generation heritage culture and language students studying abroad in the City of Oaxaca, Mexico as they navigate languages and cultures. This research is a collaboration with history study abroad programs in Oaxaca City from the University of Texas in San Antonio (UTSA) and University of Texas in Dallas (UTD), which are Hispanic Serving Institutions with high percentage of first-generation students. From the information obtained through this collaborative research, the goal is to develop culturally responsive study abroad programs that actively recognize the diverse academic, cultural, and emotional needs of first generation Latinx students. Furthermore, taking into consideration that more than 50% of EWU students are the first in their families to attend college and that we aspire to becoming a His-

panic Serving Institution in the near future, this research and study abroad program will contribute to the needs of our EWU community.



The Mexican State of Oaxaca



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A Note From Former Graduate Intern Darlene Maria



Being a Teaching Assistant (TA) for the Chicana Studies Program was an amazing experience full of endless opportunities. I started this position as part of my internship requirements for my Master of Education program at EWU and I couldn't have found a better internship site. Dr. Meráz-

García was an enormous support and I learned so much from him in such a short amount of time. As a TA, I was able to grow both personally and professionally. My public speaking and teaching skills evolved throughout these past five months. Additionally, being a TA gave me the opportunity to practice many of the things I learned in my graduate program. I stepped out of my comfort zone and got more comfortable standing in front of the classroom. Lastly, my passion for teaching grew immensely as well as my interest in advocacy to help Latinx or other students of color succeed in higher education.

In addition, I had the opportunity to be part of the Inaugural EWU Cinco de Mayo Latino Forum Committee. I assisted with the organization of this event and had the amazing opportunity to work and meet other faculty and staff from other departments at EWU. Being part of the committee provided me with the opportunity to experience what it takes to organize such a big event on campus. This experience will definitely help me in my future career as an educator in higher education. Also, I was one of the presenters at the event and had the opportunity to present on the experiences of first-generation Latinx

college students. Presenting at this event also gave me the opportunity to network with educators from other colleges and universities. This was my first time attending an event like this and it was very inspiring seeing how educators came together to assist EWU as we transition into becoming a Hispanic Serving Institution. I look forward in assisting the Chicana Studies Program organizing this event next year.

"With an education, you have everything you need to rise above all the noise and fulfill every last one of your dreams."

- Michelle Obama



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A Note From Former Graduate Intern Jonatan Juarez



For the past six months, I've had the pleasure of being a teaching assistant (TA) for the Chicana/o/x studies program which also helped me in fulfilling the internship

requirement of the M.Ed. Adult Education Program at Eastern Washington University (EWU). My experience working for the Chicana/o/x studies program as a teaching assistant has been very rewarding. In addition to strengthening my academic development in public speaking, classroom management, curriculum development, and working in direct contact with post-secondary adult learners, I thoroughly enjoyed working with the Chicana/o/x studies program team. Because of the endless and great leadership of my mentor—Dr. Martín Meráz-García— I have been able to not only grow as an individual and scholar but as a professional as well. As a TA, I've had the opportunity to build strong relationships with students and faculty. I've also been able to celebrate milestones—that being my own, the Chicana/o/x studies program or of the students I worked with. Most importantly, through this teaching assistant opportunity, I have reaffirmed my passion for teaching and research.

In addition to helping the Chicana/o/x studies program as a TA, I've also been able to assist in the planning of the “Inaugural Cinco De Mayo

Latino Forum” event. Through this experience, I've been able to fortify my collaboration, organization and communication skills. In like manner, being able to help plan this event has allowed me to network with other faculty and staff from various departments at EWU. Equally important, through the Inaugural Cinco De Mayo Latino Forum event, I've had the pleasure of meeting other educators from various colleges and universities. Additionally, I had the opportunity to present on culturally responsive teaching during one of the sessions of this event. The Inaugural Cinco De Mayo Latino Forum allowed me to hone my presentation and research skills. It was a great pleasure being able to assist the Chicana/o/x studies program as a TA and I am thankful for the opportunity to assist not just the Chicana/o/x studies program but also EWU in transitioning to a Hispanic and Diversity Serving Institution.

“The purpose of education is to replace an empty mind with an open one.”

-Malcolm S. Forbes



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Welcome to Our New Faculty

CEP Work Study Students

It is a pleasure to introduce our newly hired Chicana Studies Faculty Dr. Edwin Elias who is replacing our past Program Director Dr. Elicia Facio. Our new hire comes from the University of Puget Sound where he held a position as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Dr. Elias is a graduate of the University of California at Riverside and we are excited to have him join the Chicana Studies Faculty.

In addition, Dr. Elias completed his Ph.D. in Sociology in the Fall of 2016. His areas of specialization are immigration, race/class inequality, U.S. – Mexico border issues, Latina/os, undocumented immigrants, citizenship, higher education, qualitative methods, political economy, transnationalism and global inequality. We are thankful for the diligence of the search committee and the commitment by the Provost and the College of Social Science to fill this replacement despite the financial challenges facing the institution.

(Photo of the faculty was not made available)



We would like to thank all of the work-study students for their contribution to the Chicana Studies Program this previous academic year (Fall 2018-Spring 2019). Thank you for all of your hard work and support in many of the events the program had this year. We wish them a great and safe summer break!

Feature in this photo starting on the left is: Josue Gonzalez, Maria Gonzales, Veronica Ruiz, Letsy Gutierrez, Daisy Ibarra, Josiah Van Egdom & Artemio Valdez.



EWU's Monroe Hall



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Inaugural Cinco de Mayo Latino Forum



This photo exhibits Chicana Studies Alumni, Founders, Faculty and Staff

On the academic component; scholars, higher education experts, educators, students, community leaders, local activist, students, alumni, professionals, state government representatives, non-profit organizations and local activist answered the call for submissions for presentation proposals; over 21 abstract/proposals were accepted and over 26 presenters provided training to EWU staff and faculty on a range of issues consistent with the Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) objectives. Additionally, over 51 certificates of completion were issued to mainly EWU staff & students for attending a full day's worth of workshops. The idea behind this effort is to impart knowledge that will help EWU faculty and staff develop knowledge/skills/expertise to best serve students of color including Chicana/Latina.

Featured among the keynote speakers included Dr. Gina Ann Garcia, a nationally recognized speaker and expert on best practices among Hispanic Serving institutions, she is the author of the book title "Becoming Hispanic-Serving Institutions" (2019) and a journal article title "Decolonizing Hispanic-Serving Institutions: A Framework for Organizing" (2017) among many others (see the Winter 2019 Issue of the Q-VO

Newsletter for additional profile info.). Dr. Garcia's speech was critical, energetic, inspiring and provided a roadmap on how to move forward towards our goals of becoming HSI. Dr. Rodolfo Arevalo, EWU's 25th President from 2006-2014 and currently EWU President Emeritus was another high-profile keynote speaker who share his vast experience teaching, and running Hispanic Serving Institutions as a higher education administrator. Having served as EWU President for 8 years, Dr. Arevalo provided important insights on how the institutions can move forward towards its goal of becoming HSI. The keynotes of Ms. Elena Calderon and Dr. Cuauhtémoc T. Mexica during the fund-raising event were uplifting and inspiring. Finally, we are thankful for the participation of Provost Gordon, President Cullinan, Dean Anderson and Board of Trustee Uriel Iñiguez for welcoming the Forum attendees throughout the day and for their commitment to the HSI objective.



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Latino Forum's University Partners

University & Corporate Sponsors

Our Program is thankful to the EWU Strategic Access Co-Champion Team including Dr. Leslie Cornick, and Jens Larson who as a team worked on the grant that was submitted to the Office of the Provost; this is how the planning of the Inaugural EWU Cinco de Mayo Latino Forum began. The Office of Diversity & Inclusion was key in lending its support as well as the the Access Team in lending support for the Start Something Big Grant proposal submitted; the McNair Scholars Program which is part of University College were also critical components in the planning and implementation of the Forum's success. It is important to note the support of the EWU Digital, Marketing & Media Communications Team including Shelley Stickelmeyer; Brent Schneider, Steve Bateman and Meany David. Finally, the support of Dr. Patrick Jones from the Institute of Public Policy & Economic Analysis who provided statistics and helped co-author the OpEd pieces about the event that were published in the Spokesman Review and the Tri-City Herald complemented nicely the Forum's momentum.



Photo displaying EWU's 25th President, Dr. Rodolfo Arevalo during his keynote speech at the Inaugural Cinco de Mayo Latino Forum Event.

Our Program is thankful to Provost Gordon who funded a major part of the Inaugural EWU Cinco de Mayo Latino Forum. Additionally, Dean Anderson of the College of Social Science also contributed generously to make this event possible. The EWU Foundation Start Something Big Grant also made a respectful contribution that made it possible to successfully execute the event. Lastly, but not least, our Chicana/o Studies faculty & staff made a substantial contribution both financially and in terms of human resources to make this event as successful as it was.

Moreover, the Latino Forum and Fundraising Event would not have been possible without the generous contributions of our corporate partners including Best Western Plus; Peppertree Hotels and Avista Corporation. Finally, we also had table sponsors that include Mr. Francisco Navarro Rodriguez, Faculty Organization President, Christina Valeo and Chicana/o Studies alumni Chief Allan. We are indebted to these sponsors and many other individuals from other units within the university that contributed to its success.

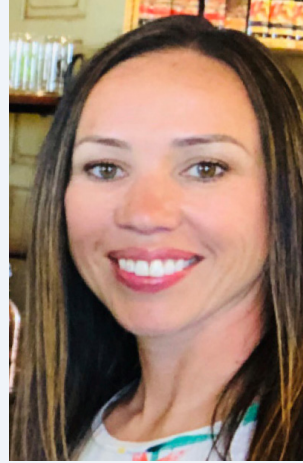


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Chicana/o Studies Endowment Founders

The EWU Chicana/o Studies Endowment is the first to be established in the 43-year history of the Program's existence. This was possible because of the impact individuals who were running the Program had on the Chicana/o Latina/o alumni who made a pledge and a contribution to create this endowment. In the stories shared by various alumnus, it was the social activities, the strong relationships that were formed between staff, faculty and students that made their undergraduate experience such an unforgettable time at EWU. These experiences created a sense of loyalty, duty and the urge to give back to a Program that gave them so much in terms of friendships, partnerships, memories and lived experiences. The commitment and gratitude to our Program is reflected in the pledges of the five founders which exceeded \$30,000 for the next five years; the overall amount raised surpassed \$41,000 in pledges and donations during our fundraising event. We believe there is an entire community of EWU Chicana/o alumni who feel the same way as these founders and want to make financial contributions; we will continue to reach out to them as we began planning our 2nd Annual Latino Forum. Additionally, other alumni want to be engaged with our Program in other ways and for these reasons, we reached out to many of them since October of 2018 as we were planning our Inaugural EWU Cinco de Mayo Latino Forum. Chicana/o-Latina/o alumni participated as presenters and volunteers. Moreover, the Latino Forum and Fundraising event was a great opportunity to recognized staff, faculty and alumni that were part of our program since its inception including Dr. Jim Perez, Lupe Cannon and Dr. Gilberto Garcia among many others who had a significant impact in the lives of many alumni.



My decision to make a contribution to create the first Chicana/o Studies Endowment was very easy. The Chicano Ed program and its staff helped me feel at home when I attended Eastern. If it was not for the Chicano Ed program I am not sure I or my friends would have stuck around. All the programs offered helped us make friends and connections with others and made for an easy hang out. I looked forward to going to Chicano Ed and hanging out with friends and staff. Dr. M was always easy to talk to and Lupe was a mother to many always taking care of anyone that needed it. And her hugs are the best. So, needless to say the decision to pass it on to fellow Eagles was simple. Teresa Chavez, one of 5 Chicana/o Studies Endowment founders is a 2001 EWU Chicana/o Studies Alumni with a BAE Ed/Health and an MA Professional Ed. Teresa Chavez is currently a Phys. Ed./Health Teacher at Pasco High School Coaching Girls Soccer, Girls Bowling and Boys Soccer at Pasco High School.



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Chicana/o Studies Endowment Continue



Esther and Ricardo Chavez met at Eastern Washington University in 1994 and have been together ever since; both are endowment founders. Ricardo was active in Movimiento Estudiantil Chicana/o de Aztlán (MEChA), the Chicano Education Program Mentoring Program, and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History with a Minor in Chicano Studies in 1997. Esther was an Eagle Ambassador, worked part time as an Art Curator, was involved in RAICES, MEChA, and graduated in 1999 with a Bachelor of Arts in Education and Art with a minor in Spanish. Esther works as the Art and Leadership teacher at Ochoa Middle School for the Pasco School District. Ricardo works for Walla Walla Community College at Coyote Ridge Corrections Center as a GED and ESL Instructor. They enjoy traveling and spending time with their three future Eagles, daughters Ehriza and Belen, and son Ehzoc. “We believe that giving back is a part of who we are as a family and a community. Students often have the drive, the passion, the ganas, but just need some financial help to get them over barriers. We are proud and happy to offer our support to the Chicana/o Studies Endowment to help these future students. The CEP did so much for us and we want to make sure it helps many more creative, enthusiastic, and aware students to come.”



Drs. Christina Torres García and Martín Meráz García are both EWU Chicana/o Studies alumnus and endowment founders. While attending EWU from 1996-2001, Christina was part of the Chicana/o Education Program as a work study student leading the Ballet Folklórico Primera Generación who she funded with Martín Meráz García. While attending EWU she was involved with MEChA, she completed a BA from EWU in Management Information Systems & Finance before heading to graduate school at WSU where she completed an MBA and a PhD. EWU and the Chicana/o Studies Program had such a positive impact in Dr. Torres García’s life that she chose to come back to her alma mater and take on the role of McNair Scholars Program Director, she has served in this position since 2011. Dr. Martín Meráz García is also an EWU Chicana/o Studies alumnus, he began as an undergraduate at EWU in the fall of 1994 and was deeply involved in the Program since starting school; he too was part of various organizations such as MEChA and Ballet Folklórico Primera Generación. Martín remembers fondly his 5 years as a student in Chicano Ed. where he assisted the program’s faculty and staff organize social functions including dances, BBQ’s, intramurals sports, Cinco de Mayo; participating in Chicano plays and conference among many others. More importantly he remembers the commitment the people who worked in the program had towards students and believes it is important to make a financial contribution so that others can have similar opportunities.

CEP Graduation Ceremony

We had a successful 2019 Chicana/o/x Studies Graduation with a total of 117 undergraduate/graduate students, family members, faculty and staff attending the celebration. The keynote speakers for the event were inspiring, among them Chicax Studies Minors Ms Nancy Vargas and Ereisa Morales who share words of inspiration for the graduates and their families. Additionally, the keynote speakers share with their graduating peers their unforgettable experiences while attending EWU; among them the bonds they developed with Chicax Studies faculty and staff and other supporting units within the institution.

The following students graduated with their Chicax Studies Minor: Antonio Ramírez – Social Work; David Ogle – Race and Culture Studies; Ereisa Morales – Criminal Justice & Sociology; José Guillén Esquibel – Spanish; Josiah Van Egdome – Political Science; Kennedy Morgan – Race and Culture Studies; Kimberly Jones – Race and Culture Studies; María Tapia – Visual Communication Design; María Guerrero Romero – Social Work; Nancy Vargas – International Affairs; Sarahí Gutiérrez – Political Science & International Affairs; Víctor Briseño – Social Work.

Also, a total of 39 other graduating Latina/o/x students and their families from other disciplines RSVP and attended the event where they were provided with stoles representing their cultural heritage.

Moreover, the Chicax Studies Program recognized the scholarship recipients for the 2019-2020 academic year. A total of 11 scholarship were awarded to students ranging from \$500-2000 each, totaling \$18,070 in scholarships. The following students are the scholarship recipients for the 2019-2020 academic year: Aide

López, Anahí Botello Cortez, Brizeida Hernández Abarca, Dania Partida Hernández, Elida Madera Cruz, Evelio Navarrete Lozoya, Jazmin Valdovinos Campos, Juan Gallegos, Luis Cisneros, Michael Flores, and Sebastián Gómez. We are thankful to the following donors: Dettmers, Guardado, Wittenbach Trust and Hispanic Legacy for their generosity and their commitment to the Chicana/o Latina/o students attending EWU. We thank Associate Dean, Vernon Loke and Dean Jonathan Anderson of the College of Social Science for attending the Chicax Studies graduation despite their busy schedules.



In this photo, Chicax Studies Minors take center stage at the CEP Graduation Ceremony.



Picture displaying Dr. Martinez and Dr. Meraz Garcia honoring students at the CEP Graduation Ceremony.

CAMP & Dare2Dream Academy



The College Assistance Migrant Program (C.A.M.P.) had a successful year thanks to the dedication of its staff Associate C.A.M.P. Director, Jennifer J. Núñez, Retention Specialist, Edgar Montoya, Outreach Specialist, Nubia Ramirez and Program Assistant, Brenda Gutierrez. C.A.M.P. also depends on the support of its Graduate Assistants Marylou Diaz and Emilio Bustos as well as its mentors, tutors and various campus and non-campus partners who have helped the program be successful throughout its existence.

A couple of highlights from the spring quarter include Noche de Familia, C.A.M.P. celebrated Cohort 5th who successfully completed the program. Over 180 family members and guests attended. EWU President, Mary Cullinan provided opening remarks in both English and Spanish surprising many of the families and guests in attendance. Current Cohort 5th CAMPers Jemily Barrientos and Samuel Urcino shared powerful testimonios (testimonies) and the impact the program had in their lives. Former CAMPer, Graciela Obispo served as the keynote speaker during the event who share how C.A.M.P. has continued to help her career and graduate studies. Moreover, C.A.M.P. is currently completing the 5th year of its grant cycle and

most recently just completed the Dare to Dream Academy.

This year, the Dare to Dream Academy took place June 19-June 25. The Dare to Dream Academy is funded by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and with the assistance of the Association of Washington State Principals (AWSP). Students who attend the Academy have the opportunity to earn .5 high school credit for their participation. The academy is geared towards at risk migrant students and exposes them to a university setting, campus life, and university resources among other things. The academy implemented two components, the Hero's Journey, which included 78 students from the 8th and 9th grades and the Math Academy with 31 students from 10th & 11th grades; in total, 109 students from various high schools in Washington State were served. The academy was a success due to all of the on campus partnerships including: Admissions, Event Planning, Financial Aid, University Productions, Housing and Residential Life, Parking and Transportation Services among many others who have provided continued support throughout the years. Thank you to the academy instructors, runners, dorm monitors, bus monitors, and mentors for all of your hard work throughout the week. The academy would not have been such a success without your help. You have made such a great impact in the students' lives and because of you; the students have a great future to look forward to.



Chicana/o/x Studies Program Information

The Chicana and Chicano Studies offers an academic minor designed to provide all students, regardless of ethnicity, a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of the Chicano/Latino community and relevant issues. Chicana/o Studies has a dual mission at Eastern Washington University, the first is to actively contribute towards enhancing the opportunity and participation of Chicanos/Latinos in higher education. This mission is achieved by actively recruiting and supporting Chicano/ Latino Students to have a positive and successful academic career. A parallel CEP mission is to contribute to EWU's goal towards addressing diversity by providing all students regardless of ethnicity, with a Chicana Studies curriculum leading to a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of the Chicano/Latino community and relevant issues.

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Darlene Maria & Jonatan Juárez

The Chicana/o/x Education Program Originated in the spring of 1977 when a group of Chicano and Chicana students and a Chicano Art Professor Ruben Trejo proposed the formation of a program. Under the administration of President George Fredrickson, the program was founded to recruit Chicana/o students and begin a search for a program director. In the fall of 1977, an acting director was appointed, Santos Hernandez, assistant professor in Social Work. He continued for two years. In 1981, two classes were offered, Chicano Culture Experience and Chicano History. In the 1990s, Survey of Chicano Literature and Chicano-Latino Politics were added. In the 2000s, a minor was approved and several courses added.



The painting displayed here is the art work created by Mr. Victor Fuentes for the Inaugural EWU Cinco de Mayo Latino Forum



**Chicana and Chicano
Studies Program**
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