

# CENTER FOR REGIONAL STUDIES



## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**Center for Regional Studies**

**University of New Mexico**

**Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

ANNUAL REPORT  
CENTER FOR REGIONAL STUDIES  
FISCAL YEAR 2020–2021

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**The Center for Regional Studies (CRS)** promotes the quest for knowledge about New Mexico, the U.S.A.–Mexico Borderlands, the Americas, and Iberia. The Center for Regional Studies is a multidisciplinary outreach center designed to enhance the work of the University of New Mexico (UNM) through student fellowships, faculty research, program funding, digital media and other projects with an emphasis on activities that increase our understanding of New Mexico, the Southwest, Indigenous communities, the U.S. Mexico Borderlands, and the Americas. Our mission is to discover new areas of research and the best methodological practices for uncovering this new knowledge. CRS research is sustained by the scholarly inquiry of faculty mentors who in turn guide students they instruct and supervise on specific projects.

## Mission Statement

- To discover, create, preserve, disseminate and promote a culture of broad inquiry throughout and beyond the UNM community. CRS advances UNM's mission of developing the global perspective of its students through a variety of academic and research opportunities led by expert faculty as they work to generate and create new and valuable sources of knowledge.
- To contribute to the comprehensive opportunities offered at UNM with a focus on New Mexico and Southwest studies.
- To foster the teaching, learning, research, and public service goals of UNM through linking resources to people and communities throughout New Mexico.

## CRS Directorship in FY21

A. Gabriel Meléndez, director of the Center for Regional Studies since 2017, announced his retirement at the end of July, 2020, after more than 26 years as a faculty member at UNM. On October 1, the University of New Mexico announced the appointment of Lloyd L. Lee as the new director. “I bring to CRS my scholarly work, teaching and service focusing on Native peoples, New Mexico and Southwest studies. I believe in creating a permanent relationship of dialogue between Native and non-Native peoples,” Lee said.

Links to complete UNM Newsroom articles:

[Distinguished Professor Meléndez retiring after 26 years at UNM: UNM Newsroom](#)

[Lee named new director of Center for Regional Studies: UNM Newsroom](#)

## CRS Staff

Lloyd L. Lee, Director

Aracely Chapa, Manager of Media Services

José A. Rivera, Research Associate

Alisha Fitzgerald, Program Coordinator

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## CRS Advisory Board

The main purpose of the CRS advisory board is to provide technical, scholarly, educational, and fundraising advice. The board also assists with the design of programs and strategic planning. Board members are selected for their hands-on knowledge, expertise and past experience in areas related to strengthening the work of CRS, bringing together diverse backgrounds to discuss matters related to regional studies and CRS's mission. The CRS advisory board was composed of the following ten individuals during FY21.

### **Durwood Ball, PhD**

Associate Professor: History

Director & Editor: New Mexico Historical Review

### **Rebecca Blum Martinez, PhD**

Professor: Language Literacy Sociocultural Studies

Director: Latin American Programs in Education

### **Theodore Jojola, PhD**

Distinguished Professor & Regents' Professor: SAAP Community Regional Planning Program

Director: Indigenous Design + Planning Institute

### **Glenabah Martinez, PhD**

Associate Professor: Educational Thought and Sociocultural Studies

Associate Dean: Educator Preparation & Development

### **Baker H. Morrow, MA**

Professor of Practice: SAAP Landscape Architecture Program

Landscape Architect and Designer, Author

### **Anna M. Nogar, PhD**

Associate Professor: Spanish and Portuguese

Director of Graduate Studies: Spanish and Portuguese

### **Genaro M. Padilla, PhD**

Professor: Department of English, University of California at Berkeley

Former Chair: Department of English, University of California at Berkeley

### **Gabriel Ramon Sanchez, PhD**

Professor: Political Science

Executive Director: RWJF Center for Health Policy

Director: Center for Social Policy

Graduate Director: Political Science



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## **Christine Marie Sierra, PhD**

Professor Emerita: Political Science, UNM

Director: Southwest Hispanic Research Institute (2011-2014)

## **Robert O. Valdez, PhD, MHSA**

Executive Director: RWJF Center for Health Policy

Associate Director: Office of Community Health

RWJF Professor: Family Community Medicine and Economics

## **CRS Programs and Initiatives**

The Center for Regional Studies is a UNM Research and Public Service Project (RPSP) and as such has complied with required and mandatory reporting. RPSP reports are filed with the UNM Government and Community Relations Office. CRS develops its annual budget as an allocation plan by which to carry out major programmatic initiatives for the ensuing fiscal year that begins every July 1. CRS provides funding for specific projects and not for the operating or recurring costs of academic units or other organizations. CRS allocates a large share of its budget to research and other scholarly activities in support of student, faculty or staff projects that show potential for publication or will result in other tangible deliverables.

- **Graduate Students** - CRS awards graduate thesis and dissertation fellowships in the form of scholarships and assistantships.
- **Faculty** - Funding is provided for projects by UNM faculty, postdoctoral, and visiting scholars.
- **Archival** - CRS supports the acquisition, preservation, and accessibility of archival materials.
- **Dissemination** - CRS promotes the distribution of books, journal articles, exhibitions, public presentations, films, and lectures produced under its auspices.
- **Multi-Media Projects** - CRS facilitates the production, presentation, and distribution of documentary films and oral histories. CRS encourages and stimulates projects grounded in collaborative partnerships and on extended fieldwork that utilize photography, film/video, audio, narrative writing and other creative media to capture and convey contemporary memory, life, and culture.

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## CRS Mainstay Programs

CRS carries out its work largely through seven mainstay initiatives whose goals, objectives, and achievements in FY21 are described in the following section of this report.

### I. Graduate Student Fellowships

CRS graduate student fellowships are provided in the form of scholarships, research or project assistantships, internships, or faculty project related student employment.

#### CRS Scholarships

CRS sent out a call for proposals to UNM Ph.D. students to participate in an open competition for its 2020-2021 graduate fellowship award cycle. As a condition of the award, recipients engaged in research study under the mentorship of a UNM faculty member to complete dissertation research or to assist faculty in cases where their faculty mentor's research was linked to the CRS mission. In FY21, CRS provided a total of \$99,000 in scholarships to eleven deserving graduate students enrolled in various departments and programs listed with their topics and mentors in the table below.

CRS Doctoral Fellowship Award Recipients 2020-2021

Name	Department	Mentor	Topic
Ambriz, Naomi	American Studies	Michael Trujillo	A historical analysis of African descendants in the U.S. Southwest and the establishments of Afro-mestizos racial formations.
Beké, Len	Hispanic Linguistics	Damián Vergara Wilson	The Manito Topos Project: Documenting, mapping and interpreting Nuevomexicano place-names to reveal governmental strategies of toponymic silencing and contest the erasure of Manito oral traditions.
Brewer, Katie	Archaeology	Patricia Crown	Examining what changes occurred after Spanish colonization and missionization of Puebloan groups at Awatovi, Pecos, Gran Quivira, Abó, and Quarai. Creating a database of the burials from these missions, divided by pre-Contact and post-Contact.
García, Tania	American Studies	Rebecca Schreiber	The effects of “haunting” individual as well as collective memory across landscapes of northern New Mexico and southern Colorado as a dimension of Southwest Studies.
Lowrance, Laurie	English	Jesse Alemán	Regional Domesticities: Recalling, Rewriting, and Redefining Gender in the Southwest.
Moreno, Joseph	LLSS	Rebecca Blum Martínez	Examining how race, class, power, and identity impact Nuevomexicano language, history and culture, including a study of the Bernalillo Matachines Dance and associated customs.
Pinkins, Carlyn	History	Samuel Truett	Challenging the state's mythical tricultural narrative which presents New Mexico as a unique and diverse racial environment.

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Rogers, Thatcher	Anthropology	Emily Jones	Investigating the processes of community formation and interregional exchange through an examination of material culture and behavioral practices from five late prehispanic (A.D. 1200-1500) archaeological sites along the contemporary Mexico and American Southwest border and an application of anthropological cross-cultural interaction theoretical approaches.
Roybal, Carmela	Sociology	Nancy López	Intersectionality and Lived Experiences of Inequality: Intergenerational Addiction, Opioid Use, and the Constrained Choices of Women Caregivers in Rural New Mexico.
Santos, Moises	History	Durwood Ball	Researching activists, the Mexican American Generation and the Chicana/o Movement, and how they pedagogically, philosophically, and epistemologically challenged racist and elitist educational practices in the Southwest.
Skahan, Mariann	Anthropology	Melissa Axelrod Catherine Rhodes	Investigating how language educational practices, in past and present-day settings, shape current heritage language programs on the Jicarilla Apache Nation in Dulce, NM.

### Library Assistantships

In FY21, CRS awarded \$67,500 in funding to the Center for Southwest Research (CSWR), Special Collections, and Digital Initiatives and Scholarly Communication (DISC) to create five Graduate Research Assistant positions assigned as follows:

#### **Zonnie Gorman, Department of History, PhD**

##### ***Navajo Code Talkers Collections***

The Navajo Code Talkers Collection Fellowship was awarded to Zonnie Gorman to work in the Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections on unprocessed archival collections of materials created or collected by members of the World War II Navajo Code Talkers. The collections document the personal histories, military and post-war experiences, cultural and community contexts and legacy of the heroic Diné men who served as Navajo Code Talkers. During the spring semester of 2021, Ms. Gorman worked to process this original archival material and create an inventory with descriptive information to be published as a finding aid on the CSWR online catalogue, Online Archives of New Mexico.

#### **Daejin Kim, Department of Linguistics, PhD/ Phonetics and Laboratory Phonology**

##### ***Scholarly Communication Fellowship***

The Scholarly Communication fellow, Daejin Kim, assisted in preparing and posting digital scholarly content from CSWR holdings for online access, including electronic updates to the Tony Hillerman and Rudolfo Anaya portals. Mr. Kim also created an online version of the Coalition of Prisoners' Rights newsletter. Part of the assistantship was to maintain open access journals and University Archives materials, working extensively with multiple University Libraries platforms and Adobe Creative Suite applications.

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## **Ryuichi Nakayama, Department of Art, M.A./ Art History**

### ***Antoine Predock Archival Collection Fellowship***

Ryuichi Nakayama was awarded this fellowship to continue his work on the Antoine Predock Archival Collection housed at the Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections. Antoine Predock is an internationally celebrated New Mexican architect who was awarded the gold medal for design by the American Institute of Architects in 2006. Mr. Nakayama continued processing collections (sorting, weeding, flattening, cleaning, labeling, inventorying, cataloging, and filing), digitizing selections of material, and creating metadata for inclusion in New Mexico Digital Images and the Rocky Mountain On-line Archive.

## **Breanna Reiss, Department of Art, PhD/ Art History**

### ***CRS Pictorial Fellowship***

The 2020-2021 Pictorial Fellowship was awarded to Breanna Reiss to continue processing the Wayne Lambert Pictorial Collection. This collection of 48 unprocessed boxes, which has been inventoried, was preserved and described as an addition to the existing collection, with a significant representation published in New Mexico Digital Collections. Processing required a full review of the collection, arranging and describing it, including organizing and addressing preservation issues.

## **Rachel Snow, Museum Studies, PhD/ Art History**

### ***University Archives Fellow***

The Center for Southwest Research contains the UNM University Archives, responsible for identifying and preserving historically and legally significant records that document the University's three basic functions of teaching, research, and public service. These collections contain documents, photographs, and memorabilia. The FY21 graduate fellow for the University Archives, Rachel Snow, continued her work with the UNMA photograph collections, digitizing photographs from the UNM Photo Services collection and making them available online through the New Mexico Digital Collections website. She also processed a collection of photographs and created a finding aid to be made available online.

## **New Mexico Historical Review Assistantships**

During FY21, CRS provided \$45,000 to the New Mexico Historical Review (NMHR) to enable the Review to hire three graduate students to work as editorial assistants. Under the direction of Dr. Durwood Ball, NMHR Editor, editorial fellows learn the nuts and bolts of scholarly editing and publishing. According to Dr. Ball, "the editorial fellows execute the guts of the manuscript copyediting and journal production under the supervision of the managing editor and me." Two students, Caitlin Leishman and Eden Vigil worked as NMHR editorial assistants during 2020-2021, while Angela Reiniche worked in the fall of 2020 and Marvin Dominguez in the spring of 2021.



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## II. Scholar-In-Residence/Visiting Professorship Awards

In FY21, through its Scholar-in-Residence Program, CRS offered Visiting Scholar appointments to three individuals over the course of the fall, spring, and summer terms. Candidates for the Scholar-in-Residence Program are identified through a referral nomination process. The process begins by CRS receiving a nominating letter from a senior colleague or academic mentor in support of a nominee. The nominator should have sufficient knowledge of the candidate's research trajectory and teaching record to be able to make a strong recommendation that demonstrates how research in residency at the University of New Mexico is vital to the nominee's scholarly objectives. The nominator should delineate why the nominee will make optimal use of the residency by focusing on objectives with specific relevance to the UNM Library collections or field work sites and other resources in the vicinity that are integral to their nominee's research. Following a review of the scope of research and the feasibility of project outcomes, visiting professorships are awarded to scholars who are actively engaged in interdisciplinary research that fits the CRS mission. CRS seeks to make appointments to scholars best able to demonstrate that a period of residency at the University of New Mexico is vital to completing the next phase of their on-going research. These awards go to scholars whose research, teaching, and publications address historical as well as emerging trends relating to the peoples, communities and cultures of the greater Southwest and whose work shows particular regard to one or more of the following areas of investigation:

- Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Social History of the Region
- Ethnographic Fieldwork and Community Documentation
- Biographies of Leaders/Community Histories or the History of Institutions
- Land Grants and Acequia History
- Environmental Studies
- UNM corpus of Indigenous or Southwest Spanish Texts and General Linguistic Collections
- Contemporary Public Policy Issues and/or Regional Challenges
- Film, Media, and Digital Humanities

In FY21, CRS awarded fall 2020 visiting appointments to Dr. Spencer R. Herrera, Associate Professor of Spanish at New Mexico State University where he teaches Chicanx Studies, and Dr. Theresa J. Córdova, director of Las Pistoleras Instituto Cultural de Arte, researcher and adjunct faculty with UNM's Chicana/Chicano Studies. Support for Dr. Córdova continued through the spring 2021 semester. Dr. Aimee Villarreal, Associate Professor and Program Head of Comparative Mexican American Studies at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas, was awarded a CRS short-term visiting appointment during the summer of 2021 at UNM.

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## **Dr. Spencer R. Herrera**

### ***“A pura pala” en la pandemia: On the Road from el Llano to Big Bend and Beyond***

During his time as a CRS visiting scholar, Dr. Herrera had two objectives. One was to gather information for a future book by journeying along the Río Grande to the Gulf of Mexico on the border of Mexico and Texas to collect stories about the people and the land along the way. The other was to visit the boyhood homes of UNM Professor Emeritus and author of Chicano Literature, Rudolfo Anaya, to better understand and write a dossier about his life and legacy.

Video presentation: [Dr. Spencer R. Herrera, CRS Visiting Scholar 2020 - YouTube](#)

## **Dr. Theresa J. Córdova**

### ***Enriqueta Vasquez Digital History Project***

As a CRS visiting scholar, Dr. Cordova created a digital archive on the subject of Enriqueta Vásquez to document and preserve community history in Northern New Mexico, specifically nineteenth and twentieth century social history of the region, sharing the work she accomplished with a cohort of several other research scholars working on the Enriqueta Vásquez project. The residency also supported her work of conducting on-site visits to San Cristobal, NM, in order to prepare for the field schools that took place during June of 2021. Dr. Córdova was able to utilize UNM’s resources at the Center for Southwest Research & Special Collections while following strict COVID restrictions and schedules as she worked on the Enriqueta Vásquez Digital History Project. *Please see Appendix D for flyer announcing field school.*

Video presentation: [Enriqueta Valdez Digital History Project - YouTube](#)

## **Dr. Aimee Villarreal**

### ***Sanctuaryscapes in the New Mexico Borderlands***

As a short-term visiting scholar, Dr. Villarreal is spending June and July of 2021 working to complete final revisions to her book, *Sanctuaryscapes in the New Mexico Borderlands*, which traces diverse mobilizations of sanctuary in New Mexico and the Ciudad Juarez, Mexico/El Paso, Texas border region from the post-Pueblo Revolt period to the present. While she examines intertribal forms of sanctuary place-making and notions of radical hospitality that existed previous to the formation of the United States as a nation-state, her research emphasis is on contemporary sanctuary movements and immigrant rights activism.

Links to UNM articles about the three FY21 CRS visiting scholars:

<http://news.unm.edu/news/center-for-regional-studies-hosts-visiting-scholars>  
[UNM Visiting Scholar follows stories on the Rio Grande: UNM Newsroom](#)  
<https://news.unm.edu/news/visiting-scholar-seeks-answers-in-unm-archives>

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## III. CRS Book Subvention Initiative

The CRS Book Subvention Initiative has a successful history of supporting the publication of scholarship dating back to 1996. The following is a list of recently published or soon-to-be published books supported by CRS.

- 1) Blum-Martínez, Rebecca and Mary Jean Habermann López, eds. ***The Shoulders We Stand On*** / University of New Mexico Press, 2020
- 2) Castañeda, Antonia and Lomas, Clara eds. ***Writing/Righting History: Twenty-Five Years of Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage*** / Arte Público Press, 2020
- 3) Davidson, Russ ***Joaquín Ortega: Forging Pan-Americanism at the University of New Mexico*** / University of New Mexico Press, 2020.
- 4) Fonseca-Chávez, Vanessa; Romero, Levi; and Herrera, Spencer R. eds. ***Reflections on the New Mexico Homeland*** / Querencias Series / University of New Mexico Press, 2020
- 5) Rivera, José A. ***The Zanjeras of Ilocos: Cooperative Irrigation Societies of the Philippines*** / Ateneo de Manila University Press, 2020  
  
Link to UNM Newsroom article: [UNM's Rivera publishes book about Filipino irrigation system: UNM Newsroom](#)
- 6) Sánchez, Joseph ***El Camino Real de California—Historic Corridors, Land Routes, Lanes, Presidios, Missions and Ranchos, 1769-1823*** / University of New Mexico Press, 2020
- 7) Arreola, Daniel D. ***Postcards from the Baja California Border: Portraying Townscape and Place, 1900s-1950s*** / University of Arizona Press, 2021
- 8) Nogar, Anna M. and Meléndez, A. Gabriel eds. ***El feliz ingenio neomexicano: Felipe M. Chacón and Poesía y prosa*** / University of New Mexico Press, 2021

*For a complete list of books published with CRS support from 1996 through 2021, please see Appendix A.*

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## IV. Multimedia Project

### **Acequias - The Legacy Lives On** **Aracely "Arcie" Chapa**

*Acequias -The Legacy Lives On* is an hour long visually stunning documentary film (currently in production) about New Mexico's enduring acequias as seen through the eyes of farmers, advocates, scholars, practitioners, lawmakers, journalists and members of the community. Award winning filmmaker, Aracely "Arcie" Chapa, is wrapping up her emotional and reverential tribute to acequias' past, present and future. With funding from UNM's Center for Regional Studies, the film unfolds through a series of storylines including the acequias' current challenges, such as climate change and water rights transfers, their important role in the development of local food sheds, and the economic opportunity they provide for members of rural communities. Further, in an arid state where every drop of water is studied and tracked, it has been shown that acequias provide recharge to our groundwater systems as water seeps into the earth beneath the flow. For over 400 years, Acequias have been in continuous use and remain important to an understanding of New Mexico's acequia heritage and the continuing relevance of these water democracies.

Link to full trailer: [ACEQUIAS: The Legend Lives On](#)

More teasers on CRS website: [Acequias – The Legacy Lives On - Teasers](#)

## V. Initiatives Underway for FY22

Due to several factors that affected CRS in FY21, that is, the significant reduction to the budget, the COVID-19 pandemic and its restrictions, and transitioning from one director to a brand new one hired to begin working mid-fall semester, 2020, adjustments had to be made. As a result, three of CRS's initiatives from previous years, namely, Faculty Development Awards, the La Canoa Legacy Series, and the Oral History Capacity Building Initiative, were not funded. As CRS began to move closer towards FY22, the faculty development initiative was resumed and brand new initiatives are being established.

### Faculty Development Awards

In the spring semester of 2021, faculty members from UNM departments and academic programs were encouraged to respond to a Call for Proposals for 2021-2022 faculty research projects that would complement the mission of the Center for Regional Studies and facilitate professional development of faculty in the following areas:

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1. **Covid-19 Pandemic Projects (10K maximum):** Applicants submitted proposals that addressed the impacts of COVID-19 in our communities. The pandemic has brought to the forefront many long-standing hardships including rural healthcare crisis, the need for access to safe running water, education technology concerns, food deserts, and many other challenges. We encouraged proposals that involved collaborative multidisciplinary teams with faculty and students, specifically proposals which address economic, social, health, educational, and governmental issues.
2. **Independent Projects (5K maximum):** Individual faculty members were encouraged to submit a funding request to support a new or ongoing research project. Projects were required to be evidence-based with preference given to qualitative research in the humanities, social sciences, education, and the arts.
3. **Yazzie/Martinez Projects (10K maximum):** The *Yazzie/Martinez v. State of New Mexico* education case in 2018 ruled the state, the Public Education Department, and the Secretary of Education are failing to provide Native American students, students with disabilities, English language learners, and low-income students with an adequate and sufficient education. CRS encouraged proposals that would involve collaborative multidisciplinary teams with faculty and students, specifically proposals addressing the remedies and issues related to education in the state of New Mexico.
4. **Publication Subventions (3K maximum):** Research dissemination projects publishing research results or other creative works in electronic or print media forthcoming in 2021-2022 were to include manuscripts to be submitted to and approved by the UNM Press.

## Tribal & Community College Research Scholar Program

The Center for Regional Studies seeks to establish a Tribal and Community College Research Scholar program wherein UNM will provide financial support of up to \$15,000 for one research scholar each academic year from Tribal & Community Colleges. The research scholar will be a faculty member of a college and will be selected to participate in the program for one academic semester, fall or spring, or an 8-week summer session. The residency will be offered to a scholar who is actively engaged in interdisciplinary research/scholarly work that fits the CRS mission and who can demonstrate that a period of residency at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque is vital to completing the next phrase of their on-going research, scholarly work, creative works, and/or community-based work.

Following are details of the status of this developing program as of 7/01/2021.

- Inquiries have been sent to ten tribal and community colleges across the state to establish a partnership between CRS-UNM and the institution; seven responded.



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- Seven Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) drafts have been sent to Central New Mexico Community College, Santa Fe Community College, Northern New Mexico College, Clovis Community College, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, Navajo Technical University, Diné College.
- The CNM-UNM MOU has been completed and signed.
- CRS director has presented the program to the Diné College Board of Regents. They passed the resolution to approve the DC-UNM MOU.
- No response has been received from Santa Fe Community College, Northern New Mexico College, Clovis Community College, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, Navajo Technical University.

*Please see Appendix B to view the MOU between CRS-UNM and Central New Mexico Community College*

## Partnership with the Spanish Colonial Research Center (SCRC)

The Center for Regional Studies will establish a partnership with the Spanish Colonial Research Center (SCRC) to work on a multi-year project aimed at classifying 500,000 historical documents and approximately 8,000 historical maps, architectural plans and sketches. The collection is the result of 35 years of research in 33 archives in Spain, Mexico, France, England, Italy, Portugal, and the Dominican Republic. The research collection focuses on the national story and heritage which is shared with Spain, Mexico, and regional Native American Nations of North America.

During this partnership, SCRC director, Dr. Joseph P. Sánchez, and research assistant, Steve Mandrgoc, will classify and digitize the entire collection. CRS will provide \$16,000 to SCRC on a fiscal year basis. The partnership will be reviewed each fiscal year end and future collaboration will be based upon availability of CRS funds. SCRC will share all of their research materials with CRS. The goal is for the collection to be preserved and housed in the Center for Southwest Research and a digital archive for scholars, students, and the general public to access for research and scholarly work.

## **CRS Special Projects**

**Rebecca Blum Martínez**

**Professor, Language, Literacy, & Sociocultural Studies, UNM**

**Book Indexing**

**\$1,000**

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CRS provided support for the indexing of the manuscript, *The Shoulders We Stand On: A History of Bilingual Education in New Mexico*, edited by Rebecca Blum Martínez and Mary Jean Habermann López. By identifying and utilizing historical documents and other archival material in the analyses of the various initiatives and challenges within the field of bilingual education in New Mexico, this book will contribute to an understanding of the educational contexts many New Mexicans faced and the solutions that were attempted.

**David F. García**

**Fall 2020 CRS Research Associate, UNM**

**Pedro Ribera-Ortega Recovery Project**

**\$30,000**

During the fall of 2020, CRS Research Associate, David García, continued to pursue the recovery of holdings on New Mexico history from local historian/educator, Pedro Ribera-Ortega. Dr. García documented and catalogued the holdings and significance of the books and other documents that remain on site at the home of the last working editor of the Santa Fe Spanish weekly, the *El Nuevo Mexicano*. As part of this recovery project, Dr. García conducted video and audio interviews to gather more information about Pedro Ribera-Ortega. Earlier ethnographic interviews were carried out in person, but due to COVID-19 restrictions, remaining interviews were conducted via telephone or Zoom meetings. 8.42 gigabytes of materials and videos have been stored in an online google drive.

**Phillip B. (Felipe) Gonzales**

**Professor Emeritus, Department of Sociology, UNM**

**Book Indexing**

**\$800**

The Center for Regional Studies approved funding for the indexing of the academic anthology, *Taking Stock: The Shifting Terrain of Citizenship among People of Mexican Origin in the United States*. The volume consists of chapters by 10 leading scholars from around the country who are experts in Latinx and Mexican American civic belonging and American citizenship.

**Trisha V. Martínez**

**Post-Doctoral Fellow, UNM Taos**

**Research for Article**

**\$3,000**

CRS provided \$3,000 of funding for the research and completion of an academic article by Trisha Martínez. The focus of her project is to explore the musical expressions that accompanied Manito or Hispano laborers from northern New Mexico who migrated outside of the state to pursue employment opportunities. This project demonstrates how northern New Mexico music has been used as a cultural touchstone for Manitos in Wyoming and reveals how music created momentous experiences of Manito community outside of the homeland. The music served as a means to distinguish Manito's ethnic and cultural background, while inspiring *querencia*, a sense of belonging.

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**Joseph P. Sánchez**

**Director, Spanish Colonial Research Center, UNM**

**Graduate Student Assistantship**

**\$20,000**

CRS supported the Spanish Colonial Research Center's *Mapas y Planos Project*, an in-depth study of architectural designs of Spanish colonial presidios as demonstrated in maps and designs of fortifications. During the fall semester of 2020, a UNM graduate student was hired as a research assistant to digitize and classify 1,000 rare and historic maps and plans that had been researched and collected in the Archivo Historico Militar, Madrid Spain. During the spring 2021 semester, the graduate student continued to complete the classification process of the 1,000 maps and plans, and prepare a final report of the project describing the history of each fortification as well as its historical place and uses in its time period.

## Miscellaneous Events

**October 19, 2020**

**CRS Graduate Fellows Meet and Greet**

The Center for Regional Studies hosted a virtual gathering for the 2020-2021 CRS graduate fellows so they could meet the CRS staff as well as the other fellows and exchange information about their research projects in an informal setting.

**November 4, 2020**

**Promotion of NM Press Book Series Event**

CRS supported the promotion of a University of New Mexico Press book series called, *Studies In Indigenous Community Building*, edited by CRS Director Lloyd L. Lee and Native American Studies assistant professor Wendy S. Greyeyes. The series focuses on how Native and Indigenous peoples are building their communities to resolve twenty-first century challenges. The books in the series showcase inspiring and distinctive works emphasizing how to sustain Native and Indigenous traditional ways of life. Titles in the series draw from a variety of disciplines including education, health, governance, history, culture, and nation-centered studies.

**April 1, 2021**

**CRS Doctoral Fellows Snapshot Event**

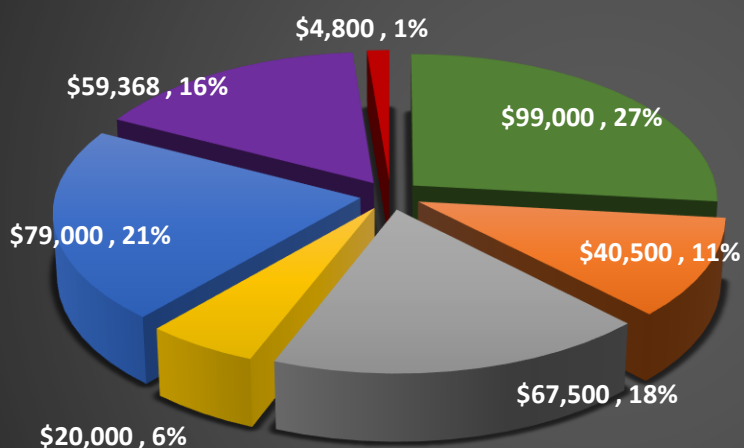
The Center for Regional Studies held a virtual gathering of the 2020-2021 Doctoral Research Fellows via Zoom Meeting. PhD Fellows presented "snapshots" of their research at this event followed by Q&A from the audience which consisted of UNM faculty, staff, students, and some of the fellows' faculty mentors. Video link: [CRS Fellows' Snapshot Presentations 4/01/2021](#)

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## CRS Mainstay Initiatives FY21 (As of 6/30/2021)

11 CRS Graduate Student Fellowships (1 semester each)	\$	99,000
3 New Mexico Historical Review (NMHR) Assistantships	\$	40,500
4.5 Library Assistantships (CSWR and DISC)	\$	67,500
1 Spanish Colonial Research Center (SCRC) Assistantship	\$	20,000
Visiting Research Scholar Program	\$	79,000
-David Garcia (Fall 2020)		
-Spencer Herrera (Fall 2020)		
-Theresa Cordova (Fall 2020 - Spring 2021)		
-Aimee Villarreal (June 2021)		
Media Production (Acequias Film)	\$	59,368
Project Funding (Book/Article Subventions)		
-Rebecca Blum Martinez		
-Felipe Gonzalez		
-Trisha Martinez	\$	4,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>370,168</b>

## CRS Mainstay Initiatives FY21 (As of 6/30/2021) \$370,168



■ 11 CRS Graduate Student Fellowships  
(1 semester each)

■ 3 New Mexico Historical Review (NMHR)  
Assistantships

■ 4.5 Library Assistantships (CSWR and DISC)

■ 1 Spanish Colonial Research Center (SCRC)  
Assistantship

■ Visiting Research Scholar Program  
-David Garcia (Fall 2020)  
-Spencer Herrera (Fall 2020)  
-Theresa Cordova (Fall 2020 - Spring 2021)  
-Aimee Villarreal (June 2021)

■ Media Production (Acequias Film)

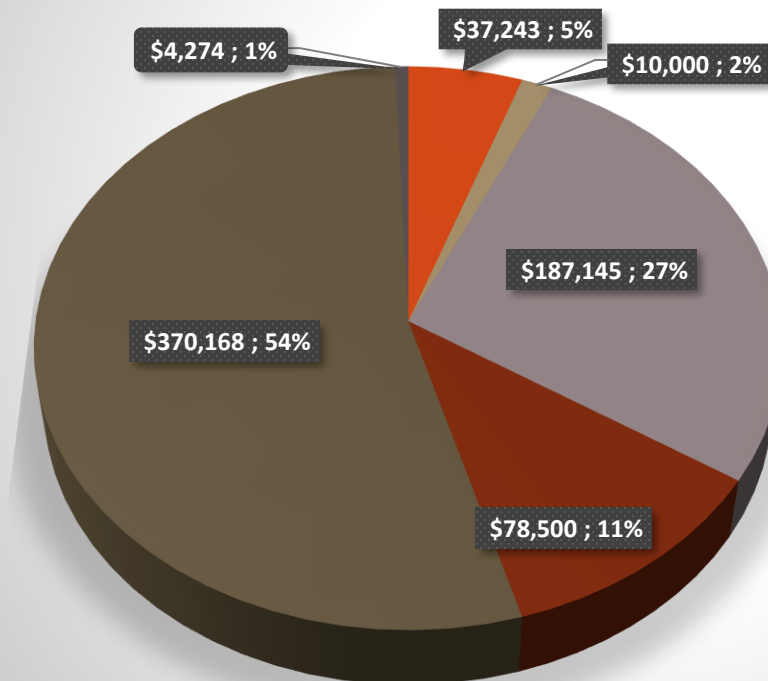
■ Project Funding (Book/Article Subventions)  
-Rebecca Blum Martinez  
-Felipe Gonzalez  
-Trisha Martinez

# The Center for Regional Studies Annual Report FY21

## CRS Administrative and Operating Costs for FY21

UNM Charges 5% \$32,668 Administrative Overhead \$1,646 Banner Tax \$2,929 Foundation Charge	\$ 37,243
Fiscal Shared Services 2%	\$ 10,000
Staff Salaries 27% -Lee, Rivera, Chapa, Fitzgerald -Course Buyout	\$ 187,145
Benefits 11% -CRS -Graduate Student Assistants -Visiting Research Scholars	\$ 78,500
CRS Mainstay Initiatives 54%	\$ 370,168
Other Operating Expenses <1%	\$ 4,274
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 687,330</b>

## CRS Administrative and Operating Costs for FY21 \$ 687,330



- UNM Charges 5%  
\$32,668 Administrative Overhead  
\$1,646 Banner Tax  
\$2,929 Foundation Charge
- Fiscal Shared Services 2%
- Staff Salaries 27%  
-Lee, Rivera, Chapa, Fitzgerald  
-Course Buyout
- Benefits 11%  
-CRS  
-Graduate Student Assistants  
-Visiting Research Scholars
- CRS Mainstay Initiatives 54%
- Other Operating Expenses <1%



# APPENDIX A

Books Supported by the Center for Regional Studies

## Books Supported by the Center for Regional Studies

<i>The Matachines: Ritual Symbolism and Inter-ethnic Relations in the Upper Río Grande Valley / UNM Press</i>	Rodríguez, Sylvia	1996
<i>Acequia Culture: Water, Land, and Community in the Southwest / UNM Press</i>	Rivera, José A. Note: Spanish translation published in Spain, 2009.	1998
<i>Chimayó Weaving: the Transformation of a Tradition / UNM Press</i>	Lucero, Helen	1999
<i>Nuevomexicano Cultural Legacy: Forms, Agencies, and Discourse / UNM Press</i>	Lomeli, Francisco A., Sorell, Victor A. Padilla, Genaro M. eds.	2002
<i>Tesoros del espíritu: A Portrait in Sound of Hispanic New Mexico / UNM Press</i>	Lamadrid, Enrique, Loeffler, Jack, and Gandert, Miguel	2003
<i>The Biography of Casimiro Barela : Translated, Annotated and New Introduction by A. Gabriel Meléndez / UNM Press</i>	Fernández, José, A. Gabriel Meléndez, trans	2004
<i>Death Stars, Weird Galaxies, and Quasar-Spangled Universe: The Discoveries of the Very Large Array Telescope / UNM Press</i>	Tascheck, Karen	2006
<i>Spanish Language of NM and Southern Colorado: A Linguistic Atlas / UNM Press</i>	Bills, Garland and Vigil, Neddy	2008
<i>Hanging with Bats: Ecobats, Vampires, and Movie Stars / UNM Press</i>	Tascheck, Karen	2008
<i>A Poetry of Remembrance: New and Rejected Works / UNM Press</i>	Romero, Levi	2009
<i>What Are Global Warming And Climate Change? Answers for Young Readers / UNM Press</i>	McCutcheon, Chuck	2010
<i>Tradiciones Nuevomexicanas: Hispano Arts and Culture of NM</i>	Montaño, Mary	2010
<i>La Sociedad: Guardians of Hispanic Culture along the Río Grande / UNM Press</i>	Rivera, José A.	2010
<i>Eco-tracking: On the Trail of Habitat Change / UNM Press</i>	Shaw, Daniel	2010
<i>Powering the Future: New Energy Technologies / UNM Press</i>	Thaddeus, Eva	2010
<i>Wonders of Nuclear Fusion: Creating an Ultimate Energy Source / UNM Press</i>	Singer, Neil	2011
<i>Hotel Mariachi: Urban Space and Cultural Heritage in Los Angeles / UNM Press</i>	Kurland, Catherine L., Lamadrid, Enrique, Miguel Gandert	2013
<i>Sagrado: A Photopoetics Across the Chicano Homeland / UNM Press</i>	Herrera, Spencer, Romero, Levi, Kaiser, Robert	2013

<i>Miera Y Pacheco: A Renaissance Spaniard in Eighteenth-Century New Mexico / UNM Press</i>	Kessell, John L.	2013
<i>Juan the Bear and the Water of Life / UNM Press</i>	Lamadrid, Enrique and Arellano, Estevan	2013
<i>Hidden Chicano Cinema: Film Dramas in the Borderlands / Rutgers University Press</i>	Meléndez, A. Gabriel	2013
<i>Enduring Acequias: Wisdom of the Land, Knowledge of the Water / UNM Press</i>	Arellano, Estevan	2014
<i>Making Aztlán: Ideology and Culture of the Chicana and Chicano Movement, 1966-1977 / UNM Press</i>	Gómez-Quiñones, Juan and Vásquez, Irene	2014
<i>Chasing Dichos through Chimayó / UNM Press</i>	Usner, Don	2014
<i>The Hero Twins: A Navajo-English Story of the Monster Slayers / UNM Press</i>	Kristofic, Jim	2015
<i>Give me Life: Iconography and Identity in East LA Murals / UNM Press</i>	Barnet-Sánchez, Holly	2016
<i>Let's Roll this Train: My Life in NM Education, Business and Politics</i>	Malry, Lenton	2016
<i>Coyota in the Kitchen: A Memoir Of New and Old Mexico / UNM Press</i>	Rodríguez, Anita	2016
<i>Río: A Photographic Journey Down the Old Río Grande / UNM Press</i>	Savage, Melissa	2016
<i>The Cooking with Kids Cookbook / UNM Press</i>	Walters, Lynn	2016
<i>Aztlán: Essays on the Chicano Homeland / UNM Press</i>	Anaya, Rudolfo, Lomelí, Francisco A., Lamadrid, Enrique R. eds.	2017
<i>Wither the Waters: Mapping the Great Basin from Bernardo de Miera to John. C. Fremont / UNM Press</i>	Kessell, John	2017
<i>Sisters in Blue: Sor María de Ágreda Comes to New Mexico / UNM Press</i>	Nogar, Anna and Lamadrid, Enrique	2017
<i>Archives of Dispossession: Recovering the Testimonios of Mexican American Herederos, 1848-1960 / The University of North Carolina Press</i>	Roybal, Karen	2017
<i>Gender and Place in Chicana/o Literature: Critical Regionalism and the Mexican American Southwest / Palgrave Macmillan</i>	Vizcaino-Alemán, Melina	2017
<i>The Latino Christ in Art, Literature, and Liberation Theology (Querencias Series) / UNM Press</i>	Candelaria, Michael R.	2018
<i>Lest We Forget: World War I and New Mexico / University of Oklahoma Press</i>	Holtby, David V.	2018
<i>Nación Genízara: Ethnogenesis, Place, and Identity in New Mexico / UNM Press</i>	Gonzales, Moises and Lamadrid, Enrique R. eds.	2019
<i>Forging Arizona: A History of the Peralta Land Grant and Racial Identity in the West / Rutgers University Press</i>	Huizar Hernández, Anita	2019

<i>The Shoulders We Stand On / UNM Press</i>	Blum-Martínez, Rebecca; Habermann López, Mary Jean eds.	2020
<i>Writing/Righting History: Twenty-Five Years of Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage / Arte Público Press</i>	Castañeda, Antonia and Lomas, Clara eds.	2020
<i>Joaquín Ortega: The Pan American Ideal and Ethnic Relations in the University of New Mexico, 1920s- 1940s / UNM Press</i>	Davidson, Russ	2020
<i>Querencia: Reflections on the New Mexico Homeland / UNM Press</i>	Fonseca-Chávez, Vanessa; Romero, Levi; Herrera, Spencer R. eds.	2020
<i>The Zanjeras of Ilocos: Cooperative Irrigation Societies of the Philippines / Ateneo de Manila University Press</i>	Rivera, José A.	2020
<i>El Camino Real de California—Historic Corridors, Land Routes, Lanes, Presidios, Missions and Ranchos, 1769- 1823 / UNM Press</i>	Sánchez, Joseph	2020
<i>Postcards from the Baja California Border: Portraying Townscape and Place, 1900s-1950s / University of Arizona Press</i>	Arreola, Daniel D.	2021
<i>El feliz ingenio neomexicano: Felipe M. Chacón and Poesía y prosa / UNM Press</i>	Nogar, Anna M. and Meléndez, A. Gabriel eds.	2021

# APPENDIX B

## ***MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)***

*between*

*The Regents of the University of New Mexico*

*and*

*Central New Mexico Community College*





## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)**

*between*

*The Regents of the University of New Mexico*

*and*

*Central New Mexico Community College*

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by The Regents of the University of New Mexico ("UNM") and Central New Mexico Community College.

### **I. PURPOSE & SCOPE**

The purpose of this MOU is to describe the purpose, goals of collaboration, and identification of the roles and responsibilities of each party as they relate to the Tribal & Community College Research Scholar Program. In particular, this MOU is intended to establish a research partnership between UNM and Central New Mexico Community College.

Central New Mexico Community College began offering its first classes at their new campus in 1980. The mission of the college is to provide high quality education and training that improves the lives of all students and ignites economic vitality in the communities they serve. The vision of the college is to become the college of choice for students seeking to improve their lives and for employers seeking to develop and grow a highly skilled workforce.

### **II. BACKGROUND**

The Center for Regional Studies at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico ("CRS") seeks to establish a Tribal and Community College Research Scholar program wherein UNM will provide financial support (up to \$15,000) for one (1) research scholar each academic year from Central New Mexico Community College. The research scholar will be a faculty member of Central New Mexico Community College. The research scholar will be selected for a short-term (16-week or one academic semester-Fall or Spring; or an 8-week summer session) residency. The residency will be offered to a research scholar who is actively engaged in interdisciplinary research/scholarly work that fits the CRS mission and who can demonstrate that a period of residency at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque is vital to completing the next phrase of their on-going research, scholarly work, creative works, and/or community-based work.

The mission of the Center for Regional Studies is to create new sources of knowledge about New Mexico and the Southwest through research, education, learning and related scholarly activities. In particular, CRS encourages inquiry that draws on evidentiary-based interpretation and analysis of historical and contemporary questions as well as of public policy issues in a regional context. We seek scholars whose research addresses historical as well as emerging trends relating to the peoples, communities, and cultures of the greater Southwest and whose work shows particular regard to one or more of the following areas of investigation:

- Nineteenth, Twentieth, & Twentieth-first Century Social History of the Region
- Ethnographic Fieldwork and Community Documentation
- Biographies of Leaders/Community Histories or the History of Institutions
- Land Grants and Acequia History
- Environmental Studies
- University of New Mexico Corpus of Indigenous or Southwest Spanish Texts and General Linguistic Collections
- Contemporary Public Policy Issues and/or Regional Challenges
- Film, Media, and Digital Humanities

### **III. UNM Center for Regional Studies Responsibilities Under this MOU:**

CRS shall undertake the following activities:

1. CRS will offer one research scholar residency in the fall semester, spring semester, or a summer session.
2. The full 16-week academic semester residency will include a \$15,000 research stipend for a fall or spring semester residency, or an \$8,000 research stipend for a summer residency, depending on availability of funds that will be paid to the research scholar directly
3. The amount of the stipend and terms and conditions regarding the residency will be set forth in an acknowledgement letter signed by the scholar before the start of the residency. See Exhibit A attached.
4. The research scholar will be required to present their research to UNM faculty and students prior to the conclusion of their residency.
5. The research scholar, at the conclusion of their residency, shall submit a brief report to the CRS Director.
6. CRS will assign a UNM faculty mentor with expertise matching the scholar's interests during their residency.
7. CRS will provide office space for the research scholar to utilize during their residency.
8. The research scholar will have access to UNM resources such as the Center for Southwest Research and University Libraries.
9. The research scholar will acknowledge CRS support of the project or scholarly work in publications or other dissemination. See Exhibit B attached.

### **IV. Central New Mexico Community College Responsibilities Under this MOU:**

Central New Mexico Community College shall undertake the following activities:

1. Central New Mexico Community College will designate the following individual or department as a contact person to communicate with CRS about the residency program.  
 Title: Melanie Viramontes, Dean  
 Department: School of Communication, Humanities & Social Sciences (CHSS)  
 Phone Number: 505-224-3601  
 Email address: [mviramontes@cnm.edu](mailto:mviramontes@cnm.edu)

2. Central New Mexico Community College will identify one candidate for the research scholar program that satisfies the mission of CRS as stated in Section II above.
3. Central New Mexico Community College will develop a selection process to identify the candidate that fits the CRS mission.
4. Central New Mexico Community College will notify CRS of selected research scholar by March 15 for a summer residency, May 15 for a fall semester residency, or October 15 for a spring semester appointment.
5. Research scholar will be responsible for travel, local transportation, housing, and incidental costs associated with residency in Albuquerque.

## **V. IT IS MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT:**

1. This MOU can be modified, suspended, and/or terminated by CRS or Central New Mexico Community College with proper notice as set forth below.
2. Each party to this MOU will notify each other as soon as possible and no later than three (3) months prior to the modification, suspension, and/or termination of the MOU.
3. Any notice required in connection with this MOU shall be deemed properly given if delivered in person or sent by electronic mail as specified below:
  - a) To Central New Mexico:  
 Melanie Viramontes, Dean  
 School of Communication, Humanities & Social Sciences (CHSS)  
[mviramontes@cnm.edu](mailto:mviramontes@cnm.edu)  
 505-224-3601
  - b) To UNM:  
 CRS Program Coordinator  
[CRSUNM@unm.edu](mailto:CRSUNM@unm.edu)  
 505-277-2857
4. Each institution will be responsible for obtaining emergency contact information from the research scholar prior to the commencement of the residency. Should the resident scholar experience an emergency while participating in the residency, CRS will primarily be responsible for notifying the resident's emergency contact. Central New Mexico Community College will assist where possible.
5. Each institution will comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and licensing requirement of any and all federal, state, and municipal authorities.
6. Each institution will comply with all applicable internal policies and rules of its university/college.
7. The institutions agree to resolve any dispute that may arise under this MOU cooperatively and amicably, keeping in mind the best interests and future of the Tribal and Community College Research Scholar program.

## **VI. FUNDING**

This MOU does not permit the reimbursement of funds between UNM and Central New Mexico Community College for unauthorized expenses.

## VII. EFFECTIVE DATE AND SIGNATURE

This MOU shall be effective upon the signature of the UNM and Central New Mexico Community College authorized officials identified below. This MOU shall be effective from the date of execution and shall terminate at the conclusion of the 2023 summer session.

UNM and Central New Mexico Community College indicate agreement with this MOU by their signatures.

### Signatures and dates

The Regents of the University of New Mexico



Provost and Executive Vice President of  
Academic Affairs - UNM

5/21/2021 Date

Central New Mexico Community College

Sydney Gunthorpe

Digitally signed by Sydney Gunthorpe  
DN: cn=Sydney Gunthorpe, o=Central New Mexico Community  
College, ou=Academic Affairs, email=sydney@cnm.edu, c=US  
Date: 2021.05.26 14:51:17 -0600

Sydney Gunthorpe  
Vice President for Academic Affairs

05/26/21 Date

# APPENDIX C

UNM Newsroom Press Releases  
CRS Visiting Scholars





[UNM Newsroom \(/\)](#) / [News \(/news\)](#) / Center for Regional Studies hosts visiting scholars



## Center for Regional Studies hosts visiting scholars

🕒 November 04, 2020

**Categories:** [Inside UNM \(/categories/inside-unm?c=20138\)](/categories/inside-unm?c=20138) [Faculty News \(/categories/inside-unm/faculty?c=20140\)](/categories/inside-unm/faculty?c=20140) [Center for Regional Studies \(/news?c=21676\)](/news?c=21676)

The Center for Regional Studies (CRS) at The University of New Mexico announced its newest visiting appointments for Spencer R. Herrera and Theresa Córdova. Both scholars are engaged in research projects this Fall at UNM through the Center's Scholar-in-Residence initiative.

The CRS is a multidisciplinary outreach center designed to enhance the work of the university through student fellowships, research, program funding, visiting scholars, digital media and other projects with a particular emphasis on activities that increase understanding of New Mexico, the U.S. Mexico Borderlands, the Americas and Spain.

Herrera is an associate professor of Spanish in the Department of Languages & Linguistics at New Mexico State University. His interdisciplinary project will document the people, places, and cultures along the Río Grande from its headwaters in Colorado to the mouth at the Gulf of Mexico. The project will traverse the river from the Pueblo and Hispanic communities in northern New Mexico through the bi-national cities of Ciudad Juárez and El Paso and bi-national parks Big Bend National Park and Parque Nacional Cañón de Santa Elena to the lower Río Grande Valley of south Texas.

Herrera is also editing a collection of essays that honor the life and legacy of Rudolfo Anaya (<http://news.unm.edu/news/honoring-the-legacy-of-rudolfo-anaya>). The collection includes essays on Anaya's various works and how he influenced generations of scholars and artists. It was a collaborative project completed in the spirit of "A pura pala," a New Mexican mantra of hard work done with shovel in hand, or in his case, *con su pluma en la mano*.



Spencer R. Herrera



Theresa Córdova

Córdova received her Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of New Mexico in 2012 and is currently an independent scholar and an adjunct instructor in Chicana/o Studies at UNM. Her plans are to create a digital archive on the subject of Enriqueta Vásquez (<http://chicanapormiraza.org/chicanas/enriqueta-vasquez>) to document and preserve community history in northern New Mexico, specifically 19th and 20th century social history of the region. She will share the work she accomplishes with a cohort of several other research scholars working on the Enriqueta Vásquez project. The residency would also support her work of conducting on-site visits to San Cristobal, NM, in order to prepare for the field schools that will take place in the summer of 2021.

Córdova has been utilizing UNM's resources at the Center for Southwest Research & Special Collections as she continues her work on the Enriqueta Vásquez Digital History Project. UNM's archival resources are also an essential tool for the New Mexico-focused component of Herrera's research. He plans to use those resources, especially the Center for Southwest Research, which houses the Patricia D'Andrea Rio Grande, Rio Bravo Project Collection. While

at UNM, they will both have the opportunity to connect with faculty, staff, and students, as permissible by established COVID-19 guidelines.

**Tags: Visiting Scholars (/news?t=Visiting+Scholars)**



(<http://unm.edu/>)

# UNM Newsroom (/)



Search Newsroom



[UNM Newsroom \(/\)](#) / [News \(/news\)](#) / [UNM Visiting Scholar follows stories on the Rio Grande](#)



## Stories along the Rio

([/file?fid=602d3ac7b3aed\\_076563419](/file?fid=602d3ac7b3aed_076563419))

# UNM Visiting Scholar follows stories on the Rio Grande

Alumnus searches for querencias of Chicano author Rudolfo Anaya

By Mary Beth King February 17, 2021

**Categories:** Inside UNM (</categories/inside-unm?c=20138>)  
**Alumni** (</news?c=20733>) **Center for Regional Studies**  
(</news?c=21676>) **Research** (</categories/research?c=25914>)

During his stint as a visiting scholar at The University of New Mexico Center for Regional Studies, New Mexico State University associate professor of Spanish and University of New Mexico alum Spencer Herrera followed two paths. One path was a journey along the Río Grande to the Gulf of Mexico on the border of Mexico and Texas to collect stories about the people and the land along the way. The other was visiting the boyhood homes of UNM Professor Emeritus and Godfather of Chicano Literature Rudolfo Anaya to better understand and write a dossier about his life and legacy.

Herrera wrapped up his studies and shared his findings with a video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wGPC1CAsxE&feature=youtu.be>) released in January in which he related his travels and studies. The video is called *A pura pala en la pandemia: On the Road from el Llano to Big Bend and Beyond*.

“The expression ‘a pura pala’ is a nuevo Mexicano mantra that conveys the idea of hard work,” he explains in the talk, an expression that comes from Anaya’s grandfather.



*Spencer Herrera, NMSU professor and UNM alumnus*

Herrera, who completed his Ph.D. in Spanish with a minor in film at UNM, spent the Fall 2020 semester conducting both archival and field research. Due to limited access to the UNM library archives because of pandemic restrictions, he used the time to conduct field research about

the Río Grande, particularly looking at the Big Bend region as it represents a unique part of the Río Grande corridor. The project is ongoing.

He accessed the UNM Center for Southwest Research to read archival documents about the Río Grande and greater New Mexico, documenting parts of the Río Grande from Albuquerque through Big Bend National and State Parks to the mouth of the river at the Gulf of Mexico near Brownsville, Texas. He plans to write about the people and communities along and near the Río Grande.

***“It’s about my love for the land and people who inhabit my larger querencia of the Chicano homeland.”***

***Spencer Herrera***

Herrera’s second project focused on curating a dossier on the life and legacy of New Mexico’s own Rudolfo Anaya for *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies* (<https://www.chicano.ucla.edu/publications/aztl%C3%A1n-journal-chicano-studies-0>). His research took him on the road to visit Anaya’s familial *querencias* – a popular term in the Spanish-speaking world that is used to express a deeply rooted love of place and people – from Pastura to Santa Rosa to Puerto de Luna and then to the Barelás neighborhood in Albuquerque.

Herrera calls himself an experiential writer.

Writers generally fall into two categories, Herrera said. Those with a vivid imagination don’t have to travel. But “People like me – I can certainly imagine some things – but I have to be there, I’ve got to visit it, I’ve got to meet with people, I’ve got to hear their stories, I’ve got to walk the land there, and then I get a sense of what it’s like, and then I can write about it... You gotta be there.”

As he explored stories about lower Río Grande, he came across a mother and daughter living together in Garfield, NM, where he was reminded of how language influences identity. The Mexico-born woman spoke Spanish but her daughter did not.

“It’s that the parents withhold it from them because they know of the pain it can bring when Spanish is your first language or you have an accent in Spanish or you don’t speak English well enough. So the mother decided not to teach Spanish,” Herrera said, adding that he hopes “to turn the tide on that” in generations to come.



He encountered the story of the Porvenir Massacre that took place in 1918. After a series of cattle raids, Texas Rangers and local ranchers raided the Tejano village of Porvenir, population 40. Despite a lack of evidence anyone in the village was involved in the crimes, they gathered 15 men and boys between the ages of 15 and 40 and gunned them down, “the lesson they paid for someone else’s crime,” Herrera observed. The Rangers’ official story was that the village men had ambushed them and they shot in self-defense.

The story went unchallenged for many years until 2002 when the site was excavated and it was found all of the bullets at the scene were government-issued. “People are guarding these stories,” Herrera remarked, but the true story was finally uncovered.

In Marfa, Texas, Herrera uncovered the account of burying “Mr. Spanish” at a local school. The Spanish language was discouraged among local schoolchildren by the use of shame and physical punishment.

In 1954, the children were made to put slips of paper with Spanish words on them and place them in a coffin. The event was labeled “Burying Mr. Spanish” by school authorities. The coffin was buried under the school flagpole.

Herrera noted that the cemetery in Marfa, a small town now known as an artists’ haven, is segregated, separated by a barbed wire fence.

“The idea that segregation exists beyond death is mind-blowing,” he remarked. He plans to go back and find out more of the stories lying buried in the graveyard.

Herrera camped near Santa Elena Canyon in Big Bend National Park in an area accessible only by a 4x4, noting the “breathtaking views” and the fact that one side of the narrow chasm is Mexico, the other side the United States.

“People don’t understand how close the communities are,” he observed, noting that in border communities, like Palomas, Mexico, children cross the border over to Columbus, NM every day to go to school in the U.S.

Herrera ended his journey along the Rio Grande at its mouth on Boca Chica Beach in Texas. Tesla plans to expand its rocket test facility nearby and build a school for children of the staff who will move there, forming two different communities between the Space X group and the *colonias*.

In the video, Herrera goes on to describe his journey to curate the dossier on Anaya, to see New Mexico through the author’s lens.

“His words sum up why I do the kind of work that I do,” Herrera mused. “It’s about my love for the land and people who inhabit my larger *querencia* of the Chicano homeland. I want to read their stories of survival, identity, and love. I want to know that they exist and story-telling does all of that and more. So every time I hit the road looking for these stories I find a piece of myself. Sharing these stories about our collective *querencia* is my greatest expression of love as a writer... It was an honor for me and my collaborators to pay homage to the Godfather of Chicano literature, *el maestro* Rudolfo Anaya.”

Herrera visited the open llano near Pastura, a village where now fewer than 10 houses are left standing. He then went to Puerto de Luna, “a Rockwellian portrait of New Mexico” with green, fertile farmland, and Santa Rosa where there is a statue of Anaya.

Back in Albuquerque, he looked for the house in the Barelitas neighborhood where Anaya lived, only to find an empty lot.

“Although the house doesn’t exist, the stories still exist,” Herrera reflected.

Herrera is the author of several books (<https://spencerherrera.weebly.com/publications.html>) and is a coauthor of *Sagrado: A Photopoetics Across the Chicano Homeland* (<https://unmpress.com/books/sagrado/9780826353542>) published by UNM Press.

**Tags:** **Visiting Scholar** (</news?t=Visiting+Scholar>) **Rudolfo Anaya** (</news?t=Rudolfo+Anaya>) **Rio Grande** (</news?t=Rio+Grande>) **Chicano literature** (</news?t=Chicano+literature>) **UNM library archives** (</news?t=UNM+library+archives>) **Querencias** (</news?t=Querencias>)

## Related News



New Maxwell exhibitions examine work of two photographers (</news/new-maxwell-exhibitions-examine-work-of-two-photographers>)

(</news/new-maxwell-exhibitions-examine-work-of-two-photographers>)



UNM Newsroom (/) / News (/news) / Visiting Scholar seeks answers in UNM archives



## Visiting Scholar seeks answers in UNM archives

🕒 June 24, 2021

**Categories:** [Inside UNM \(/categories/inside-unm?c=20138\)](/categories/inside-unm?c=20138) [Latest News \(/categories/latest-news?c=20230\)](/categories/latest-news?c=20230) [Southwest Hispanic Research Institute \(/news?c=20366\)](/news?c=20366) [University Archives \(/news?c=21679\)](/news?c=21679) [Research \(/categories/research?c=25914\)](/categories/research?c=25914) [Center for Southwest Research \(/news?c=27628\)](/news?c=27628) [Latinx \(/news?c=27651\)](/news?c=27651)

The University of New Mexico's Center for Regional Studies recently selected Aimee Villarreal to participate in its Scholar-in-Residence Program as a short-term Visiting Research Scholar for the Summer 2021 term.

Villarreal received her Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of California at Santa Cruz in 2014 and is currently an Associate Professor and Program Head of Comparative Mexican American Studies at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas.

Villarreal is working to complete final revisions to her book, *Sanctuaryscapes in the New Mexico Borderlands*, which traces diverse mobilizations of sanctuary in New Mexico and the Ciudad Juarez, Mexico/El Paso, Texas border region from the post-Pueblo Revolt period to the present. She examines intertribal forms of sanctuary place-making and notions of radical hospitality that existed previous to the formation of the United States as a nation-state. However, the thrust of her research is on contemporary sanctuary movements and immigrant rights activism.

An eight-week CRS residency at UNM allows Villarreal to pursue community feedback and permissions needed for the publication of her book as well as to examine the Frank I. Sanchez Papers, located in UNM's Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections, in order to provide historical context for the chapters in her book that focus on immigrant rights organizing and humanitarian aid for refugees in southeastern New Mexico during the 1980s and early 1990s. She is also examining the Kay Cole Papers focusing on a sanctuary case involving Native American activist Dennis Banks.

Villarreal said she has already found intriguing information in her studies at UNM that resounds today.

"Here's a little nugget I discovered my first week," she said. "One of the most interesting discoveries I made in the Southwest Research Center archives at UNM involving sanctuary movements and immigrant rights organizing in New Mexico was that in 1983 the Roswell City Council unanimously approved to repurpose the Roswell International Air Center as one of the first private immigrant detention centers in the nation. A coalition of faith-based and Latino groups organized to block the detention center and they were successful.

"The grassroots campaign sparked the immigrant rights movement in the region. As the Sanctuary Movement of the 1980s was emerging, so were privatized immigration detention centers, which were new at the time. New Mexico was at the center of these developments, which continue to be relevant today concerning refugees from Central America."

## Related News



New Maxwell exhibitions examine work of two photographers (</news/new-maxwell-exhibitions-examine-work-of-two-photographers>)

(</news/new-maxwell-exhibitions-examine-work-of-two-photographers>)



# APPENDIX D

## Event Flyers



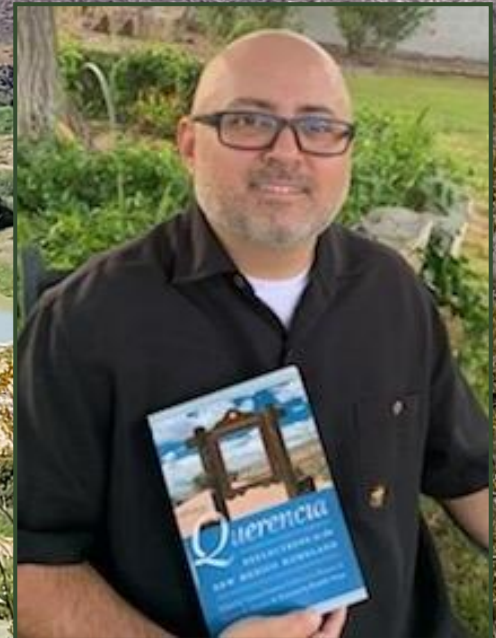
*CRS Visiting Scholar Lecture*

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://unm.zoom.us/j/93371333347>

January 21, 2021  
Thursday | 2 pm

# “A pura pala” en la pandemia: On the Road from el llano to Big Bend and Beyond



Spencer R. Herrera, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor of Spanish  
Department of Languages & Linguistics  
New Mexico State University

The expression “a pura pala” is a nuevo mexicano mantra that conveys the idea of hard work. In this talk, Dr. Herrera will discuss a dossier he curated on the legacy of Rudolfo Anaya and how it helped him better understand the idea of querencia, one’s love of place and its people and cultures.

This lecture is presented by



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# ENRIQUETA VASQUEZ DIGITAL HISTORY PROJECT

Presented by Dr. Theresa J. Córdova  
Center for Regional Studies Visiting Scholar



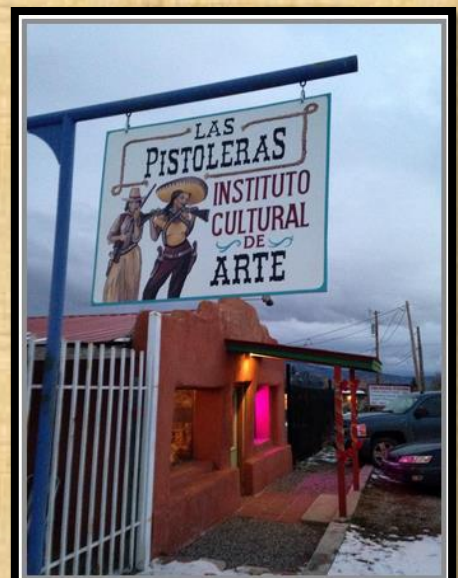
Monday 2pm | May 24, 2021 | Zoom: <https://unm.zoom.us/j/92165228685>

In this presentation, Dr. Theresa J. Córdova, Director of Las Pistoleras Instituto Cultural de Arte, researcher and adjunct faculty with UNM's Chicana/Chicano Studies, will feature a three-fold research and activity-driven process:

- Meeting and engaging with Enriqueta Vasquez, a prominent member of the Chicano Movement.
- Teaching and using ethical practices in documenting, demonstrating and producing the Enriqueta Vasquez Digital History Project.
- As the “scholar on the ground,” Dr. Theresa J. Córdova will spearhead a hands-on field school with Enriqueta Vasquez, Chicana Por mi Raza Digital Memory Project, U.S. Latino Digital Humanities and the University of New Mexico in order to document and continue creating the Enriqueta Vasquez Digital Archive.



Enriqueta Vasquez at Las Pistoleras Instituto Cultural de Arte  
presenting her writing in 2017



Location where Enriqueta Vasquez  
Field School will take place



**CCS 336: 001 CRN 29636**  
**CCS 536: 020 CRN 29635**

# **Enriqueta Vasquez Digital History Project Field Class 2021**



**June 15-17 and June 22-24, 2021 10AM-5PM**  
**Las Pistoleras Instituto Cultural de Arte**  
**1219 Paseo del Pueblo Norte, El Prado, NM (Taos)**

This class explores the history and development of Chicana Feminisms with special attention to regional Chicana feminists who voiced their concerns and politics on a wide range of social dynamics that include race, class, gender, sexuality, and language. It will provide a hands-on participant observation field experience for students who are interested in the preservation of community and cultural heritage. Instructors: Dr. Theresa Córdova, Dr. Maria Cotera, Dr. Jaelyn DeMaria and Dr. Margie Montañez. **For more information contact Dr. Córdova, (575) 779-0445.**

**Students must show proof of full COVID-19 Vaccination to participate in this course.**



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