Fall 2020



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Media News



Dr. Giever in the classroom, CJ Department in fall 2020 **#NMSUReady #maskup** Courtesy Photo/NMSU



Students walking around the NMSU main campus in fall 2020 semester Courtesy Photo/NMSU



Be Bold. Shape the Future. **College of Arts and Sciences Department of Criminal Justice**

Message from the Department Head

As I draft this semester's "Message from the enforcement. Sure he is recruiting for the Department Head," I am looking out my window at all the snow that is falling in Las Cruces. Yes, we had a very early snowfall this any career path. One just has to sit down year (on October 27). It is beautiful, but I will and talk with him for a few minutes to take our regular seasonable 80 degree temperatures any day over this cold weather. is! In a normal year, we would have invited It has been a very interesting year!

Back in March we decided to close down the university and convert all of our classes online. I applaud both our students and our faculty for their efforts to make this happen. Thankfully, our faculty are well versed in online education so this transition was rather seamless. The decision was made to open our campus for this fall semester with many extra precautions in place.

Many of our traditional classes were converted online, but we also had a large number of face-to-face classes. Many of our students preferred the more traditional classes, and our faculty were willing to step up and provide them. We did take special precautions, and most such classes offered both face-to-face interactions while at the same time offering students with concerns the opportunity to view the class remotely.

A lot of work for both students and faculty alike, but we want to ensure that our students get the best possible experience even during these trying times.

We recognize that such sacrifices are taking place in all sectors of the country. It has really been a team effort across the region to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone. Thankfully, NMSU has remained very safe and has had only (knock on wood) a few isolated cases of COVID that were handled very quickly. A big shout out to everyone who has worked to ensure the safety of all.

So much has happened since the last newsletter. We are very proud of the College of Arts and Science's most recent Distinguished Alumni, Jesse Guardiola. Jesse graduated from our program back in 1995 and has had a distinguished career with the Tulsa Police Department, including being chosen for the National Distinguished Service in Policing Award which was recently presented to him by U.S. Attorney General Barr. (How many times can I say distinguished?) While his accomplishments are second to none, I feel honored that Jesse travels to NMSU each semester to mentor our doiever@nmsu.edu students who have an interest in law

Tulsa Police Department, but more than that he works with our students to help them in understand what an outstanding person he Jesse to campus to participate in Homecoming activities and to honor him as a VIP. Due to COVID, that was just not possible this year, but we will find a way to make it up to him once things return to normal. Being selected as a Distinguished Alumni is the highest honor that we can bestow on an Alum. Each year only two individuals are chosen from our college – which is made up of 23 departments. It has meant so much to our faculty, staff, and students to have one of our own chosen for this prestigious award. Thank you Jesse!

I would also like to make a shout out to both Andreia Scarborough (our Administrative Assistant) and Aleena Jackson (our student worker) for the outstanding jobs they do. I often tell them that if either of them leave, I am going with them. They do such a great job taking care of student and faculty needs - our department would just fall apart without them. Thank you both!

I would also like to thank our faculty and students for their efforts during these trying times. Just last week I had one of our undergraduate students come up to me and ask how I was doing. He was genuinely concerned and it made my day. Here was a young man dealing with all of the issues surrounding COVID and the fall semester. and he showed a maturity beyond his years reaching out to me to see that I was doing OK. It makes me really proud to know that our future looks bright. We have so many outstanding students who will be our next generation of alumni – becoming change agents in criminal justice agencies around the world.

Please remember to reach out to us and let us know how you are doing. I really enjoy hearing from our alumni. Our alumni are our legacy – we take pride in your accomplishments!! I hope everyone has a wonderful Holiday Season and please stay safe.

Dennis Giever

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Dulcinea Lara, director of the Borderlands and Ethnic Studies program and associate professor of criminal justice. Courtesy Photo / New Mexico State University



Courtesy Photo/NMSU

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Borderlands and Ethnic Studies Program has received a \$50,000 grant

Criminal Justice professors, Dulcinea Lara and Nicholas Natividad were awarded a \$50,000 grant by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to expand their museum exhibit, "Pasos Ajenos: Social Justice and Inequalities in the Borderlands." Lara and Natividad are core faculty in the Borderlands & Ethnic Studies program and are working together to innovate more effective ways of seeing and understanding society within the Borderlands region—namely the area spanning El Paso, Texas to Las Cruces, New Mexico and the colonias and communities in between that stretch. Many of our CJ students and majors are passionate about learning the history and politics of the region so they can better serve their communities post-graduation.

Interactive virtual art exhibit unveils the history of social justice issues on the border, Las Cruces Sun News Article.

The Kellogg grant is timely given the social uprisings across the U.S. in response to systemic racism, economic inequities exacerbated by Covid-19, employment disparities, and the historically unequal treatment of women and LGBTQ+ communities. "Pasos Ajenos," which translates from Spanish to mean "A Foreigner's Footsteps," is a 14installation, interactive, and bilingual museum exhibit whose narrative aims to bring people into conversation about issues that tend to divide us. The goal after dialogue is started is to begin moving Please contact the Borderlands & Ethnic us together toward healing wounds that were caused by historical and ongoing harms. Step one is knowing.

As people fume and take sides on such issues as: police brutality, rioting and looting, Black Lives Matter, and calls to defund the police, we realize there is a lack of quality historical knowledge to frame these ideological and sometimes physical clashes. There are not enough spaces for in-depth, quality, compassionate dialogue-where everyone has a voice and the aim is to achieve respectful consensus based on the overarching value of Equity. Equity makes "context" a key component when a society works to be democratic. For example, what is the *context* in which people experience disproportionate poverty in the Borderlands region? Labeling communities as "poor" is not adequate and does not compel us to work collectively toward improvement. This exhibit aims to provide often-omitted knowledge, language, and tools that can help us engage each other from a place of information and mutual respect.

While the questions "Pasos Ajenos" asks people to consider can be evocative, the true goal is to encourage relationshipbuilding across differences and eventually heal generational traumas as history is better understood. "Love on the Border" is an installation that features the real-life love story between a Mexican couple straddling the border in Ciudád Juarez, Chihuahua, and El Paso, Texas, in the early 1900s. What does it mean to love across differences, whether those differences are nationalities, race/ethnicities, normative "genders," class statuses?

The exhibit will show at NMSU's Art Museum in January 2021 for a two-month run (Covid-19 contingencies are in place). Studies program, **BEST@nmsu.edu**, with questions about the show.

Welcome New Faculty

Saundra Trujillo, Ph.D.



Saundra Truiillo Assistant Professor

Saundra Trujillo joined the NMSU family community re-entry organizations. in the fall of 2020. Although new to NMSU and Las Cruces, Saundra is a native New Mexican who is proud to join Dynamic Approach to Understanding a department in the state she loves with Immigration, Ethnicity and Crime in colleagues and alumni who are influentialChicago Neighborhoods", thus and active in local community safety. Her addition to the department continuesCriminal Justice. the legacy of the NMSU CJ department's ties to the Gang Resistance Education and Training Evaluation. While completing her Master's in Sociology through the University of New involvement with research on Mexico, Saundra worked under the supervision of NMSU alum, Dr. Dana Peterson as the G.R.E.A.T. Evaluation II Albuquerque Research Assistant 2009-2011.

After receiving her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Sociology from the University of New Mexico, Saundra joined the PhD. program at the University of Missouri- St. Louis where she continued to receive mentorship from Dr. Finn Esbensen, assist with the G.R.E.A.T. II evaluation and subsequent of Crime, Race, Ethnicity, and Gang Desistance Study. As Saundra began work on her dissertation, she returned to New Mexico with her family and continued teaching Juvenile Justice, collaborations with New Mexico Public Research Methods, and Statistics for Criminal Justice majors online at UMSL as well as teaching full-time at CNM Albuquerque in the Sociology Department.

While at CNM, Saundra gained valuable teaching, assessment, and administrative experience. She had the honor to lead CNM's F.I.R.S.T. (Formerly Incarcerated Students' Reintegration Success Team) and, as part of that effort, she worked closely with the Bernalillo County District Attorney's Office, Bernalillo County Specialty Courts, and many officials in New Mexico Corrections as well as

Saundra returned briefly to UMSL in 2019 to defend her dissertation, "A completing her PhD. in Criminology

> Saundra's research remains heavily influenced by her upbringing in New Mexico and her early academic communities and crime as well as juvenile gang research.

Like many from the Land of Enchantment she values family, community, and she is dedicated to cultivating community partnerships that contribute to the safety and success of New Mexico residents.

Saundra is excited to collaborate with colleagues, teach Criminology and Criminal Justice courses on The Nature Immigration, as well as Communities and Crime.

She looks forward to continuing her Safety agencies, building pathways for more New Mexico students to NMSU Criminal Justice, and mentoring the next generation of the Aggie undergraduate and graduate family.

The New Endowed Scholarship

Fouratt and Heydt Law Enforcement Officer Endowed Scholarship

Interview with **Greg Fouratt** about the scholarship:

My Time and Experiences at NMSU

I graduated from Roswell High School in 1983. My first year of college was split between two other universities and it's enough to say that I didn't adapt very well early Air Force uniform. on to college life. I managed to complete my first semester but dropped out the middle of my second semester. I was working at a department store in Roswell and not planning to return to college in the fall of 1984, but then a single phone call changed all of that. I was at work on the morning of Friday, August 31, their undergraduate experiences better prepared them 1984. From out of nowhere, I received a call from someone at the NMSU Admissions Office contacting me to offer admission to the University (for which I had not applied) as well as a scholarship. To this day, I have no idea who contacted NMSU to intercede on my behalf. I was stunned, obviously, as the semester was already two weeks old. But I talked to my parents, both of whom How Larry Heydt and I met and decided to endow encouraged me to accept the offer. So two days later, with all that I owned stuffed into my 1975 Pontiac Ventura, I headed to Las Cruces. As I look back, that telephone call fundamentally altered the course of my life.

It took me a while to get my bearings on campus because everyone else had a two-week head start, but I managed to catch up and settle in. Then along about November I received another phone call that I wasn't expecting. This one came from Captain Jim Lorenzo, an active-duty Air Force officer on the faculty of the NMSU ROTC Detachment. To this day, I don't know how he learned about me or how he tracked me down, but I have my suspicions. In any event, I went to the ROTC building to meet him. He was a slick salesman because, by the end of the hour, I was signing the papers necessary for a three-year ROTC scholarship and a minimum four-year commitment to serve on Air Force active duty thereafter.

There was something about joining the cadet corps that turbo-charged my college experience. I credit that organization for demanding of me a new commitment to classwork, discipline, fitness, and personal responsibility. I worked hard to rise through the ranks and to eventually command the entire Air Force ROTC

cadet corps my final semester. In addition to growing as both a follower and a leader in a military-like environment, I also had the good fortune of attending the United States Army's Airborne (Parachute) School in the summer of 1987. For the next 25 years, I was extremely proud to wear the paratrooper's badge on my

All in all, my four years at NMSU were transformative for me. In the 32 years since I graduated, I have met and worked with graduates of hundreds of undergraduate universities. I have never -- not once -- thought that for their careers or their adulthoods or their lives any better than NMSU prepared me. I have been and remain profoundly grateful for the experiences that NMSU provided me and the telephone call that preceded all of them.

this scholarship

It was the day before the spring semester began in 1986. I had been on NMSU's campus for a year and a half and was midway through my sophomore year. Consistent with my virtually daily habit, I went to the Activity Center to play pick-up basketball. Early on, I noticed a very tall, rangy, pitifully pale guy whom I had not met before. I was pretty sure he was a newcomer to campus. As fate would have it, he picked me to play on his team. I wasn't a great player, but I knew how to defend, rebound, and get the ball to those on my team who could score. In pick-up, if your team wins, you stay on the floor. That day, the team selected by the tall/skinny/pale newcomer won seven games in a row. And, I confess, he was the reason why: scoring at will, blocking shots, directing traffic, and constantly chattering in the ears of our opponents. I found myself asking "Who *is* this guy?" and then answering "I'm not exactly sure but happy as hell he is on my team."

The New Endowed Scholarship

Fouratt and Heydt Law Enforcement Officer Endowed Scholarship

Interview with Greg Fouratt about the scholarship continued:

The reader has figured out by now that the other guy was Larry Heydt. We shook hands, congratulated each other on 9:00 the following morning when we realized we were sitting next to each other in Dr. Jose Z. Garcia's Government 110 class. We had a good chuckle, agreed to meet that afternoon at the AC for more hoops, and the rest robbery, I'll limit my description to this: he owns his own is history. We have been best friends since the first week of company, he makes a considerable amount of money school in January 1986.

This scholarship we have endowed is not our first at Fouratt and Heydt American Leaders Scholarship. Our intent output required to earn them -- he gets the better of was to assist promising NMSU ROTC cadets, particularly those who are majoring in Government as we did. Larry and I realize how important our respective ROTC experiences were in our own lives and are gratified to provide a small boost to others as they pursue their own dreams in the military and beyond.

The scholarship in the Department of Criminal Justice was mv idea.

As a longtime federal prosecutor, I worked closely with law nearly 35 years. enforcement officers at the federal, state, and local levels. As the Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Public Safety, although the 650 officers of the State Police called me their boss, I viewed myself more as their teammate. And considering that I am the great-grandson, grandson, son, brother, brother-in-law, and uncle of career police officers, the law enforcement industry has been a prominent part of my life since birth. Happily, Larry shares my views about law enforcement officers and was pleased to co-fund the scholarship with me. Our intent in creating the Fouratt and Heydt Law Enforcement Officer Scholarship I wanted to send our own message that we support the is to help students majoring in Criminal Justice who themselves are former, current, or future law enforcement officers or are the close relatives of officers. Because my father, brother, and nephew were (or are) NM State Police officers, and because of my own service with that agency, this scholarship is partial to, though by no means restricted to, those with State Police service or family ties.

Information about Larry Heydt

I've already mentioned Larry's basketball prowess, but the reader needs to know that he should have played on the Aggies team itself. He practiced with them, he worked out

with them, he competed against them in vicious pickup games, and he earned the respect of every one of them. For his own reasons, though, Larry chose instead to focus on his studies, a decision I have long admired.

that afternoon's dominance, and parted ways. Until, that is, With a portfolio of skills and talents as deep and versatile as anyone I've met, Larry could have pursued a career in virtually any industry. He chose the financial industry. Because I'd rather not have him be the victim of helping others manage considerable amounts of money, and he has so much business that he can be choosy. When I compare what I do for a living as a federal judge to what NMSU. Two years ago, we pooled our resources to fund the he does for a living -- and then compare the rewards to the me. Every time.

> But my best friend is a lot more than an athlete and financial wizard. Generous, charismatic, optimistic, the life of every party, Larry is the undisputed favorite among his family members, his friends, his clients, and his business associates. You cannot help but leave a conversation with him feeling better about yourself, your circumstances, and your future. I know -- I've had that experience for the last

Our Hopes for the Scholarship

Our hopes are modest. We hope that our scholarship provides a financial shot-in-the-arm for a student each semester who either has made or will make the remarkable choice to become a law enforcement officer in these United States. Given all the social unrest in America today, including the controversies surrounding the law enforcement profession and the renewed energy among some to fundamentally restructure or eliminate it, Larry and profession and those who are selfless enough to volunteer for it. And that we have the chance to do it at our alma mater that was so generous to us makes our decision all the easier. To that end, Larry and I are grateful to Dennis Giever for his leadership of the Criminal Justice Department and to Patrick Knapp, the Arts and Sciences Development Officer who gave us the inspiration to "pay it forward" in our own wav.

New Student Organization Chartered – Humans for Humans

Humans for Humans



Humans for Humans Student Group Logo Courtesy Photo/NMSU



Humans for Humans Student Group meeting Courtesy Photo/NMSU

The new student organization has been chartered by students in the Criminal Justice Department and is open to all NMSU students.

The organization will seek to combat human trafficking through any permissible means. The organization will also seek to prepare and equip criminal justice students for their careers especially in leadership and human trafficking prevention. These goals will be accomplished through:

- Partnerships with local, state, and national organizations and agencies
- Awareness efforts directed towards students and the public
- Fundraising for efforts combating human trafficking
- Advocating for victims of human trafficking
- Conducting research to further understanding of matters related to human trafficking
- Volunteering at organizations that combat human trafficking

Students are planning several fund-raising projects for fall 2020 semester and next year - 2021.

Activities planned:

- Selling Caliche's gift cards for the rest of the fall semester
- Conducting research on campus to better understand students' knowledge of human trafficking
- Educating various industry employees such as gas station and hotel workers on the signs and dangers of human trafficking
- Equipping students with the resources needed to educate their communities back home
- Tabling across campus
- · Conducting workshops and special events for students to attend

Ethan Cooper President <u>ehooper1@nmsu.edu</u> Marija Dimitrijevic Faculty Advisor <u>marijad@nmsu.edu</u> Ida D'Antonio-Hangen Faculty Advisor ida1209@nmsu.edu

Celebrating Graduate Students and completed Theses

Media News



Student around the NMSU main campus Courtesy Photo/NMSU



Students in the classroom Courtesy Photo/NMSU



Students in the classroom Courtesy Photo/NMSU

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We are proud of our graduate students, their work and all completed theses. Please visit the <u>graduate students' webpage</u> to learn about their accomplishments.

Alberto Salazar – Dr. Hyunin Baek (Chairperson), Dr. Dennis Giever, and Dr. Cynthia Bejarano His thesis is entitled: UNDERAGE DRINKING: A TEST OF LOW SELF-CONTROL THEORY

Daniel Topete – Dr. Dennis Giever (Chairperson), Dr. Hyunin Baek, and Dr. David LoConto His thesis is entitled: THE EFFECTS OF STRAIN AND PERCEIVED INJUSTICE ON ADOLESCENT SUBSTANCE USE

Haley Stewart - Dr. Nicholas Natividad (Chairperson), Dr. Don Pepion, Dr. Dulcinea Lara Her thesis is entitled: TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY, RACE, AND THE SUPREME COURT: OLIPHANT V. SUQUAMISH AS EXEMPLIFYING PREJUDICED DOCTRINES OF INDIAN RIGHTS CASE LAW

Testimonials From Students

Student Dianisa E. Sosa, professor Dr. David Keys.

I am really enjoying law school. I find it challenging, but fun (somehow). I am happy that I am making progress in something that will help me reach my ultimate career goals. Of course, I couldn't be here without the great support that you have given me. I believe that you were instrumental in my success in not only my grad degree, but with everything. I am really here because of you, and for that I am eternally grateful.

Student Lauretta King, professor Marija Dimitrijevic

I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the Comparative Criminal Justice Systems course. It has to be one of my favorites. This course was very well organized, and although condensed, it provided a thorough understanding of the subject. The class was fast paced but in a way that kept you engaged within the assignment elements. Thank you for being available and answering our concerns. Awesome Class!

Roberto Gutierrez, Class of 2019, Masters of Criminal Justice

The online graduate program promotes student engagement in all courses, this allows us to interact with the instructors and classmates. This interaction creates an accessible environment that is responsive to the student needs which brings about success. Student programs incorporate the diverse online student resources to further assist the online program student.

Emeritus Faculty

Peter Gregware, Emeritus Faculty



Peter Gregware **Professor Emeritus**

When Prof. Giever and Prof. Dimitrijevic asked if I locations, many of the countries stand out in been doing since retirement, I felt a bit guilty to take on that role. Arriving here later in life, and then being asked to serve as department head and associate dean, I did not teach and thus work with our students as much as most faculty. But I still cherish the opportunities I did have with When we visited Tibet and sought to explore the students, and thus hope that such a perspective might be helpful or entertaining.

has been travel. The year before I retired, I was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to teach at Slovakia's law school. My wife, Prof. Nancy Baker, the time locals were self-immolating to protest was awarded a similar scholarship the following year, so I was able to revisit former students and top of the building, we could see the large engage with many locals I had come to care for. Not having to work, I found myself extensively exploring their capital city (Bratislava) by foot and publicizing these very dramatic acts of local venturing into neighboring countries such as the Czech Republic and Hungary. Thus I continued my "off to see the wizard" adventures with Nancy, hurting others, but preventing and punishing which so far has involved visiting over fifty countries.

For example, I booked a small ship listed on the web, a replica of Charles Darwin's HMS Beagle, which followed much of the Beagle's route around Cape Horn. Flying to the most southern town in South America (Puerto Williams, Chile), we boarded the little ship and for seven days explored an alternate reality of numerous glaciers Botswana, but it is also hard to see human and highly bounce-able tundra. I even went swimming in a glacier pool (but not for very long!). Inspired, we later explored a similar area around the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa, but this time we also garnered more of the historical context, here by visiting sites related to solar panels, environmental cars, etc., I have also Nelson Mandela's life. It was hard for me, as a former warden for the federal bureau of prisons, to imagine how a person, placed in the brutal prison on Robin Island and held for decades under apartheid, would eventually be released and then serve as President of South Africa for 10 for biking, and have walked the streets of Bogota, years. Yes, the possibilities of life can also be encouraging.

There were also many surprises, such as when I came upon a memorial in Krakow Poland where university faculty had been invited (during world war II) to attend a special event, only to end up being arrested and placed by Nazis in Auschwitz concentration or death camps. I had never thought that being a college faculty (and maybe a which we must increasingly look to help each college student?) could be considered so dangerous.

While we have seen some of the standard tourist

would explain to my former students what I have unique and interesting ways. For example, the food in Uzbekistan was guite different...how many of you have had a sheep tail for lunch? Or how about a plate of mopane worms (from Zimbabwe) for dinner?

traditional home of the Dali Lama in Llasa, we first had to deal with government restrictions. Having retained the required guide, we had to go through My most time-consuming post retirement activity numerous checkpoints located on almost every city street intersection, where they tested each of us for carrying possible inflametants (Note that at China's control of the country). Once on the roof number of police patrolling the plaza, probably to prevent foreigners from filming and internationally political opposition. My take on this was a government effort that focused not on people people for hurting themselves, and others for reporting their efforts. It's a much different focus from what we see happening in our country or what we discuss in our classes.

> As I get older, I also must acknowledge several impacts on my travel focus. Yes, it was memorable to face a charging bull elephant in cultures struggling to survive in a diminishing world, and people being hurt and dying, made worse by Covid19. While much can be learned in traveling, there is also a growing environmental cost. While I try to help offset this by focusing on become much more conscious of the world's biodiversity issues, as well as the significant and developing danger of ecosystem collapse. Yet I have seen structures supporting environmental needs in Scandinavia, such as extensive systems Colombia, considered the most walkable city on earth. Also, to my joy, I've seen so many people taking advantage of those systems. With that support, I am increasingly changing my focus towards our looming environmental crisis. We are all human beings who share a world which needs our care and attention, so that we, and our children's children, can live the life we cherish. This is not an us vs. them world but rather one in other.



Criminal Justice Shout-Out

Shout out to both Andreia Scarborough (our Administrative Assistant) and Aleena Jackson (our student worker) for the outstanding jobs they do. They do such a great job taking care of student and faculty needs – our department would just fall apart without them. Your personal touches and caring for each individual student is absolutely noticed.

Thank you both!



Andreia Scarborough (our Administrative Assistant)



Aleena Jackson (our student worker)

Virtual Homecoming Event (October 23, 2020) with the College of Arts and Science's Distinguished Alumni, Jesse Guardiola





Please visit the <u>CJ Giving Page</u> to see how you can contribute to the future success of Criminal Justice Students.

Please touch back to us and let us learn about your career and what you have done since you graduated. Please send a short note or email briefly describing your careers. We might include these in future Newsletters or on our website. It would be nice for our alumni to hear from others and what they have been doing since they left NMSU.





