



The “UP DATE”



Alexander Hamilton



Steven Nery

Student Education Leaders Awarded Prestigious Scholarship

STEM UP is proud to announce two of our Student Educational Leaders (SELs) are awarded this scholarship. Congratulations to Steven Nery and Alexander Hamilton for being the 2016 NSF STEM Scholars! Steven Nery is a successful transferred CNM student majoring in Electrical Engineering at UNM. Alexander Hamilton is a UNM STEM student majoring in Computer Engineering and successfully transferred from CNM as well.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics program (S-STEM) addresses the need for a high quality STEM workforce in areas of national priorities. The program seeks to increase the success of low-income academically talented students who demonstrated financial need and are pursuing associate, bachelor, or graduate degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The UNM S-STEM program is funded through a grant from the NSF which started in spring 2007. S-STEM is an extension of the former Computer Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Scholarship (CSEMS) program. Students are selected on the basis of financial need, academic merit and potential for professional success.

This scholarship is through UNM's Engineering Student Services (ESS) and provides financial and academic assistance to undergraduate students enrolled full-time in the School of Engineering (SOE).

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What's Happening?

Calculus The Musical
March 23

Walk About
March 25

**March STEM
Awareness Month
at CNM**

**Look out for STEM
Career Campaign
Posters on CNM
campus**



New Achievement Coach

Monique Aceves is the new Achievement Coach for STEM UP. As an Achievement Coach, Monique empowers students to establish goals and build skillsets to become self-sufficient. Her goal is to prepare students to be academically informed and provide support for any personal issues they may be dealing with. Monique is proficient in problem solving and critical thinking.

Monique helps UNM and CNM students understand transfer agreements that STEM UP initiated. As a former Administrative Assistant she worked with Student Education Leaders (SELs) and is well versed in STEM resources.

Through STEM UP she learned the importance of institutionalizing systems and is committed to offer the highest level of student services.

Monique Aceves is the new Achievement Coach at UNM South Campus. She can be reached at 505-277-0320 or email maceves4@cnm.edu. Call her to make an appointment.



Advisors' Advice by Juanito Marquez

Declare a Major

Declaring a major will structure the time spent in college by providing a road map to follow until students met all general core and concentration requirements dictated by the respective college. For example, at UNM's College of Arts and Sciences there are specified general core courses along with course requirements students need to follow in order to graduate. The same formula is in place at CNM. What should a student do if he or she has not declared a major? Contact an academic advisor to help narrow down choices in declaring a major. The sooner a student declares a major for the duration of his or her college career the better.

Juanito Marquez is an Academic Advisor at CNM Main Campus. He can be reached at 505-224-3241 or email at jmarquez72@cnm.edu.

His office is located at SSC room 101 B. Please schedule an appointment by calling 505-224-3241.



Networking by Monique Aceves

When networking in any career, it is important to establish and maintain relationships with individuals in relevant fields. Start early! Don't wait until connections are needed to begin building one. University settings are inherently diverse, and rich in opportunities to connect with individuals who share interests. Be on the lookout for relevant clubs and organizations and make an effort to attend events of interest. Even if a single connection is made, the investment in time could prove to be invaluable educationally and professionally.

Behind every professional is a personal story. A humorous piece of advice I received from Dr. K. Schaefer, 2007 was to write two personal detail of a new contact on the back of business cards. In his example, Dr. Schaefer wrote "hates mayonnaise" and their birth date after lunch with a new connection he made at a national conference. Months later, Dr. Schaefer sent the new contact a large jar of mayonnaise on his birthday as a gag and created a lasting impression. A contact is of little use if the individual has no recollection of you. Strive to make a genuine connection. It's not about what you know, or who you know – it's about who knows you.



Freshman Help by Kevin Smith

While every freshman faces his or her own personal challenges, there are a few problems most freshmen and college students encounter at least once during their time in school. This article identifies challenges students face.

Almost all students struggle with how they are going to pay for college. Tuition continues to rise at alarming rates. Factor in the cost of housing, textbooks, transportation, and meals and the burden grows. Many students can't afford the expenses associated with attending college and drop out. Others must find a way to balance academic responsibilities with demanding job schedules to make ends meet.

Sometimes students turn to student loans to pay for expenses associated with obtaining an education. However, students don't have a good understanding of the requirements for repayment of these loans. This often adds to the stress of obtaining an education.

Submit applications early for scholarships and grants. Investigate on campus jobs which will decrease or eliminate transportation costs and commute times and help to stay focused on academics. Avoid credit cards, try to pay cash, and create a budget and stick to it. As a last resort, utilize student loans, but only after thoroughly educating yourself with the requirements for paying back the debt.

Hit the Ground Running

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) students face “killer” classes like Calculus, Physics, and Chemistry their first semester. New STEM students are often surprised by the amount of effort required for such classes. Since competence in all introductory classes is necessary to succeed in higher-level courses, a workshop to prepare these students was created. The Hit the Ground Running (HTGR) workshop gives students a head start by introducing them to tutors, fellow students, and gaps that may exist in their knowledge prior to the beginning of their courses.

HTGR is a STEM Workshop at CNM Main Campus that occurs the week before each semester begins. It is designed to help students gain a head start in difficult classes like Physics, Chemistry and Calculus. HTGR is a two-day workshop hosted by STEM tutors familiar with instructor expectations and the struggles many students face. Tutors provide worksheets and review concepts necessary for each subject including Algebra, Trigonometry, Calculus, Physics and Chemistry. Each workshop is held in a designated space on the second floor of the Student Resource Center (SRC) at CNM Main Campus. Here, students receive much needed review and overview time to prepare for their STEM classes.

If you are a student and you feel like you may need some extra help preparing for your upcoming classes, contact the STEM UP Office 505-224-3241 at CNM Main Campus (SSC 102) to find out about our upcoming events including our Hit the Ground Running Workshops.

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STEM UP Mission Statement
Through a CNM and UNM Cooperative, STEM UP provides students with guidance, support and academic pathway towards STEM graduation