



Dean's Newsletter 1.10

Dear friends,

As March has arrived, and spring is close at hand, the subject on everyone's mind is whether life will return to normal this summer and fall. One thing is for sure: cautious optimism is the current normal.



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Announcements

The Dean's Circle President Glenn Fellows and Development Director Laurie Roche are currently planning the next Dean's Circle Gathering, which will take place on April 1, 2021. If you are interested in joining the Dean's Circle please contact Glenn Fellows.

News

Associate Professor of Community and Regional Planning, Caroline Scruggs, recently co-authored a letter to the editor of the Daily Lobo on climate change. Scruggs, who is

We can't predict the status of public health moving forward. But "if vaccination rates continue as projected and if the decline in COVID-19 cases also persists," as UNM Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs James P. Holloway put it in a recent letter to the University community, "we should be able to offer a heavily face-to-face UNM experience in Fall 2021"—albeit with ongoing precautions. And, of course, we'll be ready to switch to a different mode of instruction, if we must,

Cautious optimism with flexibility sits well with the world of architecture, landscape architecture, and planning. We embrace the dynamic and the responsive components of resiliency, and the SA+P is building a strong team of community supporters to help us plan the efficacious Fall 2021 re-entry that our faculty, staff and students so look forward to and deserve.

I'm delighted to announce that this team includes an expanded Dean's Circle (DC), under the leadership of its president, Glenn Fellows. One of our newest DC members is Santa Fe architect Alexander Dzurec, principal and founder of autotroph. Among his many projects, Dzurec is working on the renovation of the Jeff Harnar-designed Cocteau Theater, owned by Game of Thrones creator George R. R. Martin. Dzurec recently received two AIA Santa Fe 2020 design awards: a Merit Award for "La Molina," a custom residence constructed from rammed earth, rusted metal, and wood in the Galisteo Basin Preserve, and an Innovation Award for "The Starship," a proposal for a transportable community hub that resembles a flying saucer, constructed from modified shipping containers, a tensile fabric roof, and a geodesic dome with offalso a faculty senator, was instrumental in sponsoring two climate resolutions that recently passed in the Senate, concerning green initiatives and UNM's divestment from fossil fuel companies.

Associate Professor and Chair of
Landscape Architecture, **Katya Crawford**, was an invited panelist
for the American Society of
Landscape Architects (ASLA) <u>2020</u>:

<u>A Call to Action</u>, which is dedicated
to forging a new vision for
Landscape Architecture.

Research

SA+P faculty have recently received UNM Research Allocation
Committee (RAC) awards.
Congratulations Assistant
Professor's of Landscape
Architecture Kathy Kambic and
Anthony Fettes. Congratulations as well to Assistant Professor of
Architecture Cesar Adrian Lopez and Visiting Associate Professor of
Architecture Jeffrey S. Nesbit. The RAC awards provide funds for career development and to help scholars attain extramural funding.

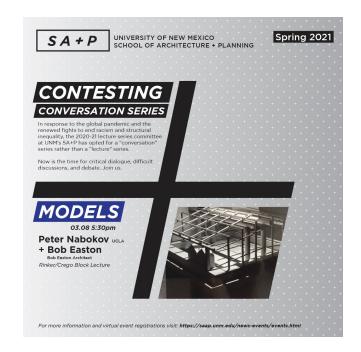
SA+P has initiated a collaboration and sponsorship with the United States Space Force. In conjunction with a graduate architecture studio led by Visiting Associate Professor Jeffrey S. Nesbit, the design research begins by exploring the history of architecture, infrastructure, and imagination at Cape Canaveral.

The SA+P will be hosting its first
Urban Land Institute (ULI) Urban
Plan Workshop on March 5-6.
Professor of Architecture Michaele
Pride is the faculty lead on the
program, which brings the SA+P
together with ULI New Mexico
District Council and the Anderson
School of Management. The
workshop will culminate with final
student presentations being given to
City Council, and a winning team will
be announced and awarded. Please

grid infrastructure!

We have also been strengthening our student-alumni relations thanks to our student organization, APA-UNM. Graduate Community and Regional Planning (CRP) student Andrea Calderon, and other members of the group helped organize "Meet the Planners: Planners in Public Policy," a recent panel that featured three remarkable women: Sarita Nair, JD, MCRP, chief administrative officer for the City of Albuquerque, who oversees all 19 departments of municipal government and a budget of over \$1 billion; Stephanie Rodriguez, MCRP, acting secretary, New Mexico Higher Education Department; and Renee Villarreal, MCRP, city council, City of Santa Fe. What a wonderful way to launch into Women's History Month by featuring women making history! While explaining their career trajectories to our students, these officials also discussed their methods for integrating sustainability and equity in ways that impact policy and budget decisions. As women of color, they were also asked to talk about the adversity and obstacles that they have experienced, working in the field of public policy. The panel was a celebration of optimism for the great professions that our graduates are pursuing, and for the leadership of the CRP Department, under the excellent direction of its Chair, Dr. Renia Ehrenfeucht.

APA UNM's next "Meet the Planners" event "Immigrant Rights, Consulting and Evaluation," organized by CRP graduate student **Aaron Moore**, will take place on March 9 at 11:30 AM and will feature alumni **Claudia Medina**, co-founder and former executive director of Enlace Comunitario; **Andrea Plaza**, executive director of Encuentro; **Sandra Ortsman**, consultant in project management, evaluation, grant writing, and form instructor in CRP; and **Marah Moore**, evaluator, social change architect, and founder/director of i2i Institute.



This month, we're looking forward to another session in our "Contesting" Conversation series. The Contested "Models" conversation—this year's Rinker/Crego Lecture—will take place on March 8, 2021, featuring UCLA Professor of World Arts and Cultures/Dance **Peter Nabokov** and California architect **Bob Easton**, AIA. Nabokov and Easton are the authors of the field-leading book, *Native American Architecture*

contact **<u>Dan Majewski</u>** for more information.

Associate Professor of Community and Regional Planning, Caroline Scruggs, recently published "Mapping Potable Reuse Survey Data Using Spatial Statistics to Inform Tailored Education and Outreach," in AWWA Water Science (2020). Read more. She also published "Potable Water Reuse in Small Inland Communities: Oasis or Mirage?" in the Journal of the American Water Works Association (2020). Read more.

Profile

Emeritus Faculty of Landscape
Architecture Chris Wilson was
featured in Episode 429 of the the
99% Invisible podcast entitled
"Stuccoed in Time." This episode
also features Santa Fe architect
Trey Jordan and three SA+P alumni
Lisa Gavioli Roach, Historic
Preservation Division Manager with
the City of Santa Fe, Joseph R.
Montoya, Executive Director, Santa
Fe County Housing Authority, and
the writings of Rina Swentzell.

Associate Professor of Community and Regional Planning, **Caroline Scruggs**, was recently featured in the article "It's Time to Get Used to Drinking Recycled Wastewater," in *Future Human*. Read more.

Assistant Professor of Landscape
Architecture, Anthony Fettes, gave
a presentation in a national
American Society of Landscape
Architects (ASLA) webinar entitled:
"Decentering the Eurocentric Design
Process: Indigenous Landscape
Architecture at the University of New
Mexico." He was joined by graduate
students Lia Grieser and Hollis
Moore, and members of the
Indigenous Design + Planning
Institute (iD+Pi).

(1989, Oxford University Press), which examines "the building traditions of the major tribes in nine regional areas of the continent, from the plan-house villages of the Northwest Coast to the moundbuilder towns and temples of the Southeast, to the Navajo hogans and adobe pueblos of the Southwest." The SA+P's Indigenous Design and Planning Institute (iD+Pi) recently received a major gift from Nabokov and Easton, which includes the entire sets of research materials (photos, slides and documents) associated with this book as well as a museum-quality exhibit model of two Northwest Tlinget houses made out of cedar. The models are accompanied by large mounted photo display boards depicting historic photos of Northwest coastal architecture from the turn of the nineteenth century. These materials will be archived in the iD+Pi office space.

On March 3, we are also hosting a noon talk with visiting associate professor of Architecture Janet Abrams entitled, "The Form is in the Making: Tools, Typologies, Technologies." In her hybrid practice as a writer, editor, and visual artist, Abrams moves back and forth between materials and modes of production: working both with text and images, and with physical substances that have very distinct behaviors and personalities. Reviewing the "wild array" of recent work, Abrams will reflect on the search for appropriate form within the materiality of each project, and how it arises from a confluence of tools, techniques, painstaking deliberation, and pure happenstance (aka sheer creative abandon). She will also discuss her penchant for analyzing the typologies and experiences that characterize contemporary culture-from global transportation and industrialized nutrition, to politics and artistic practice during the Pandemic. Register here to receive the Zoom link for this talk.

Alongside teaching this Spring semester seminar "Design, Play & Learning," Abrams is directing the forthcoming **Architecture + Design Summer Academy** for high school juniors and seniors interested in architecture, landscape architecture, historic preservation, and planning/urban design. Find more information <u>here</u> to learn more about this summer program, which will take place in Albuquerque from June 21–July 2 and in Santa Fe from July 12–July 23, (in person, if we receive clearance from the Governor, online, if not).

We are looking forward to receiving entries being submitted to the **Jeff Harnar Award** program, which has a deadline of March 15. If you're interested in submitting a project as a professional, emerging professional, or a student, please find further information <u>here</u>.

I'd like to thank Associate Professor of Architecture **Kristina**Yu, who also serves as the Special Assistant to the Dean for

Career Services, for her leadership in organizing this year's

UNM School of Architecture + Planning Career Fair, which will be held virtually on March 25, 2021, from 11:00-1:00 PM. You can register here. This event gives our students an opportunity to interview with some of the most prestigious firms in New Mexico and around the country. If you are an employer and would like to participate, contact **Keith Hitz**.



Finally, I'm honored, once again, to be invited by AIA New Mexico to participate in a "Q&A with the Dean" session, which will take place virtually on March 4 at 4 PM MST. The dialogue generated at these sessions has been critical in helping me gauge where the professional community sees the SA+P going, and the many ways New Mexico's professionals want to support the School's present and future. I invite you to participate in this online event by registering here.

March is also a favored month because it gives us pause over Spring Break (March 15-21)—much-needed time off for our faculty and students to regenerate, go on picturesque hikes, read detective novels, plant seeds, or—if they prefer—do absolutely nothing!

This newsletter features the Fall 2020 Dean's List—we are so proud of our undergraduates! To be placed on this list, undergraduate students must achieve a 3.5 grade point average or higher based on a minimum of 15 graded credit hours in that semester. This newsletter also profiles one of our adjunct faculty members in Landscape Architecture, **Greg Miller**, who was recently awarded a very prestigious medal of honor, the Tau Sigma Delta Silver Medal. We end by featuring associate professor of Community and Regional Planning **Moises Gonzales**, one of our most prolific scholars and community activists, whom I have no doubt will be spending his Spring Break feverishly writing, meeting with community groups, and riding his skateboard through Albuquerque's urban landscapes. Read on for details!

My very best,

Robert Alexander González

Dean and Professor

@Gonzalez_UNM

BAA in Architecture

Daniel Archuleta

Allison Arend

Alondra Azurdia

Cody Begay

Courteney Begay

Diana Bernal Andrade

Nathan Blazek

Adela Borjas

Julio Borroel

Erin Boyd

Jovani Boyd

Elizabeth Brage

Tara Briones

Nikki Brown

Jarron Cadman

Alesandra Candelaria

Desiree Castillo

James Charbeneau

Evan Cohen

Brendan Coops

Paige Copeland

Brian Cordova

Sydney Crane

Sushil Darjee

Halle DelMargo

Jennifer Dominguez Hernandez

Kayla Duncan

Edgar Enriquez

Tayler Ferguson

Collin Fouser

Zachary Gaillour

Aleiandro Garcia

Briana Garcia

Heavenlee Garcia

Connor Gates

Irfan Gillani

Forrest Gill-Ehlen Pateton Gonzales

Isaac Gonzalez

Kassandra Gregos

Dominique Gutierrez

Zane Hall

Sydney Hanks

Anthony Hernandez Aylin Hernandez

Elizabeth Hernandez Silva

Samantha Hubbard

Hannah Iracheta

Facundo Jaime

Rebecca James Sean Jarvis

Alexandria I ee

Amanda Lin

Marie Adele Little

Marcus Lopez

Dwayne Lopez-Burton

Daniel Lovato

Adrian Lovato-Esquivel

Breonna Lucero

Joseph Lutz

Christhian Macias

Emily Maethner Michael Marcelli

Veronica Mares

Emilia Martinez

Ella McDonald

Kassidy McKim Caden McWilliams

Natalie Mistretta

Arthur Modine

Joey Mok

Mayra Monge Alyssa Moraga Danni Mosher

Isabella Munoz Morales

Jordan Murrieta

Lance Parisot

Marrisa Parras

Aayushi Patel

Noah Perez

Jing Qin

Daniel Quintana

Stephen Quintana

Benjamin River

Alyssa Rodriguez

Markus Rodriguez

Luis Rodriguez Jara

Lauren Salazar

Vanessa Salazar

Jacob San Nicolas

Jesse Sanchez

Davin Siltala

Hannah Smith

Hannah Smith Jessica Solis

Ryan Sotelo

RaeAnna Spiger

Natalie Stephens

Ian Tibbetts

Aiko Timmons

Marina Tomasello

Jacob Torres

Rebecca Tresise

Victoria Trujillo

Quinn Vance

Alicia Varoz Beniamin Watson

Karima Weinman

Aili Wiggins

Jamieson Wiggins

Brooke Williams

Anna Wyka

BAEPD in Community and **Regional Planning**

Eleanor Blankenship

Nikolas Byous

Cameron Calhoun Alyssa Castanon

Leila Chapa

Paloma Chapa

Matthew Denis

Kvla Fugate

Sofia Gavin

Aaron Hill Kreston Johnson

Erin Luther

Victoria Martine Angelica Masias

Esmeralda Mendoza

Madison Minard Indv Mitchell

Mikayla Ortega-Speight

Zaya Osborn Jahro Parrish

Sairis Perez Gomez

Amber Rivera

Maggie Schneiderman Liam Strader-Monaghan

Jacob Uffer Nathaniel Wurster



Silver Medal goes to Greg Miller

By Chris Wilson

The Tau Sigma Delta Honor Society chapter at UNM, which primarily recognizes top students in the SA+P, has bestowed its Silver Medal for design excellence on **Greg Miller**, the first landscape architect to be so honored. In addition to being the president of the leading Albuquerque landscape and planning firm, MRWM, Miller is also a lecturer in the school's Landscape Architecture Department, teaching Construction Materials and Techniques annually.

In his designs for parks, streetscapes, schools and health care facilities, he balances human needs and ecological sustainability. Award winning projects, for which he was lead or co-designer, include the Alamosa Skate Park, The Big I Landscape and the recent phases of the Martineztown Park in Albuquerque. A local and national leader in sustainable design, especially water conserving irrigation systems, Miller is also known for incorporating research-based best practices into play environments.

His Four Hills Village Park, for instance, turns the entire environment into a playground for all ages. The design augments a typical mix of trees, shade structures, play equipment and ADA accessible loop with a continuous carpet of engineered wood fibers, tall grass drifts that define outdoor rooms and boulders at grade changes for children to sit and climb on.

As president of the New Mexico Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, and later as the first National ASLA President from the state, Miller worked to bolster membership diversity, give young members tools for success, and foster greater understanding of the breadth of contributions landscape architects make to livable, sustainable communities.

Miller is currently at work on Albuquerque Rail Yards
Streetscape design, Prototype Habitat Gardens for
Albuquerque Public School, and The Annenberg Foundation
Trust at Sunnylands, a retreat center for international leaders
in Rancho Mirage, California.



Moises Gonzales: Southwest Urbanism, Taking the Next Steps

Cindy Graff Cohen

Moises Gonzales, Associate Professor in Community and Regional Planning and Director of Resource Center for Raza Planning, asks questions—lots of questions. He asks bigpicture and detailed technical questions and he teaches his students to ask questions. Many questions have no answer, but they can inspire solutions that shape better communities.

Although his extensive scholarship in urban design and historic preservation often explores "whys" and "whens," in conversation he looks at the "hows," like how ideas get translated into the built environment, how policy or tradition informs the relationship of streets to buildings, or how different cities use their waterways.

His work invariably starts with a stack of puzzle pieces in an ever-changing order: history, transportation, ethnic identity, economic growth, public art, climate change, inequity, generational diversity, employment, and much more. He thinks about how to balance these considerations. The goal: to assemble the variables of urban design into spaces that work.

Building on Tradition

Gonzales, who has taught in UNM's SA+P since 2011, is that rare faculty member who grew up in Albuquerque. His father, Paul Gonzales, was a custom builder whose firm, Encantado Builders, specialized in renovating adobe structures and building on the local vernacular styles. "He was a stone mason, carpenter, and construction expert," says Gonzales, who began working with him as a child. He became aware of centuries-old building techniques; he remembers using a machete to chop straw for adobe and watching his grandfather use an axe to make vigas out of logs.

After working on houses and getting to know historic structures in neighborhoods around the city, Gonzales chose to major in architecture at University of New Mexico. He took all kinds of

courses across campus—and he became an activist for social and cultural justice. He stayed busy with "some sort of water action or indigenous land dispute" and whatever came next.

"I was always interested in design, but you've got to spend time in the studio," he laughed. "You can't always be gone on protests. I had so many credits, I just needed to finish a degree." He graduated from UNM with a Bachelor's Degree in political science.

In quick order, Gonzales came back to earn a Master's of Community and Regional Planning from UNM's SA+P. In 2008, he won a Loeb Fellowship to pursue advanced studies in environmental design at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design.

After working in the planning and preservation fields for many years, he chose to focus on urban design, "the land of both architecture and city planning," as he calls it. In 2011, he completed a Master's in Urban Design at the University of Colorado in Denver. His thesis explored form-based planning codes and developed a plan for Denver's eastern Downtown.

"Denver was becoming the next hot western city where everyone was moving to," he recalls, "but this part of Downtown was really bleak. During the urban renewal of the 1970s, old buildings were torn down and turned into surface parking lots." Working with the City Planner of Denver, Gonzales made recommendations which became part of a new building code.

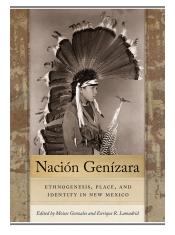
Today, Gonzales is pursuing his doctorate in American Studies at UNM with a focus on Southwest Studies; he has completed his coursework. "This work continues to inform my research in Southwest Urbanism," he adds.

Life's Work: New Mexico Communities

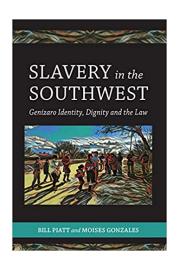
Moises Gonzales's family has long roots in New Mexico, especially the Albuquerque area. His grandparents lived in a nearby land grant community, which was founded in 1763 by *genizaros* of mixed indigenous background including Comanche, Apache, and Tiguas. Their community was one of a several communities populated by *genizaros*, former Native American slaves and indentured servants who were captured and sold by other Indian tribes to the conquering Spaniards. By the end of the eighteenth century, these *genizaros* were estimated to comprise at least a third of the people in the Southwest region.

His family was committed to helping these land grant communities retain their land and history. "My grandmother worked to preserve Matachin and Comanche dance traditions," he recalls. "I grew up in the midst of land grant issues with a legacy of activism."

His first jobs out of college took him to some of these historic *genizaro* land grant communities, starting with eight years in



Nación Genízara: Ethnogenesis,
Place, and Identity in New Mexico
(University of New Mexico Press,
2019)



Slavery in the Southwest:

Genizaro Identity, Dignity and the

Law (Carolina Academic Press,

2019)

Española as Assistant Planning Director in Rio Arriba County's Planning and Zoning Department and later the city's Economic Development Director. Next, he served as Executive Director of the Mexicano Land Education and Conservation Trust in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Before pursuing his urban design degree in Denver, he was in Bernallio as the Long-Range Senior Planner with the Sandoval County Development Department.

He and his partner live in the *genizaro* community of Carnuel. They live in an adobe and rock house which likely dates back close to 200 years. He's using his adobe techniques and architecture design skills to renovate an ancient cellar on the property into an art studio.

Today he is a leading expert on the history of the enslaved Apaches, Comanches, Pawnees, and other tribes. He has written numerous journal articles and two definitive books on their communities. With Enrique R. Lamadrid, Gonzales edited Nación Genízara: Ethnogenesis, Place, and Identity in New Mexico, which won the 2020 Heritage Publication Award from the Cultural Properties Review Committee of the State of New Mexico's Office of Historic Preservation. He and co-author Bill Piatt wrote Slavery in the Southwest: Genizaro Identity, Dignity and the Law (2019).

A project that he considers part of his life's work involves the restoration of the historic plaza in another *genizaro* community, the Tortugas, NM and the community in Abiquiu. "We see two competing narratives—the *genizaro* community with great vernacular architecture and the narrative of 'Georgia O'Keeffe Country," he says. He points out that the late artist was a generous philanthropist in her adopted hometown; she helped build a new water system and funded other projects. "But balancing the O'Keeffe culture with the Abiquiu heritage can be challenging."

Urban Design Challenges

As Gonzales builds scholarship around the concept of southwest urbanism, he is connecting the dots. "Every Southwestern city located in what were the lands of Mexico continues to have pockets of what were pretty much Hispanic communities," he emphasizes. "From my experiences in rural New Mexico communities and urban barrios, there is a need for making sure that local communities aren't just wiped out because of outside investment."

The need is local, with Albuquerque becoming one of the country's fastest-growing cities, as people relocate from California and Colorado for affordable housing. "The biggest challenges facing the architecture, planning, and landscape architecture disciplines are how can we appreciate and reconcile our landscapes with the built environment," Gonzales says. "I get the 'trendy trends' of urban design, but what is it all worth if we lose our cultural landscape?"

forces of American empire?" he asks. "How do we respond to the impact of colonizing and manifest destiny?"

The Resource Center for Raza Planning (RCRP) was founded in 1995 to explore questions like those and provide technical assistance to indigenous communities. One of three specialized research and community outreach centers inside UNM's School of Architecture and Planning, RCRP promotes "the sustainability and survivability of traditional Indo-Chicano communities of New Mexico in areas of community development, design and natural resources."

Gonzales began working with the Center as its director in 2011. The group focuses on public policy issues related to growth and development, including land use and tenure, infrastructure, water rights and quality, agricultural preservation, and other planning topics. He is hopeful that today's and tomorrow's SA+P students will have the opportunity to make a difference in the future.

"UNM is a great regional school, drawing students from throughout the Southwest," he emphasizes, adding that SA+P has also attracted international students, some of whom return to Mexico, Central America, and South America with joint degrees in planning and historic preservation.

"These students are confronted by climate change, water usage, histories of colonization, and more. Some students embody these big questions," he adds. "Our location and geography create an environment for students to work around these complex problems. These are among the big planning and design challenges for the next generation. I hope they can take on the things that we didn't complete."

Associate Professor **Moises Gonzales** can be reached at mgonzo1@unm.edu

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