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## 2010-09-23 UNM NEWS MINUTE

University of New Mexico Communication and Marketing Department

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UNM News Minute #692 – September 23, 2010

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR of Anthropology Lawrence G. Straus and a colleague from the University of Cantabria (Santander), Professor Manuel González-Morales, found a partial human skeleton when they were excavating just behind a huge block of stone that had fallen from the ceiling of El Mirón Cave in northern Spain. The surface of the stone block facing the cave mouth was engraved by the inhabitants. The back surface of the block, closest to the burial was stained with ochre. The archeologists have not yet been able to excavate the area completely, but are excited about their initial discoveries. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4479>

THE UNM HEALTH Sciences Center has announced its 2010 schedule for free flu shots for the public. For the complete schedule visit: <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4514>

THE INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC Law at UNM's School of Law has joined up with a select group of academic institutions across the country to form a ground-breaking network that will serve as a resource for public health professionals. The Public Health Law Network debuted on Sept. 20 and will welcome questions that warrant legal and policy solutions from anyone working in the public health field. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4419>

ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER Engineering Professor Peter Dorato died last Saturday after a short illness. He was 77. An emeritus professor with ECE, Dorato's commitment to his students never slowed, even after his 2005 retirement. He continued teaching and was a welcome presence in the department. He remained involved in his wide array of passions—from teaching and counseling undergraduates, to participating in faculty meetings and contributing to the department's many events and activities. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4492>

LIKE A BLANK SHEET of paper, digital media is as meaningful as the content that fills it. Though commonly associated with special effects, animation and game design – all areas of study available at UNM – digital media has many potential applications. One is Tim Castillo's work on the Virtual Embudo Project, which he classes as "cultural media." <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4269>

THE OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY SECRETARY requests nominations for honorary degrees for those who contributed significantly to cultural or scientific development of the Southwest, or to the spiritual or material welfare of its people. Nominations are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 15. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4442>

THE UNM STAFF COUNCIL seeks nominations for the Gerald W. May Outstanding Staff Award, sponsored by the Office of the President and managed by Staff Council's Rewards and Recognition Committee. Nominations are due by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 5. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4398>

SAVING FOR RETIREMENT continues to make national headlines. UNM participates in a retirement plan through the Educational Retirement Board. As part of UNM's benefits, all employees can also participate in 403(b) and 457(b) plans to save for retirement. These tax-deferred plans, similar to 401(k) retirement plans, allow employees to put a portion of their salary into a supplemental retirement plan. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4530>

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO register for this year's Homecoming campus decorating contest. Participants have the opportunity to decorate an office lobby, office door or design a record album that best represents their department. The deadline to sign up is Friday, Sept. 24. For more information contact Lisa Lindquist at (505) 277-7870. For a complete list of Homecoming activities visit: <http://www.unmalumni.com/programs/homecoming.html>

LAST SPRING, PROFESSOR Hector Torres and graduate student Stefania Gray were murdered by Gray's former boyfriend. A conference, which is free and open to the public, honors them on Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 27-28, beginning at 9 a.m. at the UNM Student Union Building ballroom. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4510>

ULTRA, A HIGHLY RESPECTED K-9 member of the UNM Police Department since 2004, will formally retire on Friday, Sept. 24, at 2 p.m. in a ceremony at the University Police office in Hokona Hall. Ultra and his handler Sgt. Eric Miller are a familiar site to crowds at university football and basketball games. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4483>

HERBERT KROEMER, professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Materials at the University of California – Santa Barbara and winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics in 2000, will speak at the UNM Center for High Technology Materials on Friday, Sept. 24 at 11:30 a.m. Kromer's talk, titled "Heterostructure Lasers: How it all got started – and beyond," will discuss how today's semiconductor lasers are based on heterostructures, employing two or more different semiconductors within the same device. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4406>

THE FIRST OF TWO School of Engineering open houses for high school students, transfer students, University College students and families will be held at the Centennial Engineering Center on the UNM Main Campus Saturday, Sept. 25. The second will be held Saturday, Nov. 6. Both will be held from 1 – 3 p.m. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4108>

THIS WEEK NEW MEXICO in Focus brings together community members for an impassioned and informed discussion about the importance of childhood nutrition. Correspondent Sarah Gustavus moderates the conversation geared toward problem-solving and pro-active results. KNME's one hour public affairs show New Mexico in Focus airs Fridays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 6:30 a.m. on KNME, Channel 5.1. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=4518>