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2009-12-17 UNM NEWS MINUTE

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UNM News Minute #632 – December 17, 2009

CONGRESSMAN MARTIN Heinrich will be the keynote speaker at UNM'S fall commencement ceremony Friday, Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. in Tingley Coliseum at Expo New Mexico (State Fairgrounds). President David Schmidly will be the master of ceremonies and will offer congratulatory remarks, confer degrees and recognize honors graduates. Plan to arrive at least an hour early to allow for traffic and parking congestion and time to walk from the parking lot to Tingley Coliseum. Please carpool when possible.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004620.html#more>

WINTER BREAK BEGINS NEXT Thursday, Dec. 24 and continues through Friday, Jan. 1. Regular university hours resume Monday, Jan. 4. Certain critical facilities and departments, such as police and those involved in patient care, will remain open. Other major campus departments and facilities have special intersession hours.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004618.html#more>

IN JANUARY 2009, UNM President Schmidly formed the Federal Race and Ethnicity Codes Compliance Project and charged it with bringing UNM into compliance with the new Federal standards for maintaining, collecting and presenting data on race and ethnicity. Data collection using new codes began this fall. As of that date, everywhere that UNM collects, stores, and uses race and ethnicity data had successfully been brought into compliance with the new Federal standards.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004649.html#more>

WHEN THE FRESHMAN from Houston, Texas came to UNM, he thought he had found a home. Raymond Plotkin started class in August 2009 as a freshman interested in Chemical and Nuclear Engineering. He enjoyed his roommates and living in a dorm as part of the Engineering Living Learning Community. On Nov. 11, Plotkin died suddenly from the H1N1 flu. Now his family is creating an endowment to sponsor scholarships for engineering students through the UNM Foundation.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004647.html#more>

UNM WAS RECENTLY awarded one of 14 grants to direct the investigation of the culture change needed to improve recruitment and retention of women in science. Ultimately, this research should lead to policy recommendations for professional development to improve women faculty representation at the highest leadership levels in academic medical institutions. Funded by a National Institutes of Health million-dollar grant, the study will be conducted over four years.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004621.html#more>

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR Fred Hashimoto, a saxophone playing 35-year veteran of the School of Medicine, still gets the call when someone is sick, even though he's "semi-retired." He also responds to the calls when it's a social ill that needs addressing. Hashimoto is a general internist.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004632.html#more>

REX JUNG, research assistant professor in the School of Medicine's neurosurgery department, connects the musicality recently demonstrated by [Fred Hashimoto](#) and [Bill Miller](#) with the neuroscience of creativity. He notes that structural changes that occur in the aging brain may reveal insights into creativity as people get older.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004636.html#more>

WILLIAM MILLER'S 1999 publication, "Integrating Spirituality into Treatment: Resources for Practitioners," gives insight into a spiritual side of the man who teaches mental health professionals to use aspects of spirituality, including acceptance, forgiveness, hope and values, as a guide for assessing, understanding and responding to spiritual aspects of clients' lives. Miller is an emeritus distinguished professor of psychology and psychiatry affiliated with the Center on Alcoholism, Substance Abuse, and Addictions at UNM.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004630.html#more>

ANDREW K. SANDOVAL-STRAUSZ, UNM associate professor of history, received a Faculty Research Award from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The NEH grant supports research for his latest book project, Latino Landscapes: a Transnational History of Urban America. Sandoval-Strausz's project explores the ways Latin American immigrants have transformed urban America by analyzing their use of architectural and social space. <http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004634.html#more>

REGENTS' LECTURER Kuppaswamy "Kuppu" Iyengar, School of Architecture and Planning, is at the forefront of energy efficiency and sustainability efforts in civil and structural engineering. Iyengar, on the architecture faculty since 2000, teaches advanced courses on alternate construction, structural engineering and sustainable architectural design. <http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004644.html#more>

THE TOP 10 stories from Lobo Athletics in 2009 include student-athletes making the grade both in the classroom and on the playing field. Here's the list.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004640.html#more>

THE 2009 OFFICIAL UNM Holiday Ornament is still available at the UNM Bookstore. The second in a series, the 2009 ornament was created by artist Jana Fothergill and features the UNM Duck Pond. The price is \$18.89 is set in honor of UNM's founding year. All proceeds benefit the UNM Parent Association. <http://bookstore.unm.edu/>

ANYONE WHO DONATES to the 'Live United' campaign in December will be eligible for the big United Way drawing to be held the first week of January. Up for grabs are Popejoy tickets to the Jan. 10 performance of "Peking Acrobats," gift certificates to the UNM Bookstore and the Gold Rush Cupcake Shop, the Lobo men's basketball game and more. <http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004648.html#more>

THIS WEEK, 37 years ago, New Mexico astronaut Harrison Schmitt walked on the moon as part of the Apollo 17 mission. Schmitt was the final astronaut to have set foot on the surface of the moon, since Apollo 17 was the final mission of the historic Apollo

program. "New Mexico In Focus" correspondent Peter St. Cyr talks with Schmitt on "New Mexico In Focus" Friday, Dec. 18 at 7 p.m. on KNME-TV channel 5.1. The show repeats on Sunday, Dec. 20 at 6:30 a.m.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004650.html#more>

IT MAY BE COMMON knowledge that getting a good night's sleep before a big test or important meeting is critical to peak performance. But, exactly how sleep enhances learning and memory is far from simple. Still, investigators are making strides in understanding the sleep-memory connection. To learn more about the fascinating topic come to KNME's Science Café featuring Lee Brown, executive director, Program in Sleep Medicine, UNM Health Sciences Center, on Saturday, Dec. 19, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., at Madeleine's Place Event Center, 3824 Corrales Road, in Corrales.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004646.html#more>

MUSIC ASSOCIATE Professor David Schepps and Robertson and Sons Violin Shop present a cello/piano recital and master class with visiting cellist Wendy Warner and pianist Irina Nuzova on Tuesday, Dec. 22, at Robertson and Sons Violin Shop Recital Hall, 3201 Carlisle Blvd. NE. The master class is 2-5 p.m. and the recital begins at 7:30 p.m. <http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/004641.html#more>

THE OLYMPIC POOL and Therapy Pool will be closed from Dec. 19 – Jan. 3 for tile repair. For facility hours during the break visit <http://www.unm.edu/~jcweb/> and click on the Winter Break schedule.