In Loving Memory of Dr. Carlos Maldonado

In Remembrance of . . .
Who was, Dr. Carlos Maldonado?

Vicky M. Garza
Editor

Born on December 12, 1953 in South Texas, Dr. Carlos Maldonado passed away after ending a long battle with cancer on September 18, 2008 at the age of 55 in Yoder, Oregon, where he resided after retirement. In the early 1960s, Dr. Maldonado and his wife migrated to the Northwest and lived in the Spokane area since 1987. He had touched and changed the lives of many who knew and met him throughout his life.

Dr. Maldonado was a devoted husband. Married for 33 years to his beloved wife Rachael, he never left her side. Together they researched and wrote an article titled “The Mexicanization of a Northwest Community: The Case of Woodburn, Oregon.” This article will be incorporated into an upcoming book titled Mexicanos in Greater Aztlan.

“I leave the Chicano Education Program with my head up high and privileged of having had the opportunity to serve a great program in Washington State and EWU.”

~ Dr. Carlos Maldonado

From the Pacific Northwest to the New South, The Publication will be produced by the Julian Samora Research Center.

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Mission:

The Chicano Education Program has a dual mission at Eastern Washington University. The program’s first mission is to actively contribute towards enhancing the opportunity and participation of Chicanos/Latinos in higher education. This mission is achieved by actively recruiting and supporting Chicano/Latino students to have a positive and successful academic career.

A parallel CEP mission is to contribute to EWU’s goal towards addressing diversity by providing all students regardless of ethnicity, with a Chicano Studies curriculum leading to a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of the Chicano/Latino community and relevant issues.

CEP is committed to staging initiatives which adhere and meet its dual mission.

THE Q-VO NEWSLETTER
(Chicano slang for “What's Up?”)
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Fall 08

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The fun and relaxing summer atmosphere around the campus, gave all of us at CEP the opportunity to plan ahead for the upcoming events and activities that would take place throughout the academic year. Also because of the increase in enrollment, we were actively registering and greeting the incoming freshmen and transfer students.

One of the programs I was most looking forward to fall quarter beginning, was the S.T.A.R. (Student’s Together are Active Role Models) Mentoring Program; a grant funded program established by Eastern Washington University, Chicano Education Program and Spokane School District #81. From its initial phase, I had the honor of working with Dr. Maldonado in the writing of the grant. Together we proposed a variety of ideas that would benefit our program and the community. State Farm became interested immediately in the mentoring program, and provided funding for the 2008-2009 academic years. Although, the journey of the project has not been easy, it was very rewarding to see the first quarter be as successful as we could have imagined. Thanks to the efforts of the program coordinator, Jennette Serrano we were able to recruit mentors and mentees. We have been working mostly with middle school students attending Chase Middle School, but have also had the privilege of having two outstanding Ferris High School student participants. Our goal in S.T.A.R. is to continue with recruitment at all schools.

Eastern students have also played an important role in the success of the mentoring initiative. We have had a great response and have had 15 devoted students that donate their time and dedication towards providing these young kids with a mentor.

Dr. Maldonado as a MEChistA

Maria Morales speaks in honor of M.E.Ch.A.’s biggest supporter.

Maria Morales
Former M.E.Ch.A President

Hello everyone,

My name is Maria Morales, student at Eastern Washington University. I am honored for the opportunity to speak about one aspect of Dr. Maldonado who many knew, loved, and looked up to, Dr. Maldonado as a MEChista. Dr. Maldonado as an early year, Dr. M (as many respectfully called him) developed the heart and the mentality of a MEChista at an early age. In high school he was deeply involved in mentoring projects, some which involved teaching children how to read. During his early years in the University of California, Dr. M became actively involved in Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a (Student’s Together are Active Role Models) Mentoring Program; a grant funded program established by Eastern Washington University, Chicano Education Program and Spokane School District #81. From its initial phase, I had the honor of working with Dr. Maldonado in the writing of the grant. Together we proposed a variety of ideas that would benefit our program and the community. State Farm became interested immediately in the mentoring program, and provided funding for the 2008-2009 academic years. Although, the journey of the project has not been easy, it was very rewarding to see the first quarter be as successful as we could have imagined. Thanks to the efforts of the program coordinator, Jennette Serrano we were able to recruit mentors and mentees. We have been working mostly with middle school students attending Chase Middle School, but have also had the privilege of having two outstanding Ferris High School student participants. Our goal in S.T.A.R. is to continue with recruitment at all schools.

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Hola a todos,

I hope you had a great Summer break with your families or wherever you spent it; I know I did.

This quarter was very busy for me because I didn’t have an assistant editor. But I was able to get it done, as it’s something I enjoy doing.

I have now taken some more classes that have benefited me and allowed me to gain more skills and knowledge of what I do.

As always, I will try to do my best in providing you all the information regarding clubs, organizations and student/staff or events on our campus.

We are currently looking for an assistant editor.

Qualifications:
Communication skills, computer skills, familiar with Adobe Creative Suite software, typing skills, writing skills, creative skills, printing.

Duties:
Put together newsletter, design and layout, interview people, e-mail deadline and reminders for articles, take pictures, attend events when needed, and publish newsletter to web (CMS training available).

If you are interested, please e-mail me.

We want to hear from you...
Send your questions or comments to: vickymgarza@eagles.ewu.edu

*As editor, I reserve the right to edit any articles for space, content and material of potentially offensive nature.*
We are very excited to welcome a new class of CAMP students to Eastern Washington University. We have 36 students coming from various cities such as Sunnyside, Mattawa, Toppenish, Pasco, and even as far as Irrigon, Oregon. We have our largest group coming from Othello.

These CAMP students started their EWU journey on June 27, 2008, when they came to campus for the CAMP Advising/Registration Day. The CAMP staff was very excited to have met their families as well. Students were given the opportunity to take the Math Placement Test as well as speak with Financial Aid and Housing representatives. The CAMP advisors met individually with each student to advise and register for classes. Each student left our campus ready to start fall quarter at EWU!!

Students returned for the CAMP Orientation on September 22, 2008. There they had the opportunity to research and visit various resources on campus. With the information they obtained, students were given the task of presenting the information in a creative manner, our very own CAMP Idol show. Students had a lot of fun meeting and working with other students. Next, students were able to receive advice on being successful in the classroom from EWU faculty members, Jane Lane from the English department, Dr. Nannette Wichman from the Mathematics department and Dr. Nannette Wichman from the English department, as well as past CAMP students, Christian Ramirez and Jeanette Serrano. Students completed the Orientation with a night of pizza and bowling at Rosas Pizza, where they formed bonds with the new CAMP cohort and staff.

On October 10-12, 2008, students attended the CAMP Student Development Retreat at Camp Gifford in Loon Lake, Washington. The goal for this retreat was to provide opportunities for academic excellence and personal development of life skills. Students attended workshops on four themes: Identity, Values, Personal Relationships, and Conflict Resolution. We are very thankful for having four excellent presenters. They included: Dr. Jorge Chacon, Dr. Terrie Ashby-Scott, David Rodriguez, and Morgen Flowers. While at the retreat, students also enjoyed a night of dancing, board games, campfire and s’mores, and karaoke. Many students also had the opportunity to experience going down a 670 ft Zip line for the very first time! The weekend ended with a day at Adventure Dynamics with a day at Adventure Dynamics in Nine Mile, Washington. The symbol within the hand is an Aztec symbol which means ‘unity’.

This quarter we started with a Mentor Workshop, which helped mentors be more effective communicators with their mentees. Then, mentors and mentees were paired up. This activity was one of our most exciting activities, because mentees are anxious to meet their mentors. Our first bonding activity was Laser Tag. Students got the opportunity to play laser tag with their mentors. For many students, this was their first experience doing this type of activity.

For our next activity, we teamed up with Eastern Advantage and planned a Salsa Night for the students. Victor Smith, along with the help of his two assistants taught us the basics of salsa, bachata, and merengue. Students seemed thrilled to try something new and fun.

Our last activity will be our end of the quarter reception on December 3rd, 2008. We will be recognizing effective mentoring relationships. This quarter has been very successful, and we hope to continue down that path.

The mission of the Mentoring Initiative is to provide Chicano/Latino students at EWU a meaningful mentoring experience that contributes to their positive transition and retention at the university. Participants benefit from the Mentoring Initiative by taking part in educational, cultural, and recreational activities. These activities are supported by a mentoring partnership.
It is the end of the quarter and the Alpha Lambda chapter at Eastern Washington University is very satisfied with all of our great accomplishments; we had to make a lot of sacrifices for all the events that we did, but they were well worth it. Some of the events that we engaged in were the 24 hour freeze out; we stayed outside of a Wal-Mart for 24 hours and collected canned foods for our thanksgiving baskets that we later donated to needy families, and we also collected donations for the breast cancer association.

Eastern's chapter also, along with some other organizations, brought Adrian Molina to campus for a presentation that consisted of his poetry and lyricism, in regards to the relationship between the personal and political in-light of his poetry and lyricism, in regards to the relationship between the personal and political. We were involved in a political session in one of our Student Izcally Calmecac Plus, we have begun planning for the next quarter may bring us surprises. We dedicate this article to an alumnus, a mentor, and a wonderful leader that left our physical world, Dr. Carlos Maldonado. Although many of our most recent members did not have the opportunity to know this beautiful person, M.E.Ch.A felt his departing with sincere sorrow because Dr. M was a wholeheartedly M.E.ChistA. His consejos and guidance will never be forgotten, “Por la raza habla el espiritu.”

With respect to our events this quarter, we started off the year with our Welcome Back Social. In this event we had food, music, and ice breakers for the attendees. It was rather successful.

For the memorial ceremony for Dr. M, we had our member María I. Morales give a speech about Dr. M’s involvement in M.E.Ch.A. In solidarity to Dr. M, our members wore M.E.Ch.A shirts and had the audience join in a unity clap.

Along with the North American Student Association (NASA), we demonstrated our opposition against an anti-immigration bill I-409 and Columbus Day on campus. We were a small but loud group, which is what counts.

Also, along with other organizations on campus, we helped organize and develop our annual “Día de los Muertos” celebration. In this event, many of our members performed “Los Vendidos” a play by Luis Valdez. Although we had only practiced a few times, the play was rather successful; we got a lot of positive comments on it by the audience. A week ago, some of our members attended the WSU C.A.Sh.E Conference (Children of Aztlan Sharing Higher Education). Plus, we have begun planning our Student Izcally Calmecac Conference (SICC), as well. This quarter we picked up our political sessions again. We had a political session in one of our political co-chair’s house on I-409 and other anti-immigration bills. During the session we discussed the issue, its affects on our community, and what we can do to educate people on it. We also watched several clips full of the anti-immigrant sentiment in our society. Political sessions are one of our favorite events because it is an opportunity to have educationally, politically, culturally, and/or socially conscious discussions with each other.

Fall quarter was definitely full of great learning experiences, sadness, joy, and lots of other surprises. We will be looking forward to all the surprises and opportunities that next quarter may bring us to empower ourselves. If you are interested in more information of EWU M.E.Ch.A, please call one of our co-chairs, Gabriel Chávez at (360) 500-1060 or Criselia Calderón at (509) 439-9240.

Finally, on November 21st we will have another of our awesome karaoke nights and our co-chairs, Gabriel Chávez, and all the surprises and opportunities that next quarter may bring us to empower ourselves. If you are interested in more information of EWU M.E.Ch.A, please call one of our co-chairs, Gabriel Chávez at (360) 500-1060 or Criselia Calderón at (509) 439-9240.
Celebrating 15 years of tradition

R.A.I.C.E.S. is happy to be celebrating its 15 anniversary

Vicky M. Garza
Public Relations Officer

This year was not only a new year for R.A.I.C.E.S., but a memorable one. After 15 years, R.A.I.C.E.S. is still up and going.

R.A.I.C.E.S. (Reconociendo A la Identidad Con Educacion y Sociedad), has a proud and established history of providing Eastern Washington University students with a wide array of outstanding services. Since 1993, R.A.I.C.E.S. has provided our members with opportunities to adapt to a university life.

According to the R.A.I.C.E.S. constitution, the purpose of our organization is to address the unique needs of EWU students. This organization will strive to afford students the opportunity to reach their higher educational goals. It will provide information on scholarships, financial aid, student services, childcare, and an introduction to campus life. It will provide group support to promote self-esteem and stage seminars and lectures on themes relevant to EWU students. These initiatives will hopefully create a sense of community among EWU students.

This quarter was an exciting quarter. We not only had our meetings and participated in all fall events like, the CEP Welcome BBQ, Homecoming, and Dia de los Muertos, but we also got the opportunity to participate in International Week and celebrate our 15th anniversary.

For International Week, we helped put together a fashion show of Mexico’s dresses with the ladies from I.L.L.T.A. and two charro escorts from SLB. There were more than 20 girls participating and some even modeled two dresses.

Also, we were able to create a new logo for R.A.I.C.E.S. Since May of this year, we were busy trying to create a logo that could represent us and give us an identity throughout Eastern. With the help from the Marketing and Communications department, we were able to do just that.

As November came along, we were busy planning our 15th anniversary celebration. We had the pleasure and honor of hosting our current members, supporters and alumni. Those alumni included: Marilyn Dreis, Livia Castilleja, Melissa Piceno, Karla Sanchez, Paula Ortiz, Lupe Cannon, Marylin Dreis, and Karla Sanchez.

As November came along, we were busy planning our 15th anniversary celebration. We had the pleasure and honor of hosting our current members, supporters and alumni. Those alumni included: Marilyn Dreis, Livia Castilleja, Melissa Piceno, Karla Sanchez, Paula Ortiz, Lupe Cannon, Marylin Dreis, and Karla Sanchez.

We participated in various activities for homecoming week, including: window painting, the scavenger hunt, we supported the royalty pageant, and we also participated in the parade. Homecoming week was a BLAST!

Another fun activity that we had was the social with Sigma Lambda Beta November 16, 2008, it was held at the ice ring. We played various games.

For International Week we hosted the fashion show along with R.A.I.C.E.S. We modeled different dresses from many states in Mexico. Along with Kappa Delta Chi, Sigma Lambda Beta and Sigma Lambda Gamma, we participated in an educational about the different kinds of culture, language, holidays and education based on Canada, Mexico and Japan.

Next quarter we have various activities planned. For example our male auction bachelorette on January 8th 2008, along with our retreat. Hope that you can come and support us in whatever we do.

Vicky M. Garza
SLB helping us serve.

Vicky M. Garza
Alumni: (L) Livia Castilleja, Melissa Piceno, Paula Ortiz, Lupe Cannon, Marylin Dreis, and Karla Sanchez.

Vicky M. Garza
Halloween Bake sale (10/23/08) and our Root Beer Floats sale November 14, 2008. Our fundraisers were a success; we were able to raise some funds for our philanthropy Niños Del Futuro.

We also participate in Dia de los Muertos on November 6th 2008. Our altar was on Famous Latina Women. We had women from all over, for example, Frida Kahlo, Celia Cruz, and Selena.

We are looking forward for our fashion show as part of International week.

The Interested Ladies of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc.

Maria de Jesus Alvizar
President

The Interested Ladies of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc. has been really busy this fall quarter. We started off the year by hosting a welcome back social with the International Students on 9/23/08.

Then, we participated in the Chicano Education welcome back BBQ (10/1/08), where we were able to interact with the new C.A.M.P. scholars.

Our first community service was helping out with the Red Cross blood drive on 11/5/08.

We had a couple of fundraisers, which included our Halloween Bake sale (10/23/08) and our Root Beer Floats sale November 14, 2008. Our fundraisers were a success; we were able to raise some funds for our philanthropy Niños Del Futuro.

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Vicky M. Garza
Public Relations Officer
Sigma Lambda Beta (ΣΛΒ) is a Latino based social fraternity with multicultural membership based on cultural understanding and wisdom. Founded on April 4, 1986 at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, the organization is committed to create and expand multicultural leadership, promote academic excellence, advance cultural awareness and service while influencing its mission amongst all dedicated collegiate men worldwide.

With over 126 entities consisting of colonies, chapters, and alumni associations across the country and in Puerto Rico, Sigma Lambda Beta is one of the largest Latino Greek Lettered intercollegiate organizations in America.

In the spring of 2007, Sigma Lambda Beta’s Eastern Washington University Colony was established by its nine founders. Since then, they have crossed their Alpha Line, and are currently recruiting for their Beta Line.

Eastern’s Colony is huge on community service. They put on clothes drives for the Volunteers for America, build houses for the Habitat for Humanity, and are currently working on becoming big brothers for the Big Brother Big Sister Association. In addition, Eastern’s colony puts on many Cultural Awareness events.

Yet, Eastern’s colony likes to have fun too. In the spring of 2008, Sigma Lambda Beta’s Eastern Washington University Colony won its first stroll competition at the Northwest Latino Step and Stroll competition beating out the brothers of Omega Delta Phi’s University of Washington chapter. This quarter they won their second consecutive competition at the University of Washington, beating out the brothers of Phi Beta Sigma.

They will be looking to take their third competition this spring. This quarter the brothers of Sigma Lambda Beta will also be hosting their first annual Sigma Lambda beta holiday dinner. All organizations are invited. We’re looking forward for a great year!

College Assistance Migrant Program

Students gained leadership, team-building, communication, and decision-making skills through many low and high ropes challenges. Students have to work together to complete many of the challenges. Many students got out of their comfort zone and really enjoyed the experience!

Students have been attending daily tutoring sessions to get help with Math and English. They have also been attending the Chicano Orientation class where they are learning about various resources on campus as well as learning skills such as time management and budgeting. Students participated in the Dia De Los Muertos celebration by creating an altar for child abuse victims. Students went to Lazer Tag and learned how to salsa dance through the CEP Mentoring program.

We are very excited to have a great group of CAMP students this year and we are looking forward to working with them for the rest of the year!
Fall quarter 2008 has been very exciting for Ritmo Aguila (RA), EWU’s Chicano/Latino Music Band. For the first time in RA’s 5 year history, we were able to come together in the first week of classes to perform at the Cheney FEST held at the Bi-Mart Arena Cheney Rodeo Grounds in September.

In October, RA also performed at the Chicano Education Welcome Back BBQ in Sutton Park, and in November at the Día de los Muertos Celebration. It was every intense and exciting first quarter!

In the past, the first 2 to 4 weeks of fall quarter were used to reacquaint ourselves “get back into the playing groove,” but this year the grove came faster than ever! This was possible because we have all been playing together for a complete year and we all returned for another year of music and fun.

Our members are: Martín Barajas (vocals), Antonio “Tony” Mendíez (drums/percussion), Gilberto “Beto” Lopey (guitar), Jaime Torres (drums/vocals/bass), Victor Rodríguez (keyboard/bass/vocals), and Jaime Torres (drums/vocals “in training”). It is rumored that this winter quarter one of our past RA members will be coming back to share his amazing guitar skills. You will just have to wait and see.

Winter quarter will be focused on collaborating more with Juana Alicia, working with vocalist Rinky Rodríguez, adding to our music repertoire and performing at several schools ranging from elementary to high school as well as other opportunities that EWU has to offer.

Another very exciting opportunity was the collaboration and performance of Juana Alicia with Ritmo Aguila. Juana Alicia is a great singer that has been a well kept secret at EWU. She has performed for over 40 years and has performed with great artists such as Los Tigres del Norte. She performed with Los Tigres even before they became “Los Jefes de Jefes.” Could this be a sign for the future? We hope so. We will just have to wait and see.

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What is your degree/major?
Masters of Science in Applied Psychology with School Counseling emphasis

Where are you located now (city; department), what are you doing? Is this where you saw yourself after graduation?
Here in the Chicano Education Program at EWU, Cheney Campus. I took my first high school counseling position with the Yuma High School District in Arizona; I was planning on staying there for about five years and then returning to Washington. As you can see things did not go as planned and here I am, I definitely saw myself working in the university setting, but not this soon. However, I really enjoyed my experience at Eastern and I am thrilled to be back here again.

My duties will consist of assisting CAMP staff with Preview Day, Student Development Retreat in the fall, organizing and directing CAMP’s tutoring services, providing academic/social/personal support services, supporting Chicano Education/CAMP staff with orientations, seminar class or other presentations for current/prospective students, maintain CAMP quarterly reports about the status of our CAMP students and events, distribute midterm progress report to professors concerning the CAMP students, maintain and update books for CAMP students to checkout for academic purposes. Etcetera...

How have you been involved with the Chicano Education Program?
My first encounter with the Chicano Education Program was back in 2003. I was a transfer student that received two scholarships from the Chicano Education Department. As a result I became acquainted with the various programs and organizations the Chicano Education had to offer. As a mentor, I became acquainted with the mentorship program. Seeing the cultural, academic and recreational benefits of being part of this group I became a mentor my senior year. Through my participation in the mentoring program I became aware of the CAMP program and other organizations, like R.A.I.C.E.S that offered peer support.

What do you hope to see come out of the Chicano community/population/students here at Eastern?
My hope for Eastern graduates is that they may share their acquired knowledge and skills with passion and enthusiasm. Leaders, that lead by example demonstrating the positive difference ‘education’ has had upon their lives.

Tell me a little about your background. Why did you choose higher education? What influenced you? What barriers did you overcome? Etc.
From a young age I have thrived in the academic atmosphere. I enjoy learning new things and sharing that knowledge gives me intrinsic satisfaction. My parents and two teachers were influential in my academic endeavors. They encouraged me to envision a better future for myself, nurtured a resilient spirit and were there to cheer me on.

In a first generation, female college student, so paving the way for my siblings was no easy task. I’ve overcome preconceived cultural notions concerning what a woman’s role is, language barriers, and financial obstacles.

What are some of your interest/hobbies?
I like hanging out at a cozy cafe with a friend or two. Enjoy trying out new cuisine. I love climbing mountains, thus hiking is my preferred outdoor activity. Currently, I am learning to rock climb and learning conversational Italian. I’m not a big fan of winter, but I do plan on working on my snowboarding, skiing and ice-skating skills this year.

What advice or suggestions do you have for this program and/or students?
 Fitzhugh Dodson puts it like this: “Without goals and plans to reach for the stars, you are like a ship that has set sail with no destination.” I encourage everyone to challenge themselves, to get out of their comfort zone and try different things, to reach for the stars because in the process of doing so one discovers who one is and what one is capable of becoming and achieving.
I chose the topic of Cinco de Mayo because I really didn’t know much about it, and I felt it was a very interesting topic because we watched a video on part of it. I knew that there had been a Mexican war for independence, but I had no idea that we had taken so much of Mexico’s land. It made me wonder why I had never studied this war in school prior to this moment. It was obviously a huge part of our history and yet it was never mentioned in school to me. So I just really wanted to know more about it and learn why we took the land from Mexico. This topic also made me wonder why we consider the Mexican population aliens when it was their land before, and how many Americans lost their homes. We should at least accept them into the U.S. because it really is their land that was taken. So it is important because I didn’t know what really happened after the war. But I learned so much about what happened after the war and how much land that really made our country a lot bigger. We also got it for a lot cheaper price than we would have if we just bought it. I also chose this topic because I really had no idea why the war even started in the first place.

This topic is important to the Chicano culture because it is a time for remembering and honoring heroes who saved their nation. The holiday is also important because without the bravery the men had in 1862, their land still could have been taken, and Mexico may not be a country anymore. If those men would not have been so brave to stand up for what they believed in, then they would not have any pride, and that is what I think about when I think of the Chicano culture. Pride, they are proud of where they come from, and they are proud of what they believe.

I have learned to a great extent with the research of Cinco de Mayo. I have not only learned a lot about the struggles Chicanos face, but I have also learned that I need to care about everything they have, but I have also learned a lot about myself. I learned that, no matter who you are, and were you come from you should always hold your head up high and be self-righteous about where you come from because that can never change.

I learned that the first significant battle of the Mexican American War was in 1846, the war ended when President Polk offered and Mexico attacked U.S. troops. Then, President Polk ordered 50,000 troops to be sent down to Mexico and Mexico attacked U.S. troops. The U.S. didn’t have a reason to take the land, President Tyler, at the time, just wanted to expand the United States, so he would get higher approval ratings and be re-elected. But this was the Chicano people’s land and now the ancestors of the Chicano people today. It is important that we know that California has always part of the United States, and that is why there are so many Latinos in California. So it is important to know where you come from and what happened to your ancestors, to know your history. If you believe that much land, you wouldn’t exist and without the Mexican American War the world could be very different.

I learned a lot about the war, especially about the Presidents at the time. I had no idea that President Tyler and President Polk were the leaders in America that really influenced the expansion of the United States Southward. I also learned that we offered $30,000,000 to Mexico for California and New Mexico. We also were the ones that offered and Mexico attacked U.S. troops. Then, President Polk ordered 50,000 troops to be sent down to California to fight against Mexico. The war was from 1846 to 1848 and really shaped both countries to what they are today.
What is your name? Marilyn Dres

What is your degree, major? B.S. in Applied Developmental Psychology with a minor in Business Administration

Where are you located now (city; department)? What are you doing? I am the oldest of 2 children (I have a brother). My father is Caucasian and my mother is Mexicana. I had the best of both worlds growing up. They are awesome role models and after 37 years of marriage they continue to be my role models every day. I am truly blessed to have them as my mom and dad.

Higher education was honestly never a part of my plan in life. I graduated high school in 1991 and was an Assistant Manager at a fast food restaurant. My parents offered to pay for my college education, but of course I had the mental attitude that I didn’t need one and I knew everything. However, life definitely changed for me. At the age of 20, I was married to my first husband. The marriage was unhealthy as it resorted to domestic violence…. a situation I never thought I would be involved in. The things that happened to me in that marriage were almost like something from a movie. Never in my life had I witnessed domestic violence and I had no idea what was happening here. I was scared and confused and very quiet about this whole situation. My family thought things were just fine.

After 2 years, I knew I had to get out of it or I would not see the next morning arise. I prayed to God to give me strength, help me get out of there, and show me the road to where my life needed to go. He has done that and much more for me. One of the roads He has lead me down is going to school. I started to work at EWU, was able to take classes and after 12 years of going to school, I have finally made it to Eastern, I was able to actually come to the college of my choice and not have to stay at home and go to a community college. The CAMP program’s staff helped in making my parents feel secure about me being so far from home knowing that the CAMP program is here to help me succeed they finally made the decision to let me attend EWU.”

What do you like most about CAMP?

“I like the most about CAMP are the activities they have, because they have helped me meet new people. I especially like the tutoring and mentor/mentee because I have a really cool mentor and it is helping me stay on track and helps me understand my homework.”

What other clubs/organizations are you currently involved in? currently not involved in any club or organization but I have helped ILLITA [Interested Ladies of Lambda Theta Alpha] with activities for homecoming and helping them become a sorority here on campus.”

What do you enjoy about working with Chicano Education Program?

“I love meeting new people. I especially like the tutoring and mentor/mentee because I have a really cool mentor and it is helping me stay on track and helps me understand my homework.”

What are some of your interests/hobbies?

My interests/hobbies include, spending time with my family, listening to my abuelito’s stories about his life, participating on Robert Reid Elementary PTO, and golfing.

What advice or suggestions do you have for this program and or students?

“Of course, I think that my mom, Lupe, is the Mother of CEP and I admire her hard work, dedication and making students her priority. I also think that Sally Burge has been an awesome Interim Director, as the situation that lead her to come back to EWU in CEP was not one that we could say was easy to step into. I admire her leadership, ideas, and interaction that I have seen between her and the students.

CEP has just added a wonderful staff member to its program, Paula Ortiz. I have known her for several years now, we worked together on a Bilingual Counseling Project, got to travel to Oaxaca together twice and from a professional and personal side, she is quite impressive.

I remember CEP as a place that you could go to at anytime to study, meet with others, talk to the Advisor/Counselor anytime, and to eat…of course! It has grown a lot since then and I kind of miss that feeling. I know there are more opportunities offered to students that are assisting them throughout their college life and that is great.

For the students: You are all doing a wonderful job. Continue to work everyday to achieve your educational goals. Make new connections and long lasting friendships. This is your time to shine.
Welcome Back BBQ

Vicky M. Garza  Q-Vo Editor

With fall already in season, the Chicano Education Program was ready for its annual welcome back BBQ. This year the welcome back BBQ took place in Sutton Park and, like always, it welcomed all new and returning students, staff, and alumni.

And how could we forget the various clubs and organizations; also there to welcome the new students and encouraging them to join and get involved. The clubs and organizations included: O eMe Te, M.E.Ch.A., Kappa Delta Chi, Inc., R.A.I.C.E.S., The Interested Ladies of Lambda Theta Alpha, Sigma Lambda Beta, and Sigma Lambda Gamma. Other supportive programs included: Amigos Unidos Triunfaremos Mentoring Initiative Program, S.T.A.R mentoring program and the Social Work department.

The day started with an introduction of all the CEP staff and faculty and followed by a moment of silence for Dr. Carlos Maldonado, who ended his battle with cancer in mid September. Then the new CAMP students were introduced and welcomed to the CEP and Eastern. Also introduced and welcomed were the CEP scholarship recipients. This year’s CEP scholarships totaled over $35,000.

The night ended with a delicious meal and entertainment from Ritmo Aguilas (CEP band).

Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano

The Performance at a Glance

Who is Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano?

Mariachi Los Camperos De Nati Cano (pronounced mah-tree-AH-chee lobs cahm-PEAR-chah) (in nah-tee ca-no) has existed for nearly 43 years and is noted for demanding musical arrangements that highlight the individual skills and voices of the players. The ensemble employs the finest musicians from Mexico and the United States and has performed for audiences throughout United States and Canada. They were one of four mariachis that collaborated with popular recording artist Linda Ronstadt on her album Canones de Mi Padre (Songs of My Father) and Mas Canones (More Songs). Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano has appeared on national television, including The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson and the Grammy Awards Show. Visit www.

Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano perform at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington.

For more information, visit ums.org/education.

A group of about 30 people, including the visiting students from Chile, were able to attend. Everyone enjoyed the great music and long ride (as some were able to sleep) to and from Ellensburg, Washington.

El Dia de los Muertos

EWU celebrates the lives of the deceased

By: Austin Dodds, The Easterner staff writer

Posted: 11/12/08

A line of students, faculty, parents and family filed through the EWU campus Nov. 6, to celebrate Dia de los Muertos (the Day of the Dead). Led by the melody of a guitar at the front of the procession, the group was lit only by candles as it wound through the campus mall and back to LA Hall for dinner.

A different approach was taken to the Dia de los Muertos holiday at Eastern, several altars were constructed to honor the dead. Instead of being directed to one specific person, these altars honored n-nah-people who had died because of issues that affect us all. There were 10 different altars devoted to issues such as homophobia, military deaths and child abuse.

The festivities were not dampened by the fact that the electricity was out. Some students, including Eloisa Frometa, felt that the darkness added to the atmosphere of the evening. “It’s like they planned this out,” she said, referring to the power outage.

Victor Rodrguez, transition specialist for new students at EWU, helped organize the event. He noted that this celebration was special because of the recent passing of Dr. Maldonado, who was a faculty member of the Chicano education program and who originally helped bring the Mexican holiday.

The Pacific Northwest FOCO of the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies presents: Scholarship in the Pacific Northwest: New Directions, New Voices.

Sally Burge, Lupe Cannon, Christina T. Garcia, and Dr. Martin Merez-Garcia. This conference took place on October 25, 2008 at Eastern Washington University.

Presenters included students and faculty from all over the United States.

Topics included: Crisis of Identity: Latinas/Latinos Overcoming Adversity in a Multicultural/Multi ethnic Society; Addressing Issues of Social Justices in the Chicana/Latina Community; andThe audio-visualisation of Chicano/Latino History & Identities in the U.S. among others.

After the conference, attendees enjoyed some light refreshments provided by the CEP.

Symposium Conference

Addressing Issues of Social Justices in the Chicana/Latina Community; Overcoming Adversity in a Multicultural/Multi ethnic Society; FOCO of the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies presents: Scholarship in the Pacific Northwest: New Directions, New Voices.

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After the conference, attendees enjoyed some light refreshments provided by the CEP.
Dr. Maldonado continued...

Dr. Maldonado was a published author. Throughout his life he was able to publish various articles, book chapters and books on the Chicano/Latino experiences in the Northwest.

Dr. Maldonado was active. He served as the president of the coordinating board of the National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS) and as a 2004 delegate of the first National Office of NACCS.

Dr. Maldonado was an educator. He served Eastern Washington University for twenty-one years as director of the Chicano Education Program (CEP), where he taught Chicano Literature, Chicano History and Chicano Culture. He was also successful in bringing to the University the College Assistant Migrant Program (CAMP), a program designed to enroll students from farm working backgrounds, which last year received almost two million dollars to support CAMP within the next five years. During his tenure in the program, he was able to bring in over $400,000 dollars in scholarships for students every year. Some of his last words before retiring from the CEP were, “I leave the Chicano Education Program with my head up high and privileged of having had the opportunity to serve a great program in Washington State and ECU."

Dr. Maldonado was a mentor.

“Every time I would go into his office for assistance he would go out of his way to help in every way possible. He would contact people for me and give me advice on various topics,” said Yeaney Martinez, the coordinator for the Amigos y Amigas Uniones (AAÚT) Mentoring Initiative Program and a master student for the Social Work Department. He helped students gain knowledge and understanding of the various Chicano/a issues and encouraged them to get involved. He also supported the various clubs and organizations established within the CEP.

His accomplishments as well as his dedication and the principle of justice and social equality, have impacted many lives, including those of his students who he took under his wings.

A memorial service will be held on October 8, 2008 in the Shocker Auditorium at 3 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend the Monroe Lounge after the service for some refreshments, as memories and shares with share with one another.

A scholarship fund was created in his honor to continue the support of those individuals who deserve and or would like an education. Please contact the Chicano Education Program, for more information or if you would like to donate.

Honor MEChista continued...

de Azkun, M.E.C.H.A. The self-determination he had to work for his community led him to do many great things. Dr. Maldonado was always looking for ways to help in the struggle for the betterment of the Chicano/Latino community.

In the early ’70s, Dr. M marched along with the great activist Cesar E. Chavez, and participated in the boycotts that were to bring better wages and safer working conditions for farm workers. When he moved to Oregon he continued his involvement with la raza, working with the United Farm Workers Union. Dr. M would go out to labor fields where he would converse with the workers about their rights.

As for M.E.CH.A here at ECU, Dr. M was one the biggest supporters of the organization since his arrival in 1988. Jessica Raigoza, a M.E.CH.A and EWU alumna says that Dr. M was always trying to get more students involved. “He was like another parent or a to a people,” she says.

“His vision” says Jaime Torres a current EWU student and MEChista, “was to get all the Chicano/a involved. He wanted all of us to take the work to our communities.” In fact, many alumni MEChistas have done just that, many today are either involved in education or social work.

He was M.E.CH.A’s good leader, good speaker, and most of all, good friend to his students. Dr. Maldonado had a rare essence about him that made everyone feel welcome.

Dr. M portrayed a calm and good nature and caring personality, but deep inside he had the nerves shake every time he did that, I really haven’t met too many professors who actually care for their students. Dr. Maldonado had a rare essence about him that made his students and staff love him.

When he came in wearing his M.E.CH.A t-shirt and began talking about it. Of course, loving to own it, he asked me to talk to the class about it as well; he made my nerves shake every time he did that, but I really appreciate him for it because I felt that he trusted and believed in me.

Dr. M portrayed a calm personality, and with his fundraisers he was an activist at heart committed to fighting struggles for social justice that our community needed and dedication. His students will never forget his caring and good heart.

Araceli Frias

Dr. Carlos Maldonado’s Student Eulogies

“Dr. Maldonado was a great man. He made a great impact in the lives of many students and students. The Chicano Education Program prospered while he was the director. Much of the success of the program is due to Dr. Maldonado. He strived to promote “family” within the Chicano Education Program and made his students feel welcome and at home. Dr. Maldonado wasn’t like other directors. Unlike most other leaders, he would always stop whatever he was doing to listen to what I had to say. One day he was talking to his wife Rachel, when I came in. When he saw me in the door he got up right away and trying to find me a place to sit, he spilled food all over the floor. I also remember my experience during his Chicano history class. One day he came in wearing his M.E.CH.A T-shirt and began talking about it.

"I really haven’t met too many professors who actually care for their students. Dr. Maldonado had a rare essence about him that made his students and staff love him. When he actually took time away from his busy schedule as a director and professor to make time to talk to his students. I really can’t imagine how he balanced everything. He always made sure that everyone of his students was doing well. Dr. M helped M.E.CH.A throw the first regional conference at Eastern in 2002. This conference had a turnout of about 500 high school student attendees. Many who came to this conference just recently graduated from EWU. Also, thanks to the support of Dr. M. M.E.CH.A’s members were able to successfully accomplish several other projects such as the formation of a Mexican Folkloric Dancers group named “Primera Generacion” in 1996. Dr. Martin M. Garcia, alumni and current Government professor in EWU, recalls the great amount of support Dr. M gave him and Mrs. Christina Garcia (his wife) when they decided to form this group. Soon enough the group was able to grow and communities and schools around Washington. It was Dr. M who was willingly to donate his time and vehicle to drive the group to the presentations. “Dr. M. says Dr. Garcia, “encouraged everything that could help us work and to improve the lives of the Chicano/ Latino population.” Such projects and many more that I did not mention, were only made possible due to him. Dr. M’s unconditional support, along with his ability to accomplish a much larger goal, which was to recruit, unite, and graduate all Chicano/Latino students.

Dr. M was so committed to the cause that he even helps make tamales for fundraisers. “It was funny” says an alumna, “when he helped make tamales he would put some meat in the tamal and some in his mouth.” Furthermore, last year with Dr. M’s unconditional support, M.E.CH.A was able accomplish our 3rd Annual Izkalli Calmecac Student Conference. With his skills and experience, he guided us through the most difficult parts of the planning process. Although, he was unfortunately not able to accompany us during the actual execution of the event, the committee (advice) and financial support he heartedly gave us made the event a very successful one, attracting a total of 200 students from high schools around the state of Washington.

Personally, I had the privilege to know Dr. Maldonado a bit more this past year, since I was always going to his office with questions regarding the conference. I remember that he would always stop whatever he was doing to listen to what I had to say. One day he was talking to his wife Rachel, when I came in. When he saw me in the door he got up right away and trying to find me a place to sit, he spilled food all over the floor. I also remember my experience during his Chicano history class. One day he came in wearing his M.E.CH.A T-shirt and began talking about it. Of course, loving to own it, he asked me to talk to the class about it as well; he made my nerves shake every time he did that, but I really appreciate him for it because I felt that he trusted and believed in me.

Dr. M portrayed a calm personality, and with his fundraisers he was an activist at heart committed to fighting struggles for social justice that our community needed and dedication. His students will never forget his caring and good heart.

Araceli Frias
to overcome. One of the things he always said was that we all needed to be mentors to help those who come after us, those who have not yet achieved the level of consciousness and education we have.

Dr. Carlos Maldonado was a great role model for us, not only as MEChistA, but for most Chicano/ Latino students, people, and members of the community. As he would say about the Chicano/ Latino community, “we are here, we are proud, we are active, and we are fighting for our rights.”

Let’s all go out and become mentors. Let’s plant the seeds that will produce great harvests. Just like he planted seeds in M.E.Ch.A, in the Chicano Education Program, in the university, in the comunidad, and within us all... within the Chicano Education Program for example, he created and supported many programs that helped and support incoming and current students, so as to retain and graduate them.

So let’s continue to make the Chicano Education Program a place where all feel welcome; a symbol of unity and hope, a place that continues his legacy of scholarship and activism. Even in his last days, he demonstrated the quality of his character and his commitment to education. One of his last requests was to start a scholarship in his memory, the “Dr. Carlos Maldonado Memorial Scholarship”. He said that instead of buying flowers for him on this day, we should give that money to his scholarships fund. He said “flowers last 3 to 4 days, but education lasts a life-time.” So in his memory we ask that we all follow his request.

I close with two things; the first is a quote by Cesar E. Chavez, someone he admired very much. And it reads, “When we are really honest with ourselves we must admit that our lives are all that really belong to us. So, it’s how we use our lives that determine what kind of [people] we are. It is my deepest beliefs that only by giving our lives, do we find life.”

Finally, I would like you to join me in something that Dr. M loved very much, M.E.Ch.A’s unity clap. This clap starts out slow and goes faster and faster... Ready (clap, clap, clap) QUE VIVA DR. CARLOS MALDONADO!!

THANK YOU.

If you are interested in donating to the Dr. Maldonado Memorial Scholarship, please send it to:

University Development
Attn: Asha Jayasinghe
Eastern Washington University
127 Hargreaves Hall
Cheney, WA 99004

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**Honored MEChistA continued...**

**September:**
- 24th- Back to School
- 26th- College Orientation Class breakfast.

**October:**
- 1st- CEP Welcome Back BBQ
- 8th- Dr. Maldonado’s Memorial Service
- 10th-12th- CAMP Retreat
- 22nd- Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano
- 25th- The Pacific Northwest FOCO of the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Symposium Conference

**November:**
- 6th- Dia de los Muertos event

**December:**
- 8th-12th- Finals Week

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You can e-mail me at: vickymgarza@eagles.ewu.edu

Or sent it to:
EWU Chicano Ed Prog
203 Monroe Hall
Cheney, WA 99004

Let us know what you think!