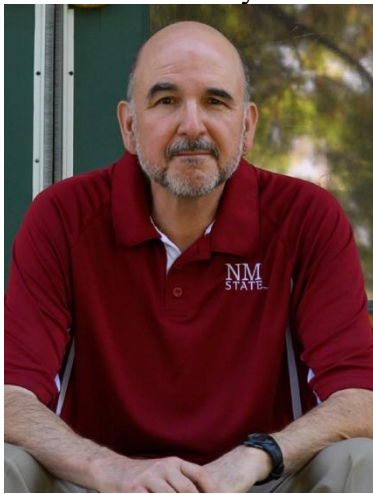


20th Annual J. Paul Taylor Social Justice Symposium
Justice for Knowledge
Speaker Bios

Dr. Phame Camarena earned a bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a Masters and Ph.D. in Human Development from the Pennsylvania State University. Phame also completed a two-year post-doctoral fellowship from the National Institute of Health to explore how ethnic cultural identities shape the meaning and experience of mental health and achievement. For the past 30 years, Phame has been exploring factors that impact educational achievement and psychological adjustment across the transition from childhood to adulthood while working in administrative roles to promote student adjustment and achievement in higher education. The potential for Honors education to transform lives and elevate the educational success of first-generation college students remains central to Phame's work as the Dean of the Conroy Honors College at New Mexico State University.



Dr. Spencer R. Herrera is a Professor of Spanish at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces where he teaches Chicana/o literature and film. He is the co-author of *Sagrado: A Photopoetics across the Chicano Homeland* (UNM Press, 2013), winner of a Border Regional Library Association Southwest Book award, a New Mexico-Arizona Book award, and a Pima County Public Library Southwest Book of the Year award. His is co-editor of *Querencia: Reflections on the New Mexico Homeland* (UNM Press, 2020). He has guest edited for the prestigious journals *Revista Casa de las Américas* and *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies*. He is a S.P Manasse and Margaret Manasse Scholar. He was born and raised in Houston, Texas, but has enjoyed living in Nuevo México for over twenty years. He completed his M.A. in Hispanic literature at the University of Houston and Ph.D. in Spanish with a minor in film at the University of New Mexico.



Larissa Lury is an Associate Professor at New Mexico State University, a theater director, a deviser, and a former acrobat. She seeks artwork and experiences that open her to new ways of looking at the world, and strives to create those experiences for others. She's directed and workshopped plays for companies across the U.S. including: Central Square Theater, Upstream, San Diego Rep, Nashville Rep, American Shakespeare Center, The Assembly, Cherry Lane, The Playwrights' Center, Urbanite, Portland Center Stage, Southern Rep, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Clubbed Thumb, New Georges, Ma-Yi, The Playwrights Realm, New Jersey Rep, Keen Company's Keen Teens, McCarter Theatre's Youth Ink!, and Curious. She's grateful for the support she's received, including through the National Directing Fellowship, residencies with The Drama League, New Georges, and Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, and as a Resident Director at Ensemble Studio Theatre. She is a member of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab and the National Alliance of Acting Teachers, and is an Affiliate Artist with New Georges. BS, Northwestern University; MFA, UC San Diego.



Dr. Patricia MacGregor-Mendoza received her Ph.D. as well as an Advanced Certificate in Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education (SLATE) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is a Professor of Spanish and Linguistics at New Mexico State University teaching classes ranging from Language and Society in English to History of the Spanish Language, Bilingualism, Language Acquisition, and Research Methodology in Spanish. She has been recognized as an Outstanding Faculty Member for Outreach in the College of Arts and Sciences, was awarded the Outstanding Mentor Award by the Teaching Academy, as well as the Leading the Way Award for efforts in teaching, researching and promoting online education, and was recognized as a University Bilingual Education Professor of the Year by the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education. She was recently appointed as the inaugural Provost's Fellow for Faculty Success after serving several years voluntarily as NMSU's Teaching Academy's Promotion and Tenure Fellow. Dr. MacGregor-Mendoza's publications address language use and language attitudes in bilingual communities, language and migration, language policy, language assessment, service learning with Heritage Language learners and communities, the teaching of languages and linguistics online, and sociolinguistic justice. She has long been invested in the promotion of Spanish to New Mexico's youth serving as a pronouncer and/or judge for the Spanish spelling bee at the local, state and national level, and serving as a member of the state level Hispanic Education Advisory Council.



Dr. Nicholas Natividad is an Associate Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at New Mexico State University. His teaching and research interests focus on civil and human rights. His scholarship is theoretically based and focuses on transnational and local community practices of human rights informed by indigenous and post-colonial methodologies that address inequality, crime, and violence. He is a former Dean's Fellow in the College of Education at NMSU and a former Fellow in the New Leadership Academy at the University of Michigan. He is a huge advocate for community engagement initiatives and believes education should offer outlets for students to learn from and give back to their communities.



Dr. Elba Serrano is a Regents Professor of Biology at New Mexico State University. Serrano's research focuses on the sensory systems for hearing and balance, glial neurobiology, and biophysics. She has expanded the curriculum as the originator of NMSU's first courses in Neurobiology, Science & Ethics, and Human Biology. Serrano has furthered STEM student success and strengthened institutional capacity through leadership of the NMSU NIH RISE and BRAIN student biomedical research training programs, and more recently, the NSF HSI National STEM Resource Hub that aspires to enhance STEM student outcomes at over 550 Hispanic-Serving Institutions nationwide. Serrano is a first-generation-to-college scientist and educator who has guided the research of over 120 NMSU student team members while they earned B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees. An advocate for interdisciplinary research and education, Serrano is an elected Fellow of the *American Association for the Advancement of Science*, a *Fulbright Faculty Scholar* (Portugal), and the recipient of a *U.S. Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring* (PAESMEM). She currently serves on the *NIH Scientific Management Review Board*. Professor Serrano earned her Ph.D. from Stanford University in biological sciences with an emphasis in neuroscience and biophysics.

