



2019 GEO Highlights

Welcome!

GEO is a multi-faceted service unit that handled over 6300 international students and scholars in-person inquiries during 2019. The steady stream of students, foreign visitors, and faculty collaborators who drop in for advisement on global programs, activities, and partnerships, ensures that our bustling office is never dull.

It was a dynamic year for GEO that involved international recruitment and outreach activities spanning from China, India and Bangladesh to Colombia. Through the procurement of external grants and other entrepreneurial initiatives, we enabled student and faculty mobility, generated scholarships, and connected UNM faculty with counterparts in Mexico, Hungary, Japan, Austria and India, just to name a few.

Dealing with an unpredictable geo-political landscape can be a challenge for international mobility, and we saw first-hand how national and international policies adversely impacted the diverse global community we serve. It was impressive to see the breadth of cultural competence and collective expertise in action as GEO staff worked to address the questions, needs and challenges that came across our desks each day.

Kudos to the GEO team on a job well done!



Dr. Nicole Tami

Executive Director of Global
Education Initiatives

GLOBAL PROGRAMS

UNM Passport Center

- Generated \$20,000 in new revenue for the graduate Passport to Success scholarship.
- Optimized Bookstore space through remodel to improve customer experience.
- Received the national 2019 U.S. Department of State award for “Most Innovative Passport Acceptance Facility.”

Certificate Programs

- Generated \$240,000 in new revenue.
- Hosted 7 inbound sponsored programs, from Mexico, Argentina, Hungary, China, and South Korea.
- Awarded a third 100,000 Strong in the Americas grant with Civil Engineering for Resilience Studies with two partner institutions in Mexico.

Partnerships

- International agreements processes were streamlined under Global Programs; strategic planning began to focus on the enhancement and implementation of relationships with institutional partners and to measure impact.
- 14 new and/or extended agreements with partners from 8 countries.

**Served over 3,500
passport center
customers with a
99% satisfaction
rating.**



As a kid, I never really had the opportunity to travel outside the country unless I was visiting our small pueblo in Mexico, never to a big city. Recently, I was given the opportunity to study in Guadalajara and it was absolutely an enriching experience because I learned to get out of my comfort zone, but also to develop new friendships and relationships that I still maintain today.

I was able to see a new perspective of living in a Spanish speaking country with its own communities. I was definitely able to tell I was no longer in the states and living an experience of my own, outside of my hometown in Albuquerque.

- Ennedith Lopez
Gilman Scholarship recipient Fall 2019

EDUCATION ABROAD

- Hosted 133 incoming exchange students in 2019.
- Top five study abroad destinations in 2019 included: Spain, United Kingdom, South Korea, Japan, and France.
- Top destinations for Faculty-Led programs included six programs in Mexico, and four in Spain, with an additional 25 programs in 24 other countries.
- Faculty from 27 UNM departments/centers led programs abroad.
- Nearly 750 students studying abroad in 2019 in a combination of year long, semester, and short-term programs.
- Congratulations to Conexiones for their 34th year program anniversary (sponsored by Honors College and Department of Spanish & Portuguese).

**UNM students
studied in 40+
countries in
2019.**



CENTER FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE & AMERICAN CULTURE

- Celebrated four years of the CELAC English Language Teaching Fellows and Fellows Volunteers programs.
- An investment of \$22,000 in international recruitment resulted in a net tuition revenue of \$266,000 dollars for the intensive language program, yielding students from China, South Korea, Hungary, and Japan.
- Implementation and expansion of the International Admission Pathway Program, allowing students to opt out of the TOEFL exam.
- Enrolled 68 students in the new Community and Academic English course since Fall 2018 (UNM Tuition Remission applicable).

**Spring enrollment up
12% and
fall enrollment up
21% from 2018.**



INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS & RECRUITMENT

- Conducted enrollment outreach in the following countries and domestic transfer locations: China, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Vietnam, Mexico, Seattle, DC-area, and Houston.
- 271 International Amigo Scholarship recipients studied at UNM during the academic school year.
- Processed and reviewed 1,750 applications for admission.
- Applicant rates from India increased by 126% since 2018.
- 21% increase in overall undergraduate applications for admission since 2018.
- Staff expanded knowledge base on preferred practices and new trends in international admissions by attending in the following professional conferences: TAICEP, AACRAO, NACAC & International ACAC.

**Completed enrollment
outreach in 9 countries/
domestic locations.**



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT & SCHOLAR SERVICES

- Organized 30+ social events and trips.
- Oriented over 300 new students and 140 new scholars.
- Helped coordinate 6 student-led international dinners celebrating China, Pakistan, Nepal, Korea, Iran, and a collection of African nations.
- Facilitated cross-departmental collaborations on student support programs with: Alumni relations, Career Services, Graduate Studies, University Libraries, Center for Teaching and Learning, SHAC, CAPS, Departmental Advisors, PNMGC, Men of Color Initiative, International Students Inc, and the Christian Student Center.
- Authorized over 660 different student work experiences.
- Paired over 250 domestic and international students through the Lobo Friend buddy program.
- Planned and led 7 international student volunteer excursions into the Albuquerque community.

**Conducted over 31
informational
workshops reaching more
than 1200 attendees.**



ADMINISTRATION

GEO Resource Center

- Completed a redesign of the GEO Resource Center to improve privacy and space utilization.
- Improved customer experience with revised face-to-face check-in process.

Realignment of Administrative Staff Duties

- Worked with human resources to realign positions related to data coordination, web development, and marketing; communications and outreach; and international partnerships.
- Completed a strategic analysis of three administrative positions.

**The GEO Resource
Center served over
6300 customers in
2019.**



Teaching in international settings truly draws together what are otherwise disparate threads running through the educational process at UNM. Year after year, our Tropical Biology class has opened new windows for the next generation of biologists; not only to the sheer diversity and vibrance of tropical wildlife, but also to new cultures, languages, food, art, and perspectives on the human condition and history.

Students are repeatedly challenged to think more deeply about humanity's place in the natural world and often they emerge from these international experiences with a deeper appreciation for our fellow inhabitants on this planet (human and otherwise).

- Joseph Cook
Professor & Curator, Division of
Mammals, MSB Ph.D.



GLOBAL
EDUCATION
OFFICE