Centennial Lecture Series Speakers Discuss Border Issues

As UTEP prepares to celebrate its 100th year, the University offers a Centennial Lecture Series which invites noteworthy speakers to the UTEP campus to discuss a broad range of contemporary issues. These topics are meant to expand our thinking about how these issues will shape UTEP’s next hundred years. Two recent speakers have discussed issues related to the U.S.-Mexico border.

Award-winning author and filmmaker Ricardo C. Ainslie, Ph.D., delivered his presentation “Lessons from Juárez and the Future of Mexico’s Drug War” to a full auditorium in the Undergraduate Learning Center on Oct. 22. A professor in the Department of Educational Psychology at The University of Texas at Austin, Ainslie observed, “Mexico must recognize that its organized (crime) problem is tied to broader social issues, including economic disparities, dysfunctional institutions and (varying) levels of culture.” His most recent book is The Fight to Save Juárez: Life in the Heart of Mexico’s Drug War.

On Nov. 19, Senior Fellow for Latin America Studies with the Council on Foreign Relations Shannon K. O’Neil, Ph.D., spoke autobiographically about recent transformations in the Mexican economy. She emphasized that the future of the U.S. economy is integrated with Mexico and both will succeed or struggle together. O’Neil’s expertise includes U.S./Latin American relations, trade, energy and immigration. She is the author of Two Nations Indivisible: Mexico, the United States, and the Road Ahead.

Junior League Christmas Fair Celebrates UTEP

On Nov. 1-3, the Judson F. Williams Convention Center turned into a Winter Wonderland for shoppers to get a head start on their holiday shopping. For the 80th anniversary of the Junior League and the 40th anniversary of its Christmas Fair, the league chose the theme of “The Magic of Christmas” and dedicated the fair to celebrating its anniversaries together with UTEP’s Centennial. UTEP definitely came out in spirit with orange-and-blue bedecked Christmas trees, Centennial celebration garlands, a display of past Paydirt Pete costumes and a booth selling UTEP Centennial gear. Each visitor received a free UTEP Centennial tote bag.

The fair is the league’s primary fundraising event and has supported more than 100 worthwhile programs throughout its history. Trained Junior League volunteers staff the event, allowing the Junior League to maximize its financial contributions and help make El Paso a better place to live for all of its citizens. The league’s website estimates that 15,000 shoppers pass through during the weekend.
From the Christmas Fair

The partnership between the Junior League of El Paso and the University dates back 80 years to the origination of the Centennial Museum, which is serving as the official Welcome Center during the Centennial Celebration.

Street pole banners have been placed across El Paso to celebrate UTEP’s Centennial Year. The banners first appeared downtown and have spread up Mesa, down Executive Center, and on Airway.

The banners are a part of the advertising campaign to expand awareness about UTEP’s Centennial Year and feature a vertical rendering of the official Centennial logo.

On Campus: 100 Minutes of Zumba

The Student Recreation Center hosts healthy fun.

Ring in the Orange New Year!

The Countdown to 2014 is nearing its goal so it is time to start thinking about ringing in the New Year in style by celebrating UTEP’s Centennial year. Order your UTEP New Year’s Party Pack to have your New Year’s filled with Orange and Blue!

The party pack includes an orange tablecloth, silver centerpiece, 40 orange napkins, 20 champagne glasses, 10 orange top hats, 10 blue cone hats, 12 silver horns, 8 orange noise makers, orange and blue confetti, a “UTEP 100 Years” sign, and hanging swirl decorations.

The kit is perfect for transforming your New Year’s Eve party into a celebration of UTEP. Don’t forget to order the Centennial wine and the Centenario salsa, queso, and bean dip.

Contact the Centennial Office

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