



# The Social Buzz



## School of Social Work

March 12- March 18, 2025

### MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR

Welcome back everyone! I hope you had a restful and fun spring break. I spent part of the break attending the Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors meeting in Las Vegas, NV, with our Peer Mentors and BSW faculty. The students did an amazing job presenting their poster on the impact peer mentoring has on student outcomes.



Mia Perralta explaining her poster to attendees

We are now more than halfway through the semester for sixteen-week courses and just starting on our mini-mester two courses. Right before break we admitted nearly 150 new students into our BSW and MSW program. For current BSW Seniors who haven't applied for our Advanced Standing MSW program, there is still time! To submit an application, please visit: <https://socialwork.nmsu.edu/academic-programs/graduate-students/msw-apply.html> We'd love to have you continue your social work journey with us.



On Monday I had the extreme pleasure of joining several faculty and students at the Las Cruces City Council meeting as Mayor Enriquez proclaimed March as Social Work Month. The proclamation was written by our own BSW student Andres Uribe who is an intern for Johana Bencomo, an NMSU SSW graduate, and city council member.

Dr. Mary Nienow, Director





# Student Spotlight

"I had the incredible opportunity to attend and present at the BPD Conference in Las Vegas, where we presented on the importance of peer support mentoring in higher education. This experience was eye-opening, not only because I got to share our work, but also because I volunteered at the event and connected with inspiring social workers and students from many different places. I learned so much from other students' research. Attending this conference made me realize how privileged we are to have access to resources on our campus — and how much more we can push for to support underrepresented students. This experience fueled my passion for advocacy and reinforced my commitment to creating inclusive, supportive environments in my future social work career."

*-Abigail Gutierrez- BSW Student*

"It was incredible to get to sit in on presentations that were so applicable to my current goals as a Social Worker. I participated because I feel very strongly about the wide range of applications that Peer Support has to offer and being able to I go out and share it on such a large scale only helps in getting support where it is needed. I got the opportunity meet so many people from all over the world and all from a Social Work background which makes you feel very included."

*-Mia Peralta, MSW Student*

"I attended as part of the Social Work Peer Support Team and got to connect with diverse students from all over and learn about their unique experiences and projects."

*-Aubrey Caballero- BSW Student*









## Need Help with Academic Advising or Registration? We're Here to Support You!

Whether you're navigating program requirements, course scheduling, financial aid, transfer credits, or graduation, we've got you covered! [Fill out our support form](#) to get assistance!


### What can we help with?

- Academic Advising
- Program Requirements
- Registration & Enrollment
- Financial Aid
- Course Scheduling
- Transfer Credits
- Graduation Requirements
- and much more!



Thank you for submitting your inquiry! One of our team members will get back to you soon with the support you need. In the meantime, if you need immediate help, you can reach out to one of our key contacts:

- **Global Campus Advisor:** Megan Boyd - [mboyd@nmsu.edu](mailto:mboyd@nmsu.edu)
- **Main Campus Advisor:** Letty Gallegos - [lettyg@nmsu.edu](mailto:lettyg@nmsu.edu)
- **BSW Program Coordinator:** Professor Paulina Palomino Pantoja - [paulinam@nmsu.edu](mailto:paulinam@nmsu.edu)
- **MSW Program Coordinator:** Dr. Sterling Brown - [shbrown@nmsu.edu](mailto:shbrown@nmsu.edu)
- **Practicum Director:** Professor Mari Tellez - [tellezm@nmsu.edu](mailto:tellezm@nmsu.edu)
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We're here to help you succeed! Reach out anytime. 





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Graduate School

# GRADLEARN

## Connecting Holistic Admission and Student Success

*Graduate programs are increasingly adopting holistic admissions to clearly see applicant potential, fairly admit qualified students, and create an inclusive student body. In this presentation, you'll learn not only about the main principles underpinning holistic admissions, but also various approaches you can adopt to make your process truly holistic.*

**Thursday, March 27, 3.00- 4.00 PM (MT)**



[https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/84657860594?  
pwd=3Jywr9VoQblK8regdkMamDApXE7GUu.1](https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/84657860594?pwd=3Jywr9VoQblK8regdkMamDApXE7GUu.1)



*Dr. John Augusto currently works as the Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives in the College of Arts and Sciences at Georgia State University. Dr. Augusto also serves as the Senior Graduate Education Advisor with ETS.*



*Dr. Ranjit Koodali is the Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Provost for International Affairs at New Mexico State University. Dr. Koodali serves on the TOEFL Board and on the Graduate Education Advisory Council (GRE Board).*







**NM  
STATE**



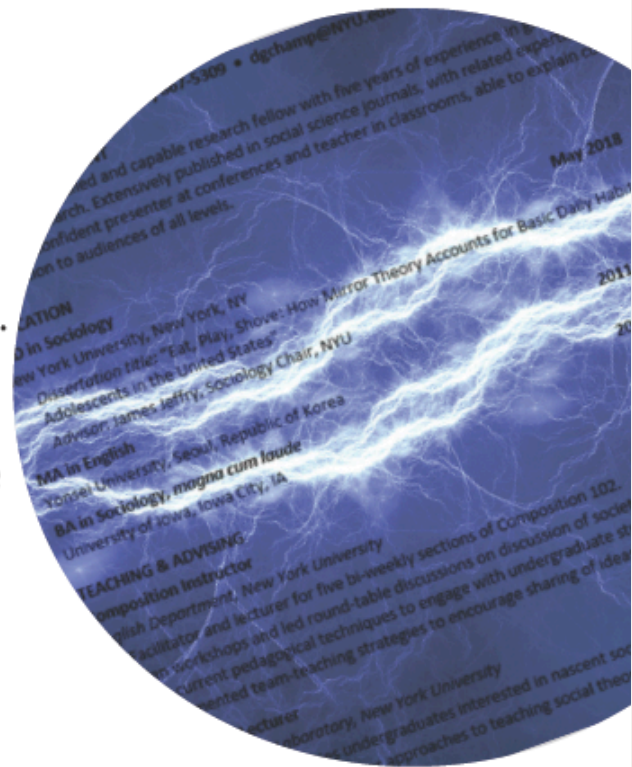
**Teaching  
Academy**

## ***Supercharge Your CV***

**Chris Bickford**

Teaching Academy

We'll provide an overview of no-cost platforms participants can use to build and update their CVs. Next, we'll examine CV samples. Participants will then have time to enhance their CV with the option of an individual CV review by the workshop leader.



**Thursday, April 3**

**10:30–11:45**

**Zoom**

Registration is required at [teaching.nmsu.edu](http://teaching.nmsu.edu). If you have problems registering online, call 646–2204 for help.



**The Social Buzz**



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**JUNE 10-11,  
2025**

## **STUDENT OPPORTUNITY!**

- Dr. Finno-Velasquez is seeking 3 motivated students for a unique opportunity to attend and assist with a statewide convening for approximately 75 invitees on June 10-11, 2025 in Albuquerque, NM.
- The event will be a full day on June 10th (approx. 9:30am – 5:00pm plus a 2 hr reception 5:00pm-7:00pm) and a half day (approx. 8:30am-1:00pm) on June 11th.
- This event will bring together immigrant-serving organizations from across the state to launch a statewide collaborative focused on building capacity, sharing resources, and developing strategic partnerships to enhance service quality for immigrant families throughout New Mexico.
- The event will feature various panels and interactive sessions on topics such as navigating the current immigration landscape; sensitive locations, and organizational security; family preparedness and support; networking, and more. Students are welcome to attend convening panels and learning sessions.
- Students traveling from Las Cruces will receive a \$400 stipend to cover the cost of travel and accommodations. Food will be provided (breakfast, lunch, and hors d'oeuvres on June 10th and breakfast on June 11th).
- Student responsibilities may include assisting with attendee check-in, set up and break down, note-taking for panels and breakout sessions, and other duties to support project staff.



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School of Social Work

**Interested students can send an email to Dr. Mary Nienow  
[mnienow@nmsu.edu](mailto:mnienow@nmsu.edu)**





## MANDATORY ORIENTATION FOR PRACTICUM STUDENTS ELIGIBLE TO BE IN FALL/SPRING 2025-26 PRACTICUM PLACEMENTS

Welcome incoming Practicum Students,

We are reaching out to invite you to attend a mandatory orientation for your upcoming practicum placement for Fall/Spring 2025-26. This orientation is a crucial step in ensuring that you are prepared for your practicum and able to move forward with the placement process.

During the orientation, we will cover important details, including:

- Instructions for purchasing Tevera, the platform used for practicum management
- The process to begin your practicum placement
- Information about your practicum coordinator

Please note that attendance is required in order to gain access to NMSU's full list of approved practicum agencies. Without attending an orientation session, you will not be able to proceed with securing your placement for Fall 2025.

If you are unable to attend the scheduled orientation, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss alternate arrangements. Failure to attend could delay or hinder your ability to obtain a practicum placement.

Please register for only one orientation, by clicking the zoom link below and according to BSW or MSW.

### BSW Orientations

March 21, 2025 Noon <https://nmsu.zoom.us/meeting/register/ZH94nloZQZeE8pIFqGHijA>

### MSW Orientations

March 21, 2025 1pm <https://nmsu.zoom.us/meeting/register/TADV9R7gQZelxQOzk4-r2g>

We look forward to your participation in the orientation and are here to assist with any questions you may have.

Kind regards, Practicum Team

Maribel Tellez

Practicum Director

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Practicum Coordinator

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Practicum Coordinator

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# Student Spotlight

We want to celebrate the incredible achievements and talents of our students! Whether it's for academic excellence, leadership, creativity, or any other noteworthy accomplishment, we'd love to hear about it. Students are welcome to self-nominate, or you can nominate a fellow student who deserves recognition. Please submit your nominations through the form below and help us spotlight the outstanding individuals in our community!



## STAY CONNECTED

Exciting News for Our Social Work Community! We've launched a new Careers & Opportunities webpage dedicated to connecting you with meaningful job openings. From roles within NMSU to opportunities in the broader community, this page is designed to help you find positions that align with your passion and expertise. Visit the page to explore the latest listings and take the next step in your career!



CLICK HERE



## BUZZ IN NEXT WEEK

Stay tuned for the latest updates, stories, and highlights from the School of Social Work!

In next week's edition, we'll bring you:

- Spotlights on Recent Achievements
- Upcoming Events and Workshops
- Student and Faculty Features
- Useful Resources and Tips

Got something to share or a question to ask?

Feel free to reach out to us:

✉ mkeeper@nmsu.edu

☎ Phone: 575-646-7599

🏢 Office: HSS 210F

We'd love to hear from you and feature your news in our next issue!

