Persistence to Degree

Elba Serrano  
Biology

Michelle Montano  
Criminal Justice

Terry Cook  
Student Engagement

Judith Bosland  
Institutional Analysis

Thursday, September 6  
10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.  
Room 50 Milton Hall

Supporting students to finish their undergraduate degrees has received increasing attention at the state level and at institutions of higher education. This workshop is designed to stimulate discussion and implementation of best practices in empowering students to persist. Panelists will present perspectives and data on student retention with regard to NMSU student demographics and success rates, institutional resources for student achievement, and externally funded NMSU programs aimed at student retention. Participants will have the opportunity to use the background provided by the panel to discuss and develop potential retention interventions that could be implemented in their administrative units and through collaborations. A brief report of recommended practices identified by workshop participants will be disseminated to all attendees.

Elba Serrano is Regents Professor of Biology. Serrano serves as principal investigator and director of NMSU’s NIH-funded RISE and BP-ENDURE programs that train NMSU underrepresented minority and disadvantaged students for the achievement of doctoral degrees in STEM fields.

Michelle B. Montano is the program director for the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), which is federally funded through the Department of Education, Office of Migrant Education and serves students and their families from migrant or seasonal farm work backgrounds.

Terry Cook serves on the Student Affairs & Enrollment Management Leadership Team as the assistant vice president for student engagement. She oversees the Student Success Centers in Hardman and Zuhl and the Academic Support Programs & Services for student athletes in the Fulton Center.

Judy Bosland is assistant vice president for institutional analysis. During her 20 years at NMSU, Judy assisted the Enrollment Management division with student-focused studies and evaluations. As one of NMSU’s experts on student data, she is always willing to share the facts about NMSU students.