

### DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS

- Chinle Trip
- PhD Internship Match
- Outstanding Student Awards
- Outstanding GA Award
- Louie Awards

### UPCOMING CONFERENCES

- Registration open for APA
- 10/22-10/25 AZPA Convention

### UNIVERSITY DATES

- 5/8 Commencement

### CAMPUS EVENTS

- 5/2 and 5/7 Convocation Ceremonies

### FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

- Dr. Ramona Mellott

### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

- Congratulations Graduates!

### Chinle Trip

In late March, faculty and students participated in a service learning trip to Chinle Unified School District. The faculty supervisors were Dr. Marya Cota, Dr. Marianne Fillhouer, and Professor Zamora. The students included Emily Bailey, Tyler Combs, Savannah DeBliek, Margaret Hosier, Allison Huffman, Ben Iacobelli, Daisy Krebs, Brooke Monsevais, Ashley Thibodeau and Rhiannon Wotring. During this trip faculty supervisor students as they provide evaluations for students in the district. Each year, participants express gratitude for the experience and the opportunity to learn more about indigenous communities.



### Match Results

Congratulations to Jacqueline Bassford, Morgan Husted, and Edith Melendez on their internship matches! The Combined Counseling/School Psychology PhD Program participates in the APPIC internship match. This is an intense and competitive process and all three of our applicants have successfully matched at sites high on their lists.

Outstanding Student Awards and Louie Awards continue on the next page!

## Outstanding Student Awards

Each year the College of Education accepts nominations for outstanding students in each department. This year we are proud to share that Adriana Barnes won the Outstanding Master's Student in EPS and Izhani Rosa won the Outstanding Doctoral Student in EPS award. Congratulations!



## Outstanding GA

The Office of Graduate and Professional Studies (OGPS) awards an Outstanding GA for each college. Ben Maddock one of our Combined Counseling/School Psychology PhD students was the winner for the College of Education. Congratulations Ben!

## Louie Awards

The Associated Students of Northern Arizona University (ASNAU) awards faculty and staff Louie Awards for their contributions to the university. This year, two College of Education staff members were selected for awards. Nancy Serenbetz was selected for Outstanding Community Outreach and Tessa Alexander was selected for Outstanding Student Support.



## Upcoming Conferences

- Registration for [APA](#) opened April 22nd. The convention will be in Washington DC.
- The [Arizona Psychological Association convention](#) will be held October 23-25 in Fort McDowell at the We Ko Pa Resort.

## Academic Dates + Deadlines

- College of Education Commencement will be on May 8th at 10 am.

## Campus Events

### Convocation Ceremonies:

- 5/2 - Rainbow Convocation
- 5/7 - Indigenous Convocation
- 5/7 - Veterans Convocation
- 5/7 - Hispanic/Latine Convocation
- 5/7 - Black Student Convocation
- 5/7 - Asian and Pacific Islander Convocation

NAU  
Events

Flagstaff  
Events

Phoenix  
Events

Tucson  
Events

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

This May we are excited to spotlight Dr. Ramona Mellott! Dr. Mellott will be returning to the EPS faculty team this fall. During her time away from her faculty role on campus, Dr. Mellott has held several leadership positions including department chair, Graduate Dean, and most recently College of Education Dean. In each position, she left a meaningful impact. She shared more about the journey she's had below.



“In 2007, after more than six years as department chair of EPS and my earlier years as faculty from 1991 to 2000, I stepped into a new opportunity at NAU as first full-time Graduate Dean. Having led a department that primarily served graduate students, it felt like a natural next step and a chance to grow in a different way.

I admit that I started that role with more questions than answers. There was not a clear roadmap, so I spent time looking outward, reviewing graduate schools across the country, identifying gaps, and building what eventually became a long and at times ambitious list of ideas. Then came the work of turning those ideas into something meaningful.

One of my first priorities was hiring an Associate Dean, which led to bringing in Dr. Evie Garcia, someone many of you know and have worked with. Together, and with many others, we helped revive the Graduate Student Government and launched initiatives that are still part of NAU today, including Accelerated Master's Programs, the 3 Minute Research Presentation, Electronic Theses and Dissertations with Evie's leadership, Professional Science Master's programs, requiring official transcripts only upon matriculations, streamlining graduate application processes, and the development of new graduate programs across the university.

By 2014, after nearly eight years in that role, I found myself wanting to return home to the College of Education. When the dean position opened, I was fortunate to be selected. I came into the role with a broader perspective and a strong desire to support COE in reaching its full potential.

What I am most proud of, and this truly reflects the work of many people, is that all programs in the college that could be accredited are now accredited. Our teacher education programs achieved CAEP accreditation and successfully renewed it in 2025, covering more than 24 programs. I also had the privilege of working with Dr. Evie Garcia and others to support the Combined Counseling and School Psychology program in achieving APA accreditation, first on contingency and then full accreditation in 2021.

Other areas include hiring outstanding faculty, expanding programs such as the Clinical Psychology PsyD at North Valley, supporting innovative teacher pipeline efforts such as Grow Your Own and teacher residencies, contributing to initiatives like C-CART, and increasing foundation scholarship support so that today more than 300 students in COE receive donor scholarships.

What I will miss most is the opportunity to work across the college and university in such a broad way, the ability to connect people, support ideas, and yes, be a bit of a cheerleader. Most of all, I will miss the people, the team I have worked alongside and the colleagues across COE and NAU who care deeply about students and about each other.”



## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

Though Dr. Mellott will miss parts of her role as dean, she is looking forward to rejoining the EPS department. “I am genuinely excited to return to the EPS faculty. I am especially looking forward to working closely with doctoral students and supporting them as they pursue their degrees in the Combined Counseling and School Psychology program. Through my national work and professional involvement, I have learned a great deal more about our field, and I am eager to bring that perspective back into the classroom and into mentoring relationships. I am also looking forward to connecting with students across our other programs, including EDS, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, School Counseling, and our undergraduate programs. I also look forward to working alongside colleagues, many of whom I had the privilege of hiring and welcoming to NAU.”

Dr. Mellott stays busy even when she is not working. She was recently featured in a recent [Humans of NAU article](#) in the NAU Review that highlighted one of her favorite hobbies, baking. “It is something I truly enjoy, and those around me often benefit from it. I also love reading fiction, and more recently I have become an avid exerciser, rotating between Orange Theory Fitness, Club Pilates, Fitness Collective, and CycleBar. I hope to keep that momentum going and continue building my overall fitness. And who knows, after a rafting adventure this summer, I may just discover a new hobby.”

**Welcome back Dr. Mellott!!**

# CONGRATULATIONS



# Grads

## Applied Human Behavior, BS

Kristin Lori Adson  
Jennifer Alvarado  
Anthony Arroyo  
Aimee Sarahi Barrera-Wood  
Steven Michael Bengtson  
Mark Biedenbender  
Chassidy Boyd  
Jazmin C. Cantu  
Danielle Renee Chavez  
John Lee Cordova  
Sierra Nicole Courier  
Megan Marie D'Amico  
Jesus De La Cruz Juarez  
Sara Dow Foster-Simmons  
Shemesh Allison-Jane Friedman  
Eugenia Garro  
Donald William Gregg  
Hannah C. Haggard  
Destin Joseph Hernandez

Daelyn Marie Johannsen  
Sydney Eliza Jones  
Danielle Karkkainen  
Brenda Lamas Altamirano  
Stephanie Laningham  
Rachel Marie Leyva  
Teresa Villareal Marrufo  
Natalie Anne McConnell  
Bianacca R. Miller  
Mia Grace Mitchell  
Valeria Moreno De Santiago  
Montserrat Moreno-Ontiveros  
Emma Janelle Morrison  
Angela Munoz  
Emily Rose Nelson  
Valeria Lizbeth Nuno Medina  
Gabriela Fontoura O'Hara  
Gwendolyn Ann Payne  
Sabrina Perez Alayo

Christianne O. Peterkin  
Belen Prieto  
Seth Reategui  
Devin Patricia Renger  
Trinity Marie Ribbing  
Emmanuel Rosas Lule  
Jacqueline Nicole Slay  
Madison Smith  
Elena Rebecca Suniga  
Erick Gerardo Sanchez Jr.  
Celeste Marie Tenney  
Nicole Whitesinger Tippeconnie  
Cameron Lyn Uhly  
Jennifer Nicole Vajarsky  
Ashley Maria Valdez  
Alondra Valencia  
Grace Vangunten  
Emma Nicole Wood

# CONGRATULATIONS



# Grads

## Clinical Mental Health Counseling, MA

Kieren Alvord  
McKenna May Arend  
Alicia Isabel Arrazola  
Andrew Ayon  
Adriana Mooney Barnes  
Lhanaiya Lamay Brown  
Richard E. Carabajal  
Ashli D. Coston  
AnnaLauren Din  
Matthew Young Doxey  
Ashley M. Duffield  
Jennifer Porter Dukes  
Garrett T. Encinas  
Elyse L. Englestadter  
Claudia Esmeralda Escobedo  
Leah Ann Farrington  
Anna Ferrante  
Lori Elizabeth Fraley  
Taylor Nicole Ganser  
Marilyn Nayeli Garcia Sanchez  
Kayla Jean Golonka

Kenidee L. Gordon  
Meredith N. Hall  
Sarah Quinn Harvancik  
Jade Alice Hoffman  
Logan Michael Horrocks  
Rachael Allison Howard  
Reetika Jandu  
Brent R. Jarles  
Esteban Francisco Jasso  
Alanna Brooke Johnson  
Robert Scott Johnson  
Isabella Kelly  
Emily M. Kotay  
Victoria Limbeck  
Samantha Yiselle Lopez  
Eve R. Loughran  
Tylecia Yejide Luper  
Kumara MacLeod  
Camryn Marshall  
Halle Winder Mason  
Jordyn Marie McCormack

Naomi Meadowcroft  
Sophia Jean Metzler  
Alexandra Michelle Monke  
Marissa B. Morgan  
Lennon Moss  
Anastasia Ynez Navarro  
Rachel Noll  
Rhys Owens  
Genesys Pineda  
Chloe Faith Ja'nice Ramirez  
Makennah Madicyn Schultz  
Olivia Rose Smith  
Andrew John Stevens  
Alexis Niccole Swim  
Kayla C. Tso  
Jayden Nicole Villalba  
Theya Wood  
Sela Ann Zakula

## Counseling - School Counseling, MEd

Timothy Michael Hanson  
Rixy Tain McIntire  
Rori May Schladweiler  
Austin P. Velasquez  
Gabriel Wheeler  
Gemalyn Yutob

## Counseling - Student Affairs, MEd

Klarissa Maria Carpenter-Venzor  
Morgan Chantelle Farrell  
Tami Thomas Monical  
Ceth James Reeves  
Brendan Trachsel  
Allen David Turner  
Veronika Zhukova

## Combined Counseling/ School Psychology, PhD

Emma Ferns  
Jose Gonzalez  
Christopher Kalas  
Jordan Paul  
Ethan Trujillo

## School Psychology, EdS

Amy J. Boyd  
Madison Braden  
Anna Fernanda Chavez Correa  
Ashley Natalie Essig  
Sylvie George  
Paige Green  
Jaclyn Lindsey  
Shannon Dana Lynch

Justina Ortiz  
Cristina Bambarén Palmer  
Tawana M. Payne  
Delaney Remp  
Merlijn Smis  
Simone Iris Smith  
Allison N. Stenger  
Christine E. Werba

## Human Relations, MEd

Meaali'i Rebecca Amosa  
Megan Grace Bradbury  
Diego Willis Campisano  
Maria Irene Doten  
Carrie Ann Dunham  
Adeline Claire Engel  
Elise Marie Hontas  
Roselle Lynn Nez  
Paige Austin Prather  
Jadzia Blake Scott  
Sophia Noelle Wadsworth