

Proposition: 18-20/21

Title: A Memorial in Honor of Karen Trujillo

Date Submitted: 2 March 2021

Sponsor(s): Guynn (A&S), Beck (Library), Brown (A&S), Burkardt (NTT), Dawood (ENG), Flinchbaugh (BUS), Hanson (ACES), Hubbell (A&S), McAteer (A&S), Noe (HSS), Parra (EDUC), Stochaj (ENG), Vaughn (DACC), Villaverde (NMSU-A), Wojahn (A&S)

Proposed Committee: Emergency Legislation

Assigned Committee: Emergency Legislation

Prior Approvals: Emergency Legislation

Proposal Type (please check one):

☒ X Memorial

☐ Proposition to change policy (please include ARP/RPM reference(s) from <https://arp.nmsu.edu/>)

☐ Proposition for curriculum addition/change (please include all curriculum change forms and signature pages as outlined here: <https://provost.nmsu.edu/forms/>)

☐ Other (please describe below)

Whereas, as a lifetime resident of New Mexico and a longtime resident of southern New Mexico, Karen Trujillo was dedicated to serving her community and exemplified the state motto, "It grows as it goes;"

Whereas, as a three-time alumna of New Mexico State University, Karen Trujillo represented the best of the values of service, leadership, and school spirit embodied in our students and graduates;

Whereas, as a dedicated educator, Karen Trujillo served as a teacher and school principal for more than 25 years;

Whereas, as an innovator, Karen Trujillo helped to establish Educators Rising New Mexico to increase the number of education majors in the state, and Math Snacks to make mathematics more accessible to primary school students by supplementing regular classroom instruction;

Whereas, as a leader, Karen Trujillo established the Southwest Outreach Academic Research (SOAR) Lab and served as interim Associate Dean of Research in the College of Education at NMSU;

Whereas, as a citizen who believed in the importance of dialog between “town and gown,” Karen Trujillo was elected to the Doña Ana County Commission as both Commissioner and Chair;

Whereas, reflecting her concern for all children of New Mexico, Karen Trujillo served as Secretary of the Public Education Department for the state;

Whereas, as someone who was known for her insight and follow-through, Karen Trujillo was appointed as the Superintendent of the Las Cruces Public Schools where she adeptly guided the school system through the 2019 ransomware attack and was doing the same through the Covid-19 global pandemic;

Whereas Karen Trujillo’s death will be painfully felt by the students, families, and staff of the Las Cruces Public Schools and her colleagues and friends at New Mexico State University;

Let it be resolved on this 4th day of March 2021 that the NMSU Faculty Senate celebrates the life of Karen M. Trujillo and her extensive contributions to New Mexico State University, Las Cruces Catholic School, Las Cruces Public Schools, and the State of New Mexico and extends our sincere condolences to her husband Ben, their daughters and their son, and the many others affected by her life of service and her untimely passing.