



## ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER RESOURCE CENTER

The Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center (AAPIRC) was established during the 2021–2022 academic year as a result of a student-led initiative to create a department that supports AAPI students at UNM.

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center is to build a sense of belonging for students of Asian/Pacific Islander/Desi American/Arab American Heritage during their studies at the University of New Mexico. AAPIRC also seeks to provide culturally relevant programs that cultivate Asian/Pacific Islander/Desi American/Arab American leaders within communities.

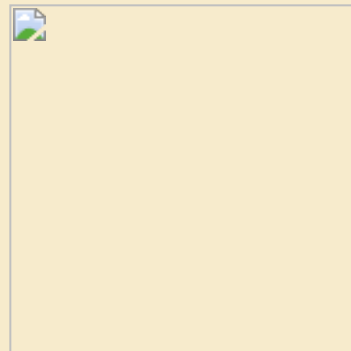
Hello and welcome to AAPIRC's LAST newsletter of the 2021–2022 academic year. First, we would like to give another congratulations to all of our Lobos graduating this week. Read about AAPIRC's convocation below! May, AAPI Heritage Month, brought some fun events to AAPIRC. Scroll through this newsletter to hear about our amazing book discussion with Dr. Shinsuke Eguchi and the wonderful puppies that visited AAPIRC. We also have some information about AAPI-centered courses being offered across departments.

As the school year closes, we want to thank you for welcoming us onto campus and into your college experiences. Whether you are leaving UNM or just entering, know that you will always have a home at AAPIRC. As always, thank you for your support!

## **First Ever AAPI Convocation**



On Wednesday, May 11th, AAPIRC hosted UNM's first ever convocation to celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander graduates. Our keynote speakers, former city councilor, Lan Sena, and doctoral candidate, Alana Bock, reminded us of our importance as part of the AAPI community. You can read parts of their amazing speeches below. Special guests of our convocation included Dean of Students, Nasha Torrez, VP of Student Affairs, Tim Gutierrez, Associate VP of Equity & Inclusion, Nancy López, and Alumni Relations Officer, Scott Sanchez. Juris Doctors, PhDs, Bachelors of Arts, Science, and Business Administration; these are just some of the degrees our AAPI Lobos are graduating with this spring. We are so proud to have these amazing Lobos representing our community!



Lan Sena, New Mexico's first Asian American Alana J. Bock, a Doctoral candidate in city elected official and former city councilor- UNM's American Studies program-  
**read an excerpt of her speech below read an excerpt of her speech below**

"But let me be clear, we are not invisible and "Create space, take up room, demand we have never been. We are present and more – don't just demand to be seen, have been for a long time. Our prescence demand to be heard and to be a part of today, *your* prescence today, is an act of the decision-making processes that affect rebellion and resistance." your lives. As you leave UNM, take that lesson with you – continue to fight for what is right, to tell truths that are hard for people to hear, and to strengthen your community."



A few of our amazing graduates with their AAPIRC certificates and stoles!



Our grads enjoying Dr. Eguchi's Some AAPIRC regulars chatting about closing remarks. graduation and enjoying our delicious food from Coda Bakery.

## Dr. Shinsuke Eguchi Book Discussion

AAPIRC had its first AAPI Heritage Month event on May 6th. Dr. Eguchi guided us through their lived experience as identifying as Asian and queer. The Q&A that followed created a beautiful conversation about the relationship between ethnicity, sexuality, and mental



health. Thank you again to all of our amazing supporters of this event!

## Welcoming Puppies to AAPIRC



High Desert Therapy Dogs visited AAPIRC to help us round out a stressful week of finals. Our students loved petting Stella (left) and Oliver and learning more about the amazing organization. Make sure to follow our Instagram for more fun events like this one!

## Looking for AAPI-centered courses for Fall 2022?

Text block at your service. Replace this text with yours.

## Summer at AAPIRC

- Look out for our table at New Student Orientation Discovery Fair! 🗨️
- Stay tuned and check our Instagram (@aapircunm) for our summer hours 🕒

- AAPIRC will open by special request, please email us at [aapirc@unm.edu](mailto:aapirc@unm.edu) 😊

Would you like your organization's events promoted in our next newsletter? Please submit the necessary details to [aapirc@unm.edu](mailto:aapirc@unm.edu)!



## LOCATION

We are in room #212 of the Education Classroom (Building #67).  
Visit us M-F from 8:30am-5:00pm! Check out the "Directions" highlight on our Instagram for more detailed directions to AAPIRC.

We are now accepting reservations for AAPIRC's Lounge!  
Fill out our [reservation form](#) for your organization's next event.



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