



SENATE GRADUATE &
PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE

Jennifer Thacher, Chair
jthacher@unm.edu

DATE: September 1, 2016

TO: Operations Committee of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Jennifer Thacher, Ph.D., Chair
Senate Graduate & Professional Committee

RE: Posthumous Degree

At its September 1, 2016 meeting the Senate Graduate & Professional Committee voted to approve a request to grant a posthumous degree to Janice Flores (100855567). Please see the attached email from detailing this request for Ms. Flores.

The Senate Graduate & Professional Committee's approval is based primarily on the two conditions specified in the faculty handbook relative to the granting of posthumous degrees. Ms. Flores had completed the coursework required for the degree and her academic record is in good standing. Therefore, we request that the Faculty Senate support the awarding of a posthumous Master of Science in Health Education to Janice Flores. We also request that this item be put on the Senate's agenda at the earliest convenience.

Thank you.

Attachment

Robben Baca

From: Selena Andrea Salazar
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2016 12:33 PM
To: Robben Baca
Subject: Janice Flores

In Loving Memory of
Janice E Flores
July 10, 1981 – April 6, 2010

Janice was a loving and caring mother of two who worked tirelessly as a Community Health Educator and Nutritionist with WIC within the South Valley. Janice displayed a lifelong commitment to improving the lives of mothers and children in Albuquerque, New Mexico; co-founding the MADRES (Mothers Achieving Dreams Reaching Educational Success) organization. She is loved by the community, fellow students and friends. She was an outstanding student within the Health, Exercise and Sport Science departments Graduate Health Education program and shined as a bright light within the classroom having a positive impact on anyone she came in contact with. She was a "pura luz," pure light, within our department and will be deeply missed. The Tao of Pooh was one of Janice's favorite books; this quote reflects the journey of life.

"By the time it came to the edge of the Forest the stream had grown up, so that it was almost a river, and, being grown-up, it did not run and jump and sparkle along as it used to do when it was younger, but moved more slowly. For it knew now where it was going, and it said to itself,
'There is no hurry. We shall get there someday.'
- Tao of Pooh by Benjamin Hoff

Janice was an amazing person inside and out. she was dedicated to her Family, with being a single Mother of two, I give Janice the respect that she needs, because she was a working mother, going to school and trying to accomplish her dreams, until her life was ended short, Janice begin working with the First Choice Community Health Center in August 2007. She was a Nutritionist and lead supervisor for five staff members for the South Valley Clinic, where the caseload was almost 2, 200 participants. Janice had prior experience and taught on ICD-9 Medical Codes class at the University of New Mexico. She was instrumental in creating the Prescription Form that is being used to her participants information using these codes.

Janice was diligent in making participant referrals so other public health services could help the WIC participants statewide. When a participant was in need of service, she was there with a phone number and a contact person to call. she "knew a guy who knew a guy" and made sure all her contact names and numbers were up to date. She had a Rolodex full of cards and phone numbers, and she was more than willing to share them with all staff members in order to assist participants. Once, she helped a needy family get a car seat and a stroller so the WIC participant would not have to walk to the clinic for her appointments while carrying her baby in her arms. The family had been using a grocery cart to transport their things when walking to appointments.

Janice continually approached grocery chains to see if they would donate diapers and wipes to the clinic so she could give them to her participants. She would send e-mails to staff members and printed out the sheets for participants indicating which local grocery stores were having sales and which products were cheaper for that specific week.

On Tuesday April 6, 2010, Kimberly Aragon-Nunez and Janice Flores both of First Choice Community Health Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico were victims of an automobile crash. Kim and Janice were on their way to pick up lunch for staff members attending a WIC training session, when a second vehicle unexpectedly crossed into their driving lane and struck their vehicle hand-on, killing both women.

Janice Flores was a devoted person to her Family, School, Work, Friends and anyone she came in contact with. Janice's legacy lives on with her two beautiful children.