El Centro celebrated its 7th annual Noche de ESTRELLAS event on Saturday, May 4th. Every year El Centro honors its students, family members, and staff for their contributions. This year, Jennifer Vazquez was honored with the Luis Ortiz Excellence in Service Award.

As part of the Golden Tours, El Centro presented at NEIU’s Learn & Lead Symposium. This event was designed for visiting local high schools to provide admitted students with the information they need to attend NEIU. El Centro looked forward to working with our students as they continue to develop their success approaches.

At NEIU’s Summer Program @ El Centro, our new Coordinator of Summer Programs at El Centro, Lizett Gálan, will easily guide our students through the many challenges they face in transitioning to college. Lizett was a second generation student, and now she is the first in her family to graduate from the City Colleges of Chicago and Chicago Public Schools, graduating from Truman College and receiving a degree in eBay Sales & Operations Management.

Lizett's own journey is inspiring. On her first day of college, her mother supported her by saying, "If I can do it, so can you." Lizett's mother's words continue to be her motivation, and she uses them to inspire her students.

The El Centro Newsletter is written and edited by Mimi Crespo with contributions from Lizett Galán, Director, and designed by Fausto P. Ortiz. Do you have a story you'd like to share? Email your suggestions to m-crespo1@neiu.edu.