Finally, I want to thank the El Centro team -- faculty, staff and student workers -- for their support and strength. Their well-deserved successes! We have so much to cherish and even more for which to be thankful. Congratulations to all our students on their outstanding achievements. During these challenging times, whom are part of the El Centro team:

In this newsletter, we'd like to highlight the achievements of four of our Spring 2020 graduating seniors, all of whom are part of the El Centro team:

**Cynthia Ceron**

Having majored in Justice Studies and minored in Criminology, her dream of becoming an agent of change.

In Fall 2014, she began working at El Centro, but furthering her education in Spring 2020, Cynthia graduated, realizing her dream of becoming an agent of change.

**Jonathan Davila**

Jonathan has been a member of the El Centro team for the past three years. During this time, he has gained a wealth of knowledge about the campus, and many of its offerings. As he reflects on his achievements, he shares a piece of advice: "Stay focused and don't worry about rushing to graduate. College is a journey, start from the beginning and you will be fine."

**Xiomara Ramirez**

Among her accomplishments, Xiomara was accepted into the College of Education, majoring in Early Childhood Education. It is no surprise that Xiomara has such a strong passion for the field, as her family's devotion to the field, Xiomara chose to pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Higher Education program. In Spring 2020, Xiomara graduated, realizing her dream of helping students with her new degree in Justice Studies and Criminology.

**Peter Gutierrez**

Peter was introduced to NEIU in high school, participating in the Upward Bound Program. In 2002, he enrolled as a student at NEIU where he fell in love with the campus. In 2008, Peter graduated from Northeastern with a degree in Social Work. Recognizing his talents, enabling him to graduate this spring semester with a degree in Justice Studies and Criminology.

As a Student Worker at El Centro and a graduating senior, Xiomara feels very grateful for all the resources Northeastern has provided. As Xiomara prepares herself for life after college, she reminds other students to "begin with the end in mind." For most of his years at Northeastern, Jonathan was part of the Initiatives Team. As he reflects on his achievements, he shares a piece of advice: "Stay focused and don't worry about rushing to graduate. College is a journey, start from the beginning and you will be fine."

A Message from the

FRANK M. CONNELLY, CENTRAL REGIONAL DIRECTOR

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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A whole collection of keynote speakers and inspiring speakers will be taking place at NEIU for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration. Some of the speakers include: Dr. Lewis, Dr. Howard, and many others.

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