

2016

## Sandra Rodriguez-Arroyo, Faculty Spotlight

University of Nebraska at Omaha

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### Recommended Citation

University of Nebraska at Omaha, "Sandra Rodriguez-Arroyo, Faculty Spotlight" (2016). *Community Engagement Spotlights*. Paper 10.  
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# Sandra Rodriguez-Arroyo

## Engagement Spotlights

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### Thank you for all you do for your community!

Community engagement and service are fundamental components of UNO's identity.

Dr. Sandra Rodriguez-Arroyo exemplifies UNO's commitment to community engagement.

## Additional Resources

[About Sandra Rodriguez-Arroyo, D.Ed](#)[UNO](#) / [Campus Commitment to Community Engagement](#) / [Engagement Spotlights](#) / [Sandra Rodriguez-Arroyo](#)

Sandra Rodriguez-Arroyo, D.Ed, was the 2016 recipient of the Service Learning Academy (SLA) Faculty Service Learning Award.

## 2016 Outstanding Faculty Recipient

Because of her passion and dedication to creating linguistically diverse communities, Dr. Sandra Rodriguez-Arroyo was the 2016 Outstanding Faculty Service Learning Award.

Dr. Rodriguez was hired to help run the [English as a Second Language Concentration \(ESL\)](#) program, and "thanks to SLA starting ESL service learning projects became possible." Service learning efforts have generated long-lasting community partnerships in bilingual communities, providing her UNO students with real-world teaching experiences. "I can give my students the community experiences they need, opening doors for them as teachers, so they know we need to keep learning about the communities we work in."



Spring 2016 P-16 Initiative Newsletter

Facilitated through the SLA, Dr. Rodriguez and Mrs. Barb Brimmerman, English Language Learner (ELL) instructor at Lewis and Clark Middle School, P-16 project gave those ELL students opportunities to research and write, while UNO students participated in real-world teaching experiences. Through reading, writing, and teaching skills, ELL and UNO students worked together with UNO's Glacier Creek Preserve regarding research needs on Nebraska prairies.

This work has inspired other collaborations that truly impact Omaha's education system and bilingual communities. One example can be found in the Metro Area Teachers of English Language Learners (MATELLS) Teaching Circles. MATELLS Teaching Circles kicked off with a community breakfast in the summer of 2013, and now has over 60 ESL/ELL teachers participating from the surrounding Omaha school districts. These "teachers come together and talk about their English teaching and work in the community" serving our linguistically-diverse communities.

Service Learning Academy

Lewis and Clark Middle School

For Dr. Rodriguez, exposing future mainstream teachers with our linguistically-diverse communities contributes to breaking down linguistic barriers and the fears of diverse communities working together."

Share Your Story:

Did you organize or participate in a community-oriented project or service? UNO wants to hear from you!

UNO is committed to community engagement in its broadest form, and wants to feature your community service story.

[Click here](#) to share your story.



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