

NM
STATE

Alumni
ASSOCIATION

FALL 2020

Outstanding Graduate



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Lucas Rivera

Lucas is graduating with a Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering and minors in Spanish and Mathematics. With a GPA of 3.79, Lucas has received multiple honors and academic and professional scholarships. He is a research assistant and served as Undergraduate Lead with the Center for Bio-mediated and Bio-inspired Geotechnics and has co-authored a peer-reviewed conference paper in that role. He is also an Undergraduate Research Scholar with the NM Alliance for Minority Participation (NMAMP), and recently served on a very successful panel on international undergraduate opportunities at the NMAMP Annual Research Conference.

Lucas has served as an officer in the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Civil Engineering honor society Chi Epsilon, and Aggies Without Limits (AWL). In his role with AWL, he was Assistant Project Manager for the design and construction of a rural water system in Guatemala and Project Manager for AWL's 2021 effort to renovate a school and build a water system in Nicaragua. The multiple campus leadership roles Lucas has held include Engineering Council representative, College of Engineering Student Ambassador, and General Secretary of NMSU's Chi Epsilon chapter. The extensive service activities Lucas has participated in demonstrate his strong sense of responsibility to society and commitment to the Engineer's ethical requirement to "hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public." Lucas has worked volunteer roles in Indonesia, Bolivia, New Zealand, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Peru, Texas, and New Mexico in his time at NMSU. He also had the opportunity to study Spanish abroad for one semester in Cusco, Peru.

Locally, he has volunteered through AWL to help Homes for Homeless Veterans, La Casa Shelter for Battered Individuals and refugee housing and relief. In addition to these volunteer activities, Lucas worked two summers as a professional fire fighter, having worked in multiple states with the US Department of the Interior and the State of New Mexico in some of the worst western US wildfire seasons in history, including the deadly Carr fire in Northern California.

Lucas demonstrates a unique combination of academic excellence, effective leadership, and a profound sense of commitment to the service of humankind that will take him far in his career. His immediate plans are to spend a month in Tanzania after graduation and then continue for his master's degree at NMSU in Civil Engineering.