



“AIM for Your Best Future”

March 2024 Newsletter

AIM, Assessing Innovative Measures for Higher Retention

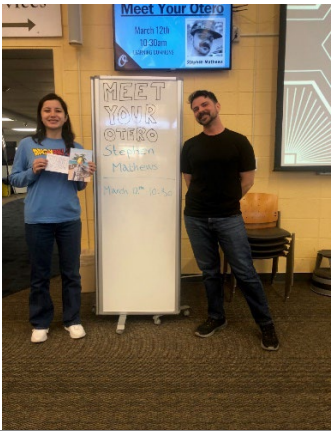


Welcome back from Spring Break. Wouldn't it be great if we all were able to rest and come back to work ready to conquer the retention problems? However, for many Otero College employees, we still had lots of non-work-related obligations to complete and having a break only gave us the opportunity to catch up. The good news about that is, it is always great to get things done and the change from routine allows us to reboot and refocus. The AIM Program staff were no different. During Spring Break, they attended a conference in beautiful California and brought back some great ideas to share. Here is a look at what the AIM Program staff brought to Otero College in March.



Students personalizing journals

Laura Martinez, AIM Case Manager, and Molly Borton, Otero College's Counselor, were having fun teaching students how to use their own skills to benefit their own mental Health. On February 26, 2024 students learned the benefit of journaling. Students made their own journals and personalized them by decorating them. March 11, 2024, students learned the benefits of aromatherapy and learned which scents would affect which parts of the nervous system allowing a person to relax and let go of stress. Upcoming events include: Mental Health Monday – Creative Colors on April 1 and Stress Squishies on April 15.



Stephen with Event Gift Card Winner Carolina Estrada

Meet Your Otero-Marketing & Communications Coordinator - Stephen Matthews. Stephen is proud to be a member of the Otero College family. Another thing about Stephen that brings him great pride is being an acclaimed writer and finalist in the 2023 Best Indie Book Awards in both categories for Literary Fiction and LGBTQ+ for his novel “The Age of a Lobster,” which he gave signed copies to a lucky few. Stephen has extensive experience in marketing and public relations and Otero is lucky to have him as part of our team.



Jaime with Event Gift Card Winner Ty Burbank

Meet Your Otero International Students Coordinator, Jaime Mendoza, who shared with the audience that being married to his wife Roberta, his experience of being a small business owner, and raising two successful sons was all a part of his plan to be a part of the International Relations Program here at Otero College. Those in attendance enjoyed Jaime’s famous homemade salsa.



Cedric Quintana, Shawn Japhet, Macie Magallon and Laura Martinez behind HSI sign.



Crocs on beach with AIM Trip '24 written in the sand

Shawn Japhet, Cedric Quintana, Macie Magallon and Laura Martinez attended the 16th annual AHSIE Conference in Monterey, CA over Spring Break. They learned lots of great information to bring back and share with Otero College.



AIM Sponsored Drawings - Did you know we have multiple drawings going on each semester? Every time you attend an AIM event and SIGN-IN, we will put your name in for our drawing. The more events you attend, the more your name will be entered. We draw a name at the end of each event and each month, but the grand prize will be drawn at the end of the semester. Prizes include gift cards and AirPods! Look for the AIM Logo on flyers/announcements throughout campus so you know when to attend an AIM Sponsored Event!!!

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