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April 2019

ELISEO "CHEO" TORRES

Vice President of Student Affairs
University of New Mexico

Since he was a boy growing up on the border of Texas and Mexico, Eliseo Torres, known to everyone as "Cheo," has been fascinated by the folk traditions and folkways of Mexico and of his Mexican American roots. Both of his parents were versed in aspects of herbal lore and healing, and as he matured he learned from them a love and respect for the history and folk knowledge of the ancient art of *curanderismo*, or Mexican folk healing.

Now an administrator at the University of New Mexico, where he is Vice President for Student Affairs and a member of the faculty of the College of Education, Cheo teaches three classes on traditional medicine and regularly lectures and gives presentations on the history and lore of *curanderismo* to audiences ranging from scholars and students of Latin American culture to people hoping to become knowledgeable about alternative and traditional medicine, including lay people and medical professionals alike.

Cheo has published four books on his life and his research in traditional medicine emphasizing medicinal plant and rituals and published by the University of New Mexico Press and Kendall Hunt Publishing Company.