The Life and Legacy of Dr. George Isidore Sánchez

By Dr. Luisa Durán

Graphics by Luisa Sachiko Pennington
Dr. George I. Sánchez

is

the 2013 posthumous recipient

of

The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education (NMABE)

Senator Joseph M. Montoya

National Bilingual Education Award
Dr. George I. Sánchez y Sánchez

Was a noted native New Mexican-American scholar, author, psychologist, ethnographic researcher, social critic and civil rights activist, educator and educational reformer here in New Mexico during the 1920’s to 1940 (18 years), and in Texas from the 1940’s to 1970’s (32 years).

The NMABE has sought to honor Dr. Sánchez for his quite substantial and quite distinguished educational contributions to New Mexico, Texas, national states and international countries.
Dr. George I. Sánchez y Sánchez

Comes from three different Sánchez family lineages. Of the 300+ families that came to settle NM with Juan de Oñate in 1600, thirteen different families were Sánchezes.

a) His mother, Juliana Sánchez, comes from one Sánchez line

b) His father, Telesforo Sánchez, comes from two Sánchez lines

Sánchez(PN): Son of Sancho¹, Blessed One²
Dr. George I. Sánchez y Sánchez

Was born in Los Barelas community of Albuquerque on

October 4, 1906
Childhood Education:

0-6 years old - Home schooling and upbringing in Old Albuquerque

6-7 years old - First and second grades in APS

7-14 years old - Third to ninth grades in Jerome, Arizona

14-16 years old - Tenth through twelfth grade and graduation from Central High School/ Albuquerque High School
1. Old Albuquerque
2. Jerome, AZ
3. Central High School/ABQ High School
First Teaching Experience
1922-1924

Just before Dr. Sánchez turned 17 he got his first job at Yrisarri, New Mexico, 40 miles southeast of Albuquerque.

He went back and forth from Albuquerque to Yrisarri on horseback.
Teacher, Principal, Superintendent, and UNM Student 1923-1930

At Los Griegos/Los Candelarias Schools, Bernalillo County
Part-time student at UNM
Undergraduate and Graduate Education

1. 1930: B.A. in Education and Spanish With Honors (*Cum laude*) (UNM)
2. 1931: M.S. in Educational Psychology and Spanish (UT-Austin)
3. 1934: Ed.D. in Educational Administration (UC Berkeley)
Personal Life

1906  Son of Telesfor Sánchez and Juliana Sánchez of Los Barelas in Albuquerque

1925  Married Virginia Romero and they had two children, five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren

Co-Authored an article with Virgie R. Sánchez, “Education in Mexico in The Sixteenth Century” in the New Mexico Quarterly, August, 1934

Dedicated his second book, Forgotten People: A Study of New Mexicans, 1940 to Virgie R. Sánchez

Divorced around 1940 when he moved to Austin, Texas


1958  Co-authored article, “Perspectives”, in Educational Leadership with Dr. Luisa G. Sánchez
Personal Life

1972 – Dr. Sánchez Died on April 5, 1972 in Austin, Texas

Postscript:
One of Dr. Sánchez’s granddaughters, Cynthia and her husband Pastor Greg Kennedy moved to Santa Fe where she is a school teacher and he ministers the St. John Methodist Church.

Cynthia and all the Sánchez family are the proud heirs of the distinguished legacy of Dr. George I. Sánchez, their “Tata”.

Cynthia and Greg’s family are also the proud heirs of Dr. Sánchez’s Early Colonial New Mexico furniture.

Some of the Sánchez family is “home”, and today we are proud to bring the spirit of Dr. Sánchez “home” also.

Al fin, QUE DESCANSE EN PAZ †
Positions Held

22 positions held in NM (1922-1940) and 35 positions held in Texas (1940-1972)

• Student: high school, BA, MA, and Ed.D.
• Teacher and part-time instructor
• Principal/Superintendent
• Member of many boards
• Chair and President of several academic and civic associations
• Director of many programs
• Researcher (5 government grants/ 5 foundation grants)
• National/international educational consultant
• Associate and Full Professor of Education
• Founder UNM Law School
• Founder/Professor of Latin American Studies
• Expert Witness/Civil Rights Court Cases
• Undergraduate/Graduate/Post-Graduate Student Advisor (At least 65 M.A. thesis students’ chairperson and 30 Ph.D. students’ chairperson)
• Husband/father/grandfather/great-grandfather/great-great-grandfather
New Mexico State Department of Education

Director: 1931-1935

Division of Information and Statistics

(Some 300+ photos were taken by Dr. Sánchez at this time.)
NMEA
President
1934-1935
(Now NEA-NM)
The Golden Jubilee Convention

By Dr. George I. Sanchez, President New Mexico Educational Association

The approach of the fiftieth annual Convention of the New Mexico Educational Association next month calls for a special demonstration of professional interest and for a careful consideration of what our organization has meant and, of greater importance, what it will mean in the progressive march of our schools. Fifty years of reunions in behalf of greater returns to the youth of our state have brought us far along the way of educational service. Half a century of stress upon the thrilling task that is ours is a record of achievement that might well make us proud.

At a time when the nearness of our Golden Jubilee might cause us to reminisce on our past accomplishments, we find ourselves only eager to continue our endeavors. Our task is always young—it is always novel and it always carries the challenge of a great adventure. Today we forget the passing of the years and seek the future with the firm conviction that the years to come will be the more glorious because the years that have gone by have been so full of successful service.

Our experience has taught us the value of professional co-operation. Through organization we have weathered the storms that beclouded the bright skies of our classrooms. Fellowship has lent zest to our work. The Golden Jubilee finds us convinced of the worth of our Association and already we anticipate the victories yet to come.
LULAC National President
1941-1942

Dr. George I. Sanchez, National President (1941-42) Professor UNM later moved to University of Texas and Austin, TX. Published author. First Director of the Latin American Studies Program.
Civil Rights Leaders
Three Mexican-American Heroes
1940-1954+

Dr. Hector García M.D., Dr. George I. Sánchez Ed.D., Gustavo García LL.D.
George I. Sánchez
Publications and Bibliography

Author of about 55 publications were done while in New Mexico
Author of about 60 publications were done while in Texas

• Five Books
• 105 articles and monographs in fifteen different local academic journals/newspapers and fifteen different national academic journals/handbooks
• Six chapters or sections in other books

Credit: James M. Mowry
Sánchez Articles in Academic Journals

- Educational Research Bulletin
- UNM Bulletin
- General Services Bulletin
- New Mexico School Review
- Journal of Genetic Psychology
- Journal of Educational Research
- New Mexico Press
- New Mexico State Tribune
- US Daily
- Albuquerque Tribune
- Journal of Applied Psychology
- New Mexico Quarterly
- New Mexico Business Review
- The Taxpayer
- Journal of Social Psychology
- Human Growth and Development
- Progressive Education
- Academy of Political and Social Science
- Curriculum Journal
- The LULAC News
- Phi Delta Kappan
- Childhood Education
- The Educational Forum
- The Nation’s Schools
- *Educación Nacional*
- Encyclopedia of Modern Education
- Comparative Education
- Journal of Elementary Education
- Educational Leadership
- Texas Observer
- Texas Journal of Secondary Ed.
- The Chicago Jewish Forum
Forgotten People: A Study of New Mexicans

by George I. Sánchez
Calvin Horn Publishers, 1940
TAOS and Neighboring Counties

Map of New Mexico showing TAOS and neighboring counties.
FORGOTTEN PEOPLE: A Study of New Mexicans - 1940
In 25 Villages In Taos County, N.M.
The Harwood Museum of Art.
Notable New Mexico People/Peers Who Worked With or Knew Dr. George I Sánchez

• Senators: Bronson Cutting and Dennis Chávez
• Governors: Seligman Tingley, Otero, Mechem
• Many officials in the 11th/12th NM Legislature
• Superintendents (about 8)
• All the people in the N.M. State Dept. of Education
• People at UNM
• People in Loyd Tireman’s Nambé and San José Projects (1930’)
• People at N.M. Normal University (Now N.M. Highlands University)
• People at NMEA
• People at the TEWA Soil Conservation Basin Study
• New Mexico LULAC
• People in the New Deal Programs: Arts Revival Project Writers Project WPA CCC NYA
• People at the Harwood Library/Foundation
Honors/Tributes Paid to Dr. George I. Sánchez
NEA-New Mexico
Presents
125th Anniversary Book to Cindy Kennedy
Grandaughter of NMEA President,
George I Sanchez (1935-36).
The House of Representatives
of the
State of New Mexico

FIFTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 2013

HOUSE MEMORIAL 47

Recognizing the Many Contributions of Dr. George L. Sanchez to Education, Both

The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

FIFTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 2013

SENATE MEMORIAL 37
INTRODUCED BY
Honors

- Phi Beta Kappa
- Office of Civilian Defense
- Memorial speeches
- Essays in Honor
- Ten Texas schools named for him
- Two California schools named for him
- Honorary Degrees
- Ancestors’ Award
- One work section/one room in the U.S. Office of Education named after him
- Endowed Professorship at UT-Austin
- NEA-GIS Memorial Scholarship Award
- Book dedications
- The Annual George I. Sánchez Lecture Series UT-Houston
- NEA- NM 125th Anniversary Book
- Who’s Who in America: 1972-1973
- The George I. Sánchez Building/College of Education, UT-Austin
- Sánchez’ works cited, quoted, and suggested reading in many books
- NM House and Senate Memorials
- Forthcoming biographies:
  1. Dr. C. Blanton
  2. Dr. M. Tevis
- The George I. Sánchez Papers: 100 boxes at the Nettie Lee Benson Library UT-Austin
- Today: The NMABE Joseph M. Montoya National Bilingual Education Award
- Future? Naming something in N.M. after Dr. George I. Sánchez
We are honored today to have some of Dr. Sánchez’ family here to receive his well-deserved award in Bilingual Education

THANK YOU, NMABE
Poem
"Dr. George I. Sánchez y Sánchez"
By Luisa Durán

De los Sánchez
hay ‘muncha’ gente buena
y de Los Barelás
llegó uno muy especial

They said
‘our very own Dr. George I. Sánchez’
forgotten
(unintentionally)
in his beloved New Mexico

‘Munchos’ anes
‘muncha’ gente
have passed on

The memory of
Dr. George I. Sánchez
must not be forgotten

His New Mexico students
are still here
now is a good time to honor
Dr. George I. Sánchez
antes de que sea muy tarde

October 4th look
in the northern New Mexico night sky
you can see one comet shooting north and
south
and
you can see one comet shooting east and
west

I think
they are both
our very own
1906-1972

Profesor Jorge Isidoro Sánchez y Sánchez

(Or, Google his name and you’ll see a
bright star in the internet sky)