The Solar Decathlon is a collegiate competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, which challenges university students from around the nation (and the world) to design and build solar-powered homes. UNM partnered with Arizona State University to form the ASUNM team to design and build the SHADE house.

The project was kicked off in January 2012 with Secretary Chu’s visit to UNM to announce UNM’s participation in the 2013 Solar Decathlon competition. Next month the SHADE house will become the executive visitor’s suite for former President Clinton’s Global Initiative University event in Tempe, Arizona.

The 19 competing teams worked for 20 months designing, documenting, and constructing the houses, which were assembled at the Orange County Great Park, in Irvine, California. The competition took place on October 3-13, when the houses were opened to the public.

In all, there were 10 sections to the competition. Five were juried on the basis of Architecture, Market Appeal, Engineering, Communications, and Affordability. The other five were based on measurements including Comfort Zone, Hot Water, Appliances, Home Entertainment, and Energy Balance. The ASUNM team did well in each category.

This was the first time UNM participated in the Solar Decathlon and we are proud of the result! This kind of prestigious competition placed UNM working and competing shoulder-to-shoulder with other excellent Universities.

The Solar Decathlon competition brings together students from engineering, architecture, construction, marketing, and communications to work in a real-life environment. At the same time, the project educates the public about future energy-saving and energy-producing homes.

The SHADE house can produce more power than it consumes throughout the day with its solar photovoltaic system. This is a great benefit for New Mexico with its many days of sunshine – a free and abundant resource for energy conservation!

New Mexico is also the home of many companies specializing in the solar energy arena. Two of these companies, Sacred Power and Unirac, were generous sponsors of the SHADE house. Our students worked side-by-side with these professionals, learning from their expertise. Sandia National Laboratories and PNM also provided generous support for the SHADE house. UNM’s hope is that the SHADE house will lead to more qualified, skilled and diverse employment here in the State of New Mexico in the field of renewable energy.
SHADE Solar Open House Speaker Agenda

01:00 – 01:15 p.m.   Welcome & Opening Remarks
Dr. Robert Frank, UNM President

“This was the first time UNM participated in the Solar Decathlon and we are proud of the result! This kind of prestigious competition placed UNM working and competing shoulder-to-shoulder with other excellent Universities.”

President Frank acknowledges dignitaries & the UNM Board of Regents.

From the New Mexico State Congressional Offices:
Jennifer Catechis (Office of Congressman Ben Ray Lujan)
Alex Eubanks (Office of Senator Martin Heinrich)

From the UNM Board of Regents:
Jack Fortner, President, UNM Board of Regents

01:15 – 01:30   Dr. Chaouki Abdallah, UNM Provost
Welcome & Opening Remarks

Dr. Chaouki Abdallah acknowledges individuals who worked on Solar Decathlon Project:

Prof. Olga Lavrova, (ECE Department) P.I. & Project Manager
Dr. Jane Lehr, Chair, Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering
Prof. Andrea Mammoli, (Mechanical Engineering Department) Mechanical Engineering Advisor
Dr. Chris Hall, Chair, Mechanical Engineering
Dean Catalin Roman, School of Engineering
Prof. Nick Flor, (Anderson School of Management) Media & Digital Information Manager
Dean Doug Brown, (Anderson School of Management)
Prof. Kristina Yu, (School of Architecture Planning), Architecture Advisor
Dean Geraldine Forbes, School of Architecture & Planning
Prof. Andrea Polli, (School of Fine Arts)
Dr. Mary Tsiongas, Chair, Art & Art History
Dean Kymberly Pinder, College of Fine Arts

Dr. Chaouki Abdallah introduces donors and other dignitaries:

01:30 – 01:40
PNM – Amy Miller, Director Economic Development
Sandia National Laboratories – Juan Torres, Senior Manager of Renewable Energy Technologies
Sacred Power – Odes Armijo-Caster, Owner & Chief Operating Officer
Unirac

Dr. Chaouki Abdallah introduces the following:
01:40 – 01:45   David Newell, Mesa del Sol Management
01:45 – 01:50   Prof. Olga Lavrova, P.I.: In her closing remarks she will thank the students for their hard work, and she will invite all present to view the SHADE house. Small groups led by students will be conducted.

“Students had to live in this house for 10 days, cook food, wash dishes, wear all while being monitored how much energy and water was being used . . .”