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DATE: July 7, 2015

TO: NMSU faculty and staff

FROM: Garrey Carruthers, Chancellor 

SUBJECT: Activity Report from Chancellor & Executive Vice President and Provost
June 29 – July 4, 2015

President Garrey Carruthers, Ph.D.

I am hopeful that everyone is having a very pleasant and productive summer.

For those not on campus, it has been a very busy time for those who have been. Of interest to all:

- Ben Woods has retired after more than 25 years of great service to NMSU. Replacing him as CEO of Aggie Development and in the NMSU Real Estate Office is Scott Eschenbrenner, who most recently operated a real estate appraisal company in Las Cruces. Please welcome Scott to the NMSU family when you see him.
- The Governor called a special session, after weeks of negotiating with legislative leaders, to once again try to pass a capital outlay bill. The tradeoff involved legislative support for some tax reductions. With a deal in hand between the Governor and the legislature, NMSU received a much-needed \$2,000,000 to complete the Jett Hall and Rentfrow renovations.
- Dr. Cheri Jimeno retired as President of NMSU Alamogordo and has been replaced on an interim basis by Dr. Ken Van Winkle. Ken was an Associate Dean in Arts and Sciences and had expressed an interest in returning to his hometown of Alamogordo. He has received very positive comments in his short stay there.
- After 18 hearings, we have tweaked the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and will present it to the Regents at their Strategic Planning meeting this month. One of the major changes has been the inclusion of our two-year programs, which makes Vision 2020 a systemwide plan. My thanks to all who attended the planning sessions and contributed ideas. We have made more than 10 substantial changes to Vision 2020 as a result.

Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. Dan Howard

I trust everyone is enjoying the beginning of the monsoon season. The fruit trees in my yard have been productive this year, which means the inhabitants of Hadley Hall have been besieged by containers of fruit that appear without warning on tables and counter tops.

- I spent Monday and Tuesday at the Western Academic Leadership Forum Executive Committee meeting in Boulder, Colorado, to plan the spring annual meeting of the forum. The Western Academic Leadership Forum is comprised of chief academic officers of universities and colleges

in the 15 WICHE states and provides members with an opportunity to share resources and discuss issues of common concern. The spring 2016 annual meeting will focus on faculty issues.

- On Thursday, I met with the College of Engineering faculty and staff to discuss the appointment of an interim dean of the College of Engineering and the search for a dean of the college. At the meeting, we discussed the qualities we would like to see in both an interim and permanent dean and the processes by which both positions will be filled. Six distinguished nominees are currently under consideration for appointment as interim dean and I will interview all six over the course of the next week. Until Wednesday of this week, faculty and staff will have an opportunity to evaluate each candidate through a Website established by my office.
- The search for a permanent dean will begin in the fall semester. The search committee will consist of 15-20 people and members will represent faculty from departments within and outside the college, staff, students, and external constituencies. The overall search process will take 6 to 9 months, and the new dean should be in place by July 1, 2016. Faculty members must be elected to serve on the search committee.