



# New Mexico State University Weekly Activity Report

February 10 - 14, 2014

## **President Garrey Carruthers, Ph.D.**

- The latest word is the legislature is still pondering the budget for the State and Higher Education. The House tabled the bill on a 34-34 vote (reported last week) and has never removed it from the table. The Senate took the tabled bill to their side and modified it to include their spending priorities and this bill had passed out of the Senate Finance Committee but is awaiting floor action. They have until Thursday at noon to pass something in both the Senate and House or it will be special session time. The Senate Finance Bill would be fine with NMSU and higher education, even though it was “sanded” to provide money for some of the Governor’s Public Education Department priorities. For some reason, we always go right up to the brink before solving the problems so I anticipate that will happen this session.
- I had a one hour briefing by Braun Cartwright and officials of the Athletic Department about “Reasonable Standards for Effective Compliance.” Athletics is one of the most regulated of all enterprises in a university. We will need to have continuing education regarding this dynamic environment as rules change frequently. Also, there are a lot of do’s and don’ts that most of us need to be made aware of if we are to stay “clean” with the NCAA.
- I have completed the interview process for the Vice President for University Advancement. I am hopeful to make an announcement of the successful completion of this search by naming someone by early next week. My thanks to the Search Committee, Chair Angela Throneberry, and to all who provided assessments post interview. I read them all!
- The Garrey E. and Katherine T. Carruthers Chair in Economic Development has been awarded to Dr. Rick Adkisson, Department Head for Economic, Applied Statistics, and International Business. Rick was one of the designers of the very successful Doctorate of Economic Development program sponsored by Ag Econ and Econ Departments. Kathy and I are proud to have Rick as the Chair holder.
- I attended the Ag Fest, held at the Santa Fe Convention Center. I saw plenty of Aggies there. This annual event promotes agriculture, youth programs, and Ag businesses. It is well attended by legislators. The food was outstanding.
- A team of NMSU folks visited Los Luceros, a State Monument north of Espanola. The Cultural Affairs Secretary, Veronica Gonzales, has asked us to do a business plan on this 148 acre farm and historic property with a focus on reducing their rather large financial losses from the current operation. It was purchased with stimulus money with the idea that the private sector would use it extensively for movie making. I think they have made one movie there!

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- I will be appointing Dr. Jim Peach to serve as the Faculty Academic Representative to the NCAA and to the WAC and Sun Belt Conferences. Albeit a Cubs fan, Jim has many redeeming attributes when it comes to sports and our Aggie teams.
  - I dropped by a meeting of the ASNMSU Senate to thank their team for their advocacy work on the lottery solution. They did a great job but the solution is nowhere in sight.

### **Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Dan Howard**

- At the monthly meeting of the Provost's Office and the Community College Presidents, much of our discussion focused on the NMSU Guaranteed Pathway and how to make it a true pipeline to an NMSU four year degree. Among the issues discussed were the nature of the courses that would be taken while on the track, advising, and how to make students on the track feel like Aggies.
- I met with the Provost of UNM and the Chancellor of the Health Sciences Center to discuss collaborations between NMSU and UNM. We agreed to continue collaborating on public health programs, as well as other graduate degree programs. We also discussed the possibility of beginning a BA/BS-MD program on the NMSU campus that would be similar to the program on the UNM campus.
- The Doctor of Nursing Practice Accreditation site visit went well. The review team noted that the program met all four standards necessary for accreditation, although concerns were voiced about credentialing in a few areas and the need for implementation of an advanced practice content and experiences laboratory.
- At the end of the week, I sent out a memo calling for consultation with me before staff positions are replaced in several units that report to the Provost's Office, including: Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, the Vice President for Research Office, and, International and Border Programs. This change in procedure is designed to address concerns that I have about the relative sizes of the faculty and the staff at NMSU. Over the past 15 years, the size of the faculty has been stagnant, while staff positions have increased significantly. Although we have a wonderful staff, no university can long remain healthy by growing only its staff. In order to reverse this trend, and achieve a better balance between the numbers of staff and faculty members at NMSU, it is important to review staff positions that become vacant and determine whether the positions are vital to the operations of NMSU.

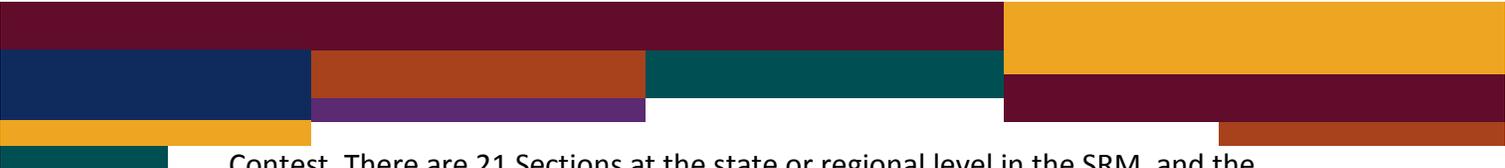
### **Dean, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Dr. Lowell Catlett**

- Cooperative Extension Service County Agent, John Allen, shared information some of the work our land grant university is doing in Hidalgo County. This is a big ongoing project with the mission to increase the availability and consumption of fresh locally grown foods in Hidalgo County. This project engages the community to take an active role in healthy living. Community leaders have stepped forward all throughout the county and are taking the responsibility of one of the many facets of this project. We currently are working with growers to increase the amount of food locally grown



and building markets to distribute the food both for profit in the farmers market or donated to nonprofits to be given in emergency food boxes. We are not only building a stronger agriculture network within the county we are keeping dollars at home, and helping build small business.

- Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology (FWCE) students attended the joint annual meeting of the Arizona and New Mexico chapters of the American Fisheries Society and the Wildlife Society. During the opening social, they held the first ever JAM Quiz Bowl. An NMSU FWCE student team won the competition, beating teams from Northern Arizona University, Arizona State University, and University of Arizona. Student team members were: Team 1) Thomas Lubenau, William Lubenau, Clay Morrow, Trey Turnbull. Team 2) Naomi Apodaca, Quentin Dean, Gerry Gonzales, Katie Joyner. Team 3) Hunter Falco, Miranda Butler-Valverde, Jacob Naranjo, and Chance Roberts. Graduate student Nathan Chase won the best Fisheries presentation award for his talk “Using Otolith Microchemistry to Track Movements of Prairie Stream Fishes in the Pecos River, New Mexico.” NMSU was represented by 24 undergraduate students, 12 graduate students and post docs, the USGS COOP Unit faculty (Drs. Colleen Caldwell, James Cain, Scott Carleton, Kenneth Boykin), and Dr. Jennifer Frey.
- Dr. Martha Desmond, FWCE was awarded the 2013 Professional of the Year Award in Wildlife Conservation from the NM Chapter of The Wildlife Society for her development of the Natural Resource Career Tract (NRCT) Program, which provides a unique venue for encouraging Hispanic students to pursue careers in natural resource fields.
- 143 of our 4-H students participated in the 4-H Day at the Roundhouse in Santa Fe on February 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Esther Devall, Department Head of Family and Consumer Sciences, and Jonathan Schwartz, College of Education, submitted a proposal to Michigan State University. The departments were selected as one of the pilot communities for the Community Assessment and Education to Promote Behavioral Health Planning and Evaluation project. In this project they will learn how the health decision-makers in Dona Ana County obtain behavioral health data, help develop tool kits about sources of behavioral health information, and then pilot the tool kits.
- Dr. Carol Turner, Family and Consumer Sciences Department, was appointed to Visioning Committee of the Standards Committee of the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics. She is serving as a nationally recognized expert on Graduate Education in Community Nutrition.
- The 67<sup>th</sup> Annual International Meeting of the Society for Range Management (SRM) was held in Orlando, Florida February 8-13<sup>th</sup>. The following awards were presented to NMSU students and faculty at the Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. Laura Goodman, PhD student in Range Science, won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Graduate Student Poster Competition at the PhD level. The title of her poster was “Effects of Applying Picloram and Aminopyralid with 2, 4-D on White Locoweed in Northern New Mexico.” The NMSU Range Club won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Student Chapter Display

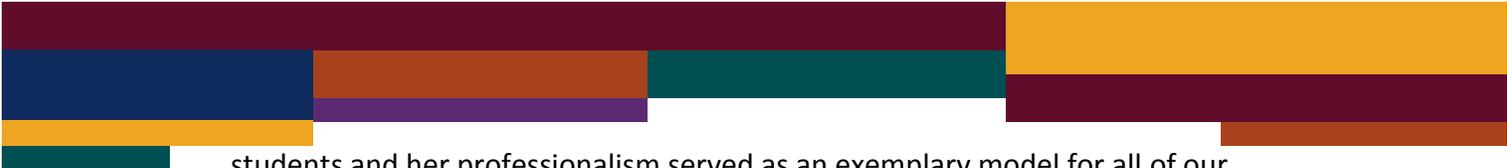


Contest. There are 21 Sections at the state or regional level in the SRM, and the University Range Clubs are the Student Chapters of the Sections. There were eight chapters in the competition.

- Dr. Lauri Abbott, Associate Professor of Range Science, was awarded the “Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award” by the Range Science Education Council. This award was established to encourage and recognize individual excellence in teaching that has extended over the course of many years and incites intellectual curiosity in students, engages them thoroughly in the process of learning, and has a life-long impact.
- Christina Turner, Santa Fe County 4-H Agricultural Agent, was presented with the “Above and Beyond Award” from the Board of Regents. Christina’s responsibilities include everything from livestock and judging programs to shooting sports to youth leadership teams. Through the Ag Literacy and Ag Awareness program, Christina has developed a series titled “Science for Life,” consisting of four lessons: Agriculture in My Life, Amazing Farm Animals, Let’s Get Growing, and Under My Feet and Over My Head. Through this program she has helped emphasize the importance of the food and fiber system to grade school youth.
- An international team of food safety researchers has asked Media Productions/Agricultural Communications team to help them respond to recent events with new educational media. With less than a five day turn-around time, NMSU's graphic artists have worked with the researchers to translate their research base into a beautiful info-graphic in response to a recent outbreak of Campylobacter. The acclaimed "BarfBlog" site features NMSU's info-graphic at (<http://barfblog.com/2014/02/from-food-safety-infosheets-to-food-safety-infographics-can-your-pate-make-you-sick/>). The team is continuing work on an animated version, footage for news organizations to use, and appropriate images for sharing through other social media. This is the first in an ongoing relationship, with anticipated info-graphic stills and animations produced monthly. Dr. Ben Chapman, Extension Food Safety Specialist at North Carolina State University said "After looking at our own lack of skill and capabilities, we sought an outside partnership with New Mexico State University Media Productions. They get us; and do fabulous work."

### **Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Christa Slaton**

- The College of Arts and Sciences Student Ambassadors and the deans held a recruitment reception for new student ambassadors at Fulton Center. Several freshmen were among the group of students attending the event and learning about the college and its activities.
- The deans and advisors in the college held a luncheon at Fulton Center for the Director of Advising, Jodie Kenney, who has accepted a similar position at Auburn University. Dr. Kenney instituted many excellent and successful programs while she served as an advisor in the college and later as the director. Her devotion to our



students and her professionalism served as an exemplary model for all of our advising staff. We will miss her.

- Women's Studies professor, Laura Ahn Williams was the featured speaker at the college Global Connections lecture. Her slide and video presentation documented her journey to Vietnam to meet family members and to explore the home country of her mother.
- We conducted annual performance reviews of Women's Studies, Art, Physics, and Geology.
- I met with Debra Marks and Cynthia Garrett of the Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra to discuss the collaboration with the symphony and the college.
- Lisa Bond-Maupin met with Shelly Stovall to discuss college assessment issues and coordination with her office on general education assessment and with the subcommittee of Online Infrastructure Taskforce. She met with department heads to discuss promotion and tenure questions.
- Jeff Brown joined a group meeting with Dr. Mahendra Sunkara from the Conn Center for Renewable Energy Research at the University of Louisville about possible interactions and joined a group meeting with visitors from Utah State University about additional potential interactions.
- Graciela Unguez (Biology) received an \$180,000 SCORE award. Christopher Brown (Geography) received a New Mexico Department of Health award for assessment of air quality contaminants for \$39,651. He also received a \$22,440 U.S. Forest Service supplement. William Maio (Chemistry and Biochemistry) received his second year of funding from NIH for \$90,000. Jason Jackiewicz (Astronomy) and David Voelz (Engineering) were approved to submit the only NASA EPSCoR proposal for the state of New Mexico.
- Jeff Brown continued meetings related to the Shared Services Center to be located in the College of Arts and Sciences, including: Regina Galvan to discuss Human Resources activities in preparation for the participation of personnel from HR; Norma Noel and four staff from Sponsored Projects Accounting to discuss their activities; and Neta Fernandez, Norma Noel and Anna Price about faculty effort reporting and grant participation.

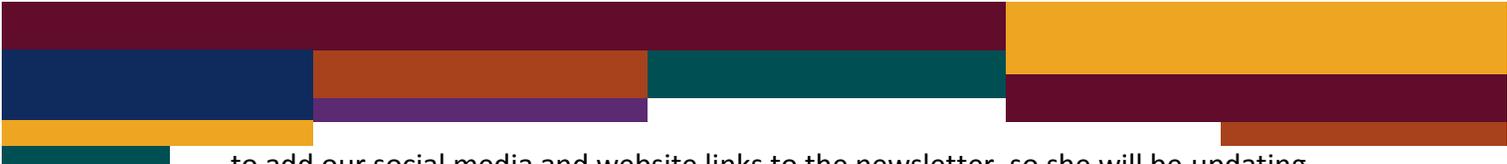
### **Interim Dean, College of Business, Dr. Kathleen Brook**

- The College is pleased to welcome Anthony Casaus as the new assistant dean for development and alumni relations. Anthony comes to us from KRWG TV/FM and succeeds Andrea Tawney who is now the director of presidential donor relations and development.
- The Economics, Applied Statistics and International Business Department has selected a faculty member to fill a position starting in fall 2014, leaving only one faculty vacancy in accounting still to be filled for fall.



## Dean, College of Education, Dr. Michael Morehead

- Several members of the Mongolian delegation met over dinner to discuss future plans that include an Action Research Symposium involving 15 universities including Mongolian State University, and a visit by the President of Mongolian State University in March.
- Michelle Valverde coordinated for the Alliance the mini-conference that will occur on February 19<sup>th</sup> in Roswell at Eastern New Mexico University. The Alliance is co-facilitating the event with Cooperative Educational Services. The title of the conference is "Shedding Light on Student Assessment" and both the PARCC and EoC Assessments will be addressed. Over seventy educators, including K–12 administrators and higher education faculty registered for the conference. Lynn Vasquez and Joslyn Overby from the NM Public Education Department are presenting updates and then Dr. Cathy Kinzer, Sheryl White, and LeAnne Gandy are facilitating interactive sessions
- Dr. Ron Dziwenka wrote summaries of Tk20 advantages for students, faculty and administrators to send to faculty and program coordinators. Ron communicated with program coordinators on Unit Assessment Matrix updating. He participated in Tk20 webinar – connecting evidence to assessment plan and communicated with relevant stakeholders about now-active Title II 2014 IPRC Reporting System. Dr. Dziwenka contacted Pearson about teacher candidate testing results and worked with Tk20 Product Consultant about resolving issues of data loading and assessment tool creation. Ron performed NMTA loading into Banner system, then performed post-Census regular Data load from Banner system into Tk20 system (to update data in Tk20).
- Dr. Dziwenka worked on the 2014 Data Reports for Program Coordinators and met with the Special Education Program Coordinator and GA to discuss and update the program's key assessment matrix for data collection and disaggregation. Ron assisted HPDR with accreditation data collection and assessment. He continued to coordinate data collection for the "SMTI Teacher Production Data for AY13 Report" due later this month.
- Adelina Rodriquez continued working on organizing the Salt of the Earth Festival with Dr. Marquez. We are coordinating meetings with Dr. Camilo Perez, Visiting Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Monica Torres will be the facilitator for the critical dialogue on March 14<sup>th</sup> after the viewing of the film. Adelina is working with Elisa Sanchez to coordinate an event that she will lead on the March 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Adelina Rodriquez traveled to Albuquerque to meet with prospective students at the Albuquerque Center. She will be following up with them this week. Adelina also coordinated our Student Education Council and had Deborah Goldsmith facilitate the meeting on Wednesday. Adelina will be coordinating some campus visits for next week for future students.
- **Crimson Connections:** Ashley Jurado started creating the February Crimson Connections Newsletter. We have over 15 stories to share this month. She is trying



to add our social media and website links to the newsletter, so she will be updating the layout to add those. **Board of Advocates Mini Meeting:** Met with board members Dr. Steve Sanchez and Tommy Esparza to get their nominations for new board members and get their feedback about our meetings. **Call Center Thank You:** Ashley delivered 15 gifts and pizza to the Aggie Pride Call Center to thank all of the students who call our alumni to donate to the college.

- Dean Michael Morehead solicited CES sponsorship for the Aggie Cornerstone Award dinner in April.
- Dr. Jonathan Schwartz, the Associate Dean of Research and Outreach assisted in two grants being prepared for submission. He also met with representatives from Molina Healthcare to plan an integrated behavioral health institute on campus. Dr. Schwartz assisted in completing a contract to assist a regional education cooperative in literacy and end of course assessment needs. He also participated in multiple faculty searches and department head faculty evaluations.
- Dr. DeNecochea continued to research and examine variable patterns of academic success demonstrated by students who completed graduate degrees between August 2008 and August 2012. The study has now entered into the data verification and analysis phase. This study will explore the differences demonstrated by students (blocked by degree program) and attempt to identify factors that impact the time to degree completion.

### **Dean, College of Engineering, Dr. Ricardo Jacquez**

- Ricardo Jacquez attended the annual engineering dean's Public Policy Colloquium (PPC) sponsored by the American Society for Engineering Education. The PPC has a dual role: to strengthen the discussion of engineering education and research issues between the deans of engineering and key public policy makers, and to enable the deans to refine their public policy agenda. The 2014 PPC, titled "Educating the STEM Workforce (emphasis to Engineering)," explored the role that engineering plays in addressing some of the nation's up-to-the-minute, most pressing public policy issues. During the first day, panel speakers provided information on relevant federal legislation, budget profiles and projections, and highlights of agency priorities. The second day was for deans to schedule meetings on the Hill with their state's congressional delegates. During meetings with the delegates deans worked to deliver a unified message of priorities and needs for continued (increased) congressional support for engineering education and research at the national scale as well as to highlight achievements at their institutions.
- Sandia National Laboratories hosted the first Aggie Engineering Design Challenge on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Thirteen engineering and computer science students competed in an image compression design challenge in the newly created Aggie Innovation Space in the College of Engineering. The winners of the challenge were: Alejandro Baca (IET), Chris Galvan (Engr Physics), and Yifei Liu (ECE).
- The Engineering New Mexico Resource Network in the College of Engineering hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual VEX Robotics State Championship on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Over 200 middle

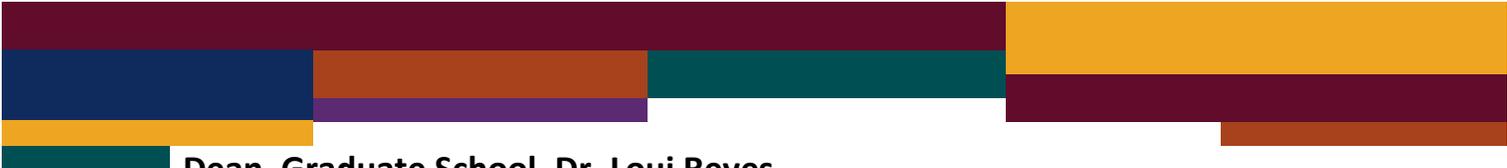


and high school students from across the state were on campus to participate. The winning teams that are advancing to the VEX World Championship in Anaheim, CA include:

- **VEX Robotics Competition Teams (Middle/ High School Program):**
  - The ASK Academy Androids, Rio Rancho: Excellence Award - Top Overall Tournament Award.
  - Carlsbad High School Cavebots, Carlsbad: Design Award.
- **VEX IQ Teams (Elementary/Middle School Program):**
  - Mesa Middle School, Las Cruces: Excellence Award - Top Overall Tournament Award.
  - Mesa Middle School, Las Cruces - Teamwork Champion.

### **Dean, College of Health and Social Services, Dr. Tilahun Adera**

- The College of Health and Social Services Student Ambassadors, Student Nurses' Association and Public Health Student Organization each received a \$3,000 grant and are working with the NMSU Southern Area Health Education Center (SoAHEC) to distribute information to students on the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange.
- The College of Health and Social Services was well-represented at the Research Rally held February 14<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Rebecca Palacios of the Department of Public Health Science talked about her work on the community outreach component of the U54 Cancer Grant led by Dr. Mary O'Connell in partnership with the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Dr. Palacios described her outreach efforts for the grant and the public health outreach of the faculty and staff of the Department around the state. One of our student ambassadors, Alyssa Andreias – also a student in the Public Health Science program, is part of the student team.
- SoAHEC hosted Healthy Homes training in Sunland Park, NM that discussed the connection between health and home, identifying asthma or allergy triggers, recognizing hazards in the home, explaining the seven principles of keeping a healthy home, and included guidelines on lead renovation and repair. Free continuing education units were provided to the approximately 50 attendees.
- The School of Social Work hosted the 2014 Field Day Exchange at the Farm & Ranch Museum on February 14<sup>th</sup>. The event gathers over 40 different Social Work agencies from New Mexico and Texas, and was attended by over 150 Social Work students.
- Dr. Susan L. Wilson made a presentation to the Employee's Council regarding the Striving to Be Tobacco Free initiative.
- The Development Office hosted the dean's first annual faculty/staff donor appreciation lunch.
- Public Health Sciences' Dr. Susan Wilson was elected to be a Fellow, of the Society for Applied Anthropology by the Board of Directors. The mission of the Society for Applied Anthropology is to promote "interdisciplinary scientific investigation of the principles controlling the relations of human beings to one another, and the encouragement of the wide application of these principles to practical problems..." and promotes the "integration of anthropological perspectives and methods in solving human problems throughout the world..."



### **Dean, Graduate School, Dr. Loui Reyes**

- Meeting with the Graduate Council Executive Committee to ensure graduate-faculty is active over academic matters pertaining to graduate degree programs.
- Addressed institution-wide graduate issues through the graduate education policy alignment committee meetings: graduate school, financial aid, admission, and registrars.
- Provided guidance to requesting departments on new joint/dual degrees and revise graduate programs.
- Conducted graduate student professional development workshop series: How to Finance Graduate Education.

### **Dean, Honors College, Dr. William Eamon**

- Dr. Andersen met with students regarding the Udall Scholarship.
- Dr. Eamon met with several students regarding the Honors Thesis.
- Yvonne Flores and the Admissions office have written information for Transfer students to be informed on the benefits of the Honors College and Crimson Scholars program.
- Valerie Torres coordinated with Tom Smith, Theatre Dept. the hanging of the art work of "Aunt Raini" the play by Tom Smith.

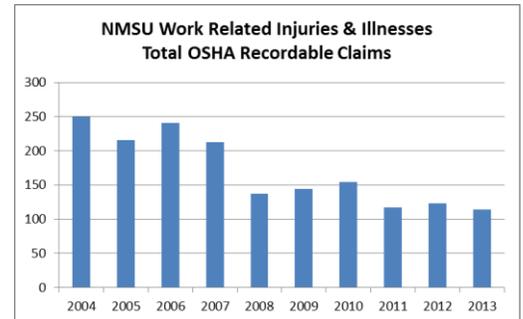
### **Dean, University Library, Dr. Elizabeth Titus**

- Library staff participated in a "Celebration" meeting which recognized Fall 2013 achievements and progress in reaching FY14 Library Strategic Targets.
- The University Library's proposal for the establishment of a Student Library Fee was supported by the University's Student Fee Advisory Board. The next step in the approval process is the consideration of this proposal by President Carruthers and the Board of Regents. If approved, the University Library will be expanding Zuhl Library evening hours from closing at 12 midnight to staying open until 2:00 a.m. The new hours would go into effect in Fall 2014. The Dean will also be creating a student fee advisory committee to advise her on the use of these funds.
- The Dean participated in a joint meeting of the University Classroom Committee and the University Teaching Council.

### **Senior Vice President Administration and Finance, Angela Throneberry**

- **Issuance of Subordinate Lien Revenue Improvement Bonds, Series 2014** – NMSU's request to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for the issuance of Subordinate Lien Improvement Revenue Bonds was approved on February 12<sup>th</sup>. The issuance will provide about \$16 million to fund various energy cost savings improvements throughout the University's campus.
- **Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract** – NMSU's Guaranteed Utility Savings Contract was approved by the New Mexico Higher Education Department on February 12<sup>th</sup>.

- **NMSU Barnes & Noble Bookstore Events** – Book events were held for La Sociedad featuring Carrie Fountain’s book *Burn Lake* and the NMSU Black Programs featuring Cornell West’s *Hope on a Tightrope*.
- **2013 OSHA 300 Log Results** – Environmental Health & Safety reports that the 2013 OSHA 300 log, a summary of employee injuries and illnesses, has been compiled and is posted on the NMSU safety website, <http://safety.NMSU.edu> . This log lists summary information on cases and time (days) lost or work restrictions because of reportable injury (or illness) by NMSU employees in 2013. The number of OSHA recordable injury cases with lost or restricted time for 2013 is only 59. This is very good, as the count has decreased substantially (40-50%) since the early 2000’s to the current low (see bar chart). Additional details are provided in the [NEWS](#) article on the [safety website](#). Questions on the log details should be directed to NMSU Environmental Health & Safety, Phone: 575-646-3327.



lots of health benefits. You can see one of them at the Office of Sustainability on the NW corner of Regents Row.

- **Fulfilling President’s Climate Commitment** – When NMSU signed the Presidents’ Climate Commitment in 2007 we agreed to lower our greenhouse gas emissions. Facilities and Services purchased four tricycles and all safety-related equipment to get around campus on our own personal-power. Zero emissions with lots of health benefits.
- **Campus Master Electrical Infrastructure Plan** – FS PD& E is actively working on the Campus Master Electrical Infrastructure Plan. The electrical infrastructure project will insure that all campus buildings have one electrical service to provide a single cutoff point for the building electrical supply in case of emergency. This project will facilitate moving buildings from the 5-kV Electrical system to the 25-kV electrical system.
- **Gerald Thomas Hall Remodel** – FS PD&E Project Manager Orasa Vaught is overseeing the construction project at Gerald Thomas Hall to remodel two rooms on the first floor into a new Student Retail Store. The College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences plans to open the store in the late summer with the food science class being the initial tenant, selling gelato, sorbet and brownie and cornbread mixes. Opportunities may exist to expand the store to include selling meat products made by animal science students, cheeses from food science students, vegetables and flowers grown by horticulture students and more. The Las Cruces Sun News has published an article about the New Retail Store that can be viewed at [http://www.lcsun-news.com/las\\_cruces-news/ci\\_25079205/new-nmsu-shop-offer-student-made-foods](http://www.lcsun-news.com/las_cruces-news/ci_25079205/new-nmsu-shop-offer-student-made-foods).
- **NMSU sets new record for wireless connections with 8,376 users simultaneously connected to NMSU’s wireless network** – ICT is upgrading NMSU’s wireless access

points to meet the new 802.11ac communication standard. The first building scheduled for the upgrade is Clara Belle Williams.

- **ICT presents funding request proposal with the Student Fee Review Board** – ICT reviewed with the Board the projects for which Student Technology Fee funds for FY 2014 would be used. The projects included expansion of wireless service across campus, adding smart classrooms, updating all Aggie print stations on campus (WEPA), and promotion of Office 365.
- **ICT and NMSU's Engineering Technology Department collaborate on a pilot program to create virtual computer clusters for use in the department's computer courses** – The program allows students to use virtual computers, which are software-based computers that exactly emulate physical computers. The use of virtual computers gives students the opportunity to use multiple systems while greatly reducing the cost to NMSU. Virtual computers also allow distance education students the same computer lab experience as on-campus students.

### **Senior Vice President External Relations / Chief of Staff, Ben Woods**

No Report Submitted

### **Vice President Student Affairs/Enrollment Management, Dr. Bernadette Montoya**

- Dr. Bernadette Montoya and Melody Munson-McGee attended the Legislative Session in Santa Fe on Monday, where they discussed concerns on changes to the Lottery Scholarship with legislators. Dr. Montoya also addressed the Legislative Senate Education Committee. ASNMSU students were at the Roundhouse representing the coalition of student governments and returned later in the week to work on the Lottery issue again.
- After the hearings, Dr. Montoya spoke with Senate Staff about the state waiver regarding people who have aged out of Foster Care.
- Dacia Sedillo, Business Affairs Officer of SAEM, and her Business and Finance counterparts reviewed new tuition models for NMSU.
- Dr. Montoya and the Commencement Committee are working on upcoming changes to the Commencement Ceremony that will debut with the Fall 2014 ceremony.
- Phillip Johnson, Web Developer of SAEM, served on the Student Fee Review Board.
- Dr. Montoya met with community college presidents about proposed Guaranteed Admission Pathways, Astra Course Management Data, and Admissions coding.

### **University Admissions, Ms. Valerie Pickett**

- Over 14,700 high school juniors from New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, California, and El Paso received a postcard this week inviting them to visit the campus this spring.



Dr. Montoya met new Student Engagement Staff. From left to right; Angie Martinez, Academic Advisor; Carmen Rogers, Director, Academic Support Programs-Athletics; Dr. Montoya; and Lin Mendoza, Learning Specialist.

- Transfer recruiters attended events at San Juan College and El Paso Community College. Undergraduate recruiters made visits to 31 high schools in New Mexico, Arizona, and El Paso this week to encourage students to apply for admission and complete the scholarship application prior to the March 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline.

**Student Engagement, Dr. Terry Cook**

- The Red to Green Financial Literacy Program, in collaboration with the NMSU Foundation, was awarded \$10,000 from Wells Fargo to continue the financial literacy program for fiscal year 2015.
- NMSU TRiO Student Support Services has held four FAFSA sessions for TRiO students in February as part of their “FAFSA Extravaganza.” Two more sessions will be held this month. Career Services also have events coming up, including Employment Extravaganza Career Fair (March 12), Educators’ Job Fair (March 30–April 1), and the Financial Literacy Fair (April 16).

**Student Life, Dr. Michael Jasek**

- Bruce Vandevender, Director of Campus Activities, attend the campus-wide community calendar meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to start discussion on a unified calendar for NMSU, which would allow individuals to see all the events on campus in one location.
- David Maestas chaired the Student Fee Review Board. This board, comprised of nine members, reviewed proposals and allocated student fee money for the upcoming fiscal year.



Four executive members from Intrafraternity Council and four executive members from Panhellenic Council, along with Tinsley Hembree, Assistant Dean of Students (far left), attended the Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values Conference in St. Louis, Missouri.

**Office of Student Diversity and Outreach, Ms.**

**Christina Chavez Kelley**

- On February 7<sup>th</sup>, Black Programs and the Office of African American Affairs (OAAA) screened the movie, “Education under Arrest,” in the Corbett Center Auditorium. Afterwards, NMSU faculty members participated on a panel addressing access to high school and higher education for students of color. On February 8<sup>th</sup>, the Black Expo Exhibit was held at the Rain Harvest Church on the Downtown Mall.
- Over 425 people attended the banquet and talk featuring Dr. Cornel West on February 8<sup>th</sup> hosted by Black Programs and the OAAA. The Gospel Choir also performed. Net proceeds will be used for scholarships.
- On February 11<sup>th</sup>, Mike Ray, Student Program Coordinator of the American Indian Programs, visited the Jemez Pueblo Community College/Job Fair at the Jemez Valley High School. He met with over 40



A large crowd listened to Dr. Cornel West.



students about pursuing their higher education at NMSU.

- SGDRC Assistant Coordinator Luke Allen is attending the World Professional Association for Transgender Health Conference in Bangkok, Thailand from February 14-18<sup>th</sup>.

## **Vice President Economic Development, Dr. Kevin Boberg**

### **Extension and Outreach**

- On Friday a meeting was held at the Arrowhead Center between NMSU executives, Arrowhead Center senior staff, and members of the Innovate ABQ Initiatives who are New Mexico entrepreneurs and economic development representatives. The purpose of this meeting was to showcase the impressive operations and achievements of the Arrowhead Center and highlight NMSU and Arrowheads role in potential statewide economic growth, and most importantly to establish the foundation for a lasting relationship between Innovate ABQ Initiatives and NMSU.

### **Innoventure**

- This week Innoventure director Marie Brochert met with teams in Portales, Roswell and Carlsbad working in preparation for the Innoventure event in May. In addition to those meetings she also met with Joaquin Moya of the Bosque School and Horizons program in Albuquerque to share the Innoventure Jr. backpack program, a program designed to spark the elementary student's interest in invention, innovation and entrepreneurship.

### **Studio G/ Alumni Incubator**

- Studio G client Byteware experiences continued success with their app Superflat, which adds modifications to the hit game Minecraft. Byteware is gaining momentum in local and regional press, having articles recently published in the Las Cruces Sun News, the El Paso Times, the Albuquerque Journal, and the NMSU KRWG website. This week Superflat also received national acclaim with a publication about the app and its developers in the Venture Capital Post, an online media company based in New York, NY which highlights innovative technology, start-up and venture capital investing. Links to the respective articles can be found below:  
<http://www.abqjournal.com/350560/biz/nmsu-student-startup-creates-ipad-gaming-app.html>,  
[http://www.elpasotimes.com/business/ci\\_25095075/incubation-period](http://www.elpasotimes.com/business/ci_25095075/incubation-period),  
[http://www.lcsun-news.com/las\\_cruces-business/ci\\_25116257/arrowhead-centers-studio-g-helps-launch-student-businesses](http://www.lcsun-news.com/las_cruces-business/ci_25116257/arrowhead-centers-studio-g-helps-launch-student-businesses),  
<http://krwg.org/post/nmsu-students-launch-ipad-app-minecraft>, and  
<http://www.vcpost.com/articles/21519/20140210/new-mexico-student-startup-byteware-launches-ipad-gaming-app.htm>.

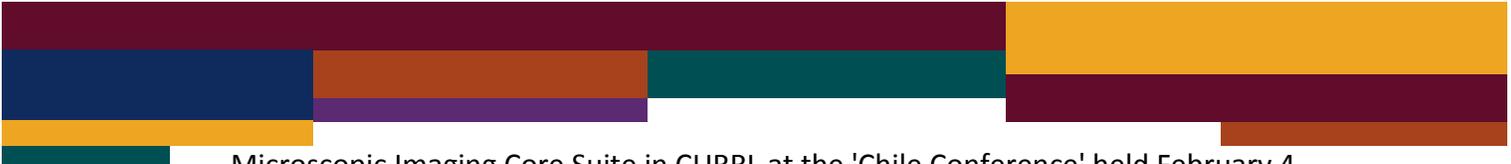
## **Vice President Research, Dr. Vimal Chaitanya**

- Pete Lammers kicked off the DOE funded ABY REAP project on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> as the Principal Investigator and Program Director. Most of the partnering institutions and DOE program manager attended the event. The partner participants



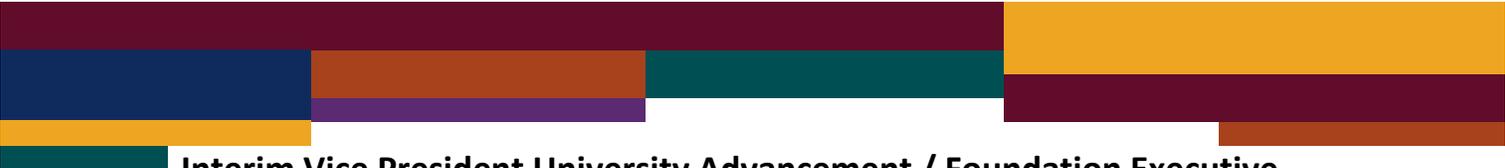
included Dr. Eric Dunlop, Pan Pacific Technologies from Australia, Dr. Pradeep Sharma, Algenol Biofuels from Florida, Dr. Ed Frank from Argonne National Laboratory, Dr. Shulin Chen from Washington State University, Dr. Jose Olivares, Dr. Babette Marrone, Dr. Srinivas Iyer, Dr. David Bruce, Dr. Shawn Starckenburg, Dr. Richard Sayre and Dr. Amanda Barry from Los Alamos National Laboratory.

- The VPR office hosted Dr. Bob Langer and Dr. James Kenyon from University of Nevada, Las Vegas and University of Nevada, Reno respectively with respect to the NIH funded Clinical Translational Research –Infrastructure Network pilot grant program to better understand NMSU’s strengths and promote greater participation from NMSU faculty in this mountain west consortium. Over 35 faculty researchers from across the campus participated in focused group format.
- Pete Lammers and The VPR office hosted the visit from a group of researchers from the Synthetic Biomanufacturing Institute of Utah State University (USU). Dr. David Christensen, Dr. Byard Wood and Dr. Jason Quinn from USU met with a number of faculty researchers across campus to discuss partnership opportunities.
- Pete Lammers hosted Dr. Yuan-Guang Li from the East China University of Science and Technology (ECUST). Dr. Li is the Professor and Director of Bioprocess Engineering and Chief Scientist of National Basic Research Program of China. Dr. Li gave a seminar in the Civil Engineering department and met with researchers engaged in biofuels research at NMSU. Dr. Li and his program offer exciting partnering opportunities for NMSU algal biofuels team.
- Vimal Chaitanya attended the Association of Public and Land Grant University’s (APLU) Council on Research Policy and Graduate Education (CRPGE) Executive Committee Meeting. We heard the views about public access to federally funded research policy from Amy Friedlander of NSF, Alan Leshner, CEO of American Association for the Advancement of Sciences (AAAS); Executive Publisher of *Science* and Elliott Shore, Executive Director of Association of Research Libraries (ARL). We also planned for the upcoming summer and annual meetings.
- As an outcome of the visit of NMSU faculty to India in January, Brad Shuster from the Biology Department and Director of Molecular Biology Program hosted a visit from Dr. Sharad Gupta, from the Department of biomedical engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology-Indore. Dr. Gupta met with faculty from the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Chemical Engineering, Animal and Range Sciences and Computer sciences, and gave a seminar entitled “Non-invasive Optical Diagnosis and Characterization of Biological Tissues”. Several potential areas for collaboration were identified between Dr. Gupta and NMSU faculty, and more visits by Indore faculty are planned for the coming year.
- Vimal Chaitanya and Sangu Angadi met with Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy, Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) funding arm of the USDA in Washington D.C. to discuss the funding opportunities for NMSU.
- Graduate student James Fulton along with Barry Dungan, Mark Uchanski and Omar Holguin were awarded a blue ribbon for their poster entitled, “Chile Pepper Strip: A Physiological Disorder of the Desert Southwest” which included results from the



Microscopic Imaging Core Suite in CURRL at the 'Chile Conference' held February 4, 2014 in Las Cruces.

- New Mexico Space Grant Consortium (NMSGC) received a total of eight pre-proposals for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). The Technical Advisory Committee met and selected the one pre-proposal from Professor James McAteer state-wide that will move forward with a full proposal submission to NASA EPSCoR.
- The proposal preparation for the competitive acquisition support for the Columbia Scientific Balloon Facility (CSBF) has been a significant focus this week for PSL.
- A subcontract is being finalized from Boeing to PSL for a new Department of Defense (DoD) related Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) effort.
- Office of Research Development (ORD) also participated in the biweekly grant club for the College of Health and Social Services and the monthly grant club for the College of Education. Both of these were kicked off recently in collaboration with the respective Colleges. These are modelled after the Bioscience grant club.
- The Office of Research Compliance is collaborating with the Writing center to present workshops on writing effective Institutional Review Board (IRB) applications. This workshop is designed to help you write an effective application when proposing a research project that involves human participants. Presenters from the IRB office will discuss the application process, including using the online submission system, completing the application fully and accurately, and including required attachments. All workshops will be held in the Writing Center in Room 102, Clara Belle Williams.
- Ed Zenisek of Research IT presented the Maestro Human Subject Research Application Review System to the Arrowhead Center's Launch Program. The Launch process will help us determine how much commercialization potential the software has if given some support for additional development.
- The university sustainability program is in the process of adopting Re-Pete, a web-based application developed by the Research IT office several years ago. Re-Pete allows campus users to make information available online about equipment, furniture, supplies, and similar items that are no longer needed by the office that has them; another office which has a use for the items can make arrangements to get the items and put them to use. Re-Pete also allows users to sign up to be notified when items are added to the system in which they have an interest.
- Sam Fernald presented at National Institutes for Water Resources 2014 Annual Meeting about partnership with United States Geological Survey (USGS).
- WRRRI Initiated construction of new geodatabase for National Park Service that will be applicable for WRRRI serving Geographic Information System (GIS) through the WRRRI website.
- Sam Fernald met with USGS staff in Baltimore, MD about enhanced research support for New Mexico's statewide water budget effort.
- In the past two weeks approximately \$ 7 million in new awards were received.



## **Interim Vice President University Advancement / Foundation Executive Director, Dr. Tina Byford**

- Dave McCollum, Erma Quintela, Randy Frye and I met to discuss the accounting and staffing needs to support Sports Enterprises, Inc. for the transfer of SE to Athletics.
- The NMSU Foundation Executive Committee convened their first meeting for 2014. Agenda items discussed were restructure of Sports Enterprises, standing committee reports, and review of the comparative fundraising report. Motions were approved for donor recognition groups/clubs and the Foundation President's expenses.
- The Alumni Association hosted a For the Love of Art opening reception February 7<sup>th</sup>. The opening celebrated the art of calligraphy with work from members of the Southwest Calligraphy Guild, 14 of which are NMSU Alumni. The art will showcase in the Alumni Association throughout the month of February and the public is welcome.
- Over 125 Aggies gathered on February 8<sup>th</sup> for the annual ROTC alumni chapter recognition dinner. Alumni and cadets enjoyed a meal together and inducted honorees into the ROTC Honor Company.
- Over 20 Aggies celebrated the Men's Basketball team's victory February 8<sup>th</sup> in Seattle. Alumni purchased tickets through the NMSU Alumni Association's partnership with Seattle University.
- Terra V. Winter, Director of Development, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences has traveled this week to participate in the New Mexico Ag Leadership, AgFest, and to visit donors and alumni in the Santa Fe area.
- Kristina Martinez, Regional Advancement Officer, held two face to face discovery meetings and registered four more participants to the Albuquerque Women's Estate Planning Conference.
- The four-part series of the 7<sup>th</sup> annual NMSU Women's Estate Planning Conference at PSL/Anderson Hall continued this week. Thirty five women from the region attended. Volunteer speakers were Glenn Davis from Scott-Hulse PC, "Asset Protection"; Christine Wright from Beasley, Mitchell and Co, "Income Taxes: and Alan Gluth, Gluth Law, "Transfer Taxes".

## **Athletics Director, Dr. McKinley Boston, Jr.**

- I hosted Jeff Siembieda, Executive Director of the New Mexico Bowl, and members of his Board of Directors from Las Cruces. We had a fun day and talked about the future of the New Mexico Bowl, current tie-ins and NMSU including the flexibility of ESPN related to the Bowls they own.
- A meeting was held to discuss and provide an update on the WAC Tournament. This year's tournament will be held from March 13-15<sup>th</sup> at the Orleans Hotel and Arena in Las Vegas. Our Men's and Women's team are both positioned for high seeds depending on the win/loss percentage through the remainder of the season. To date, 239 tickets have been ordered, last year 179 tickets were sold.



## **Aggie Athletic Club**

- Aggie Athletic Club Memberships to date are 486 members, Athletic Director Cabinet members are nine. Revenue generated for the scholarship fund (FY13-14) is at \$281,313.
- To date, \$3,920 generated in donations to AAC and individual sport teams from the End of Year Campaign. Thank you letters sent out to contributors of this campaign.
- AAC Board of Advisors, AAC Membership Committee and AAC Aggies in Paradise Committee met this week. Focus is on increasing and retaining AAC memberships and raising dollars for the scholarship fund through the Aggies in Paradise event coming May 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Our office has assisted Coach Martin with the Alumni Football Player Challenge. This campaign is geared toward football alumni and raises money specific for football recruiting, we have raised \$9,240 to date.
- Hank Cook presented Wayne Stickney a check for a \$5,000 donation to the Football Success Fund.
- Coordinator for membership sales sold two new memberships (\$1,200) and two tickets for Aggies in Paradise. Finalizing documents and survey questions for the two Focus Groups being conducted next week. Met with several community groups and several face-to-face meetings. Finalizing call sheets and scripts for Aggies in Paradise and 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Lujan Dinner.
- Working with Deputy AD and Marketing to develop benefit levels and membership program for the 2014-2015 year.

## **Associate Vice President University Communications, Maureen Howard**

- For the week of February 3<sup>rd</sup>, news stories in both local and national outlets totaled 189 placements. The top story for this week featured plans to open a store on campus, which will help our students gain experience managing a business operation.
- This week's NMSU Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted NMSU English professor Carmen Gimenez Smith, whose poetry collection "Milk and Filth" is a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle award, considered among the most prestigious writing awards in the country. Winners are selected by a jury of working critics and book review editors. Awards in six categories of writing will be presented March 13<sup>th</sup> at a ceremony at the New School in New York City.
- The Eye on Research this week in the Las Cruces Sun-News focused on unique photovoltaic systems at New Mexico State University's Southwest Technology Development Institute. Under a project called the First Solar Long Term Test Environment, SWTDI is monitoring the differences in performance among three different modules that have a slightly different design and architecture. Corey Asbill, an engineer on the project, said SWTDI will be tracking information such as what system does best at a certain temperature.
- UCOMM assisted the College of Engineering to help promote activities surrounding National Engineer's Week, which is February 16-22<sup>nd</sup>. We also distributed a guest

column by Dean Ricardo Jacquez focusing on the college's 125-year legacy along with its innovative and entrepreneurial approach to meet the needs of today's engineering students. One example cited was Professor Phillip De Leon's Mobile Application Development course. In this class, students produced several apps published to Apple's App Store.

- The fifth in a series of monthly columns was published earlier this month in the Albuquerque Journal. The columns are written by UCOMM on a variety of topics related to research projects underway at the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences' Agricultural Science Centers around New Mexico. The most recent column focused on jujube tree research being done at the Sustainable Agriculture Science Center at Alcalde. Previous columns in the Albuquerque Journal have highlighted NMSU research projects in Farmington, Tucumcari and Mora, N.M., and at the Leyendecker Plant Science Research Center near Las Cruces.
- KRWG General Manager, Glen Cerny, visited with legislators in Santa Fe this week to discuss public television initiatives and to thank our elected officials for their support.
- UCOMM designed a new banner to celebrate NMSU's ranking in the top tier by U.S. News & World Reports. We worked closely with Facilities to produce and install the banners on University Avenue and the International Mall.

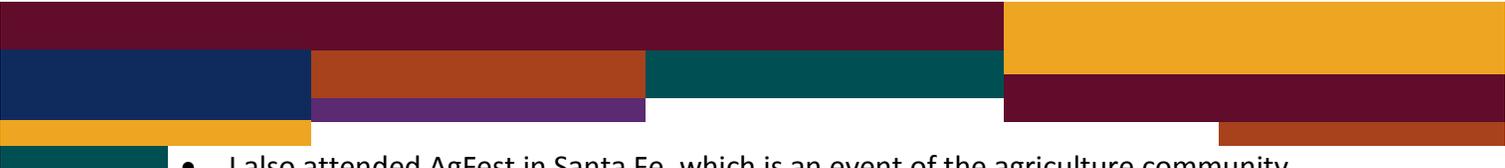


### **Assistant Vice President Government Relations, Ricardo Rel**

At Legislative Session in Santa Fe.

### **Director/Secretary New Mexico Department of Agriculture, Jeff M. Witte**

- This week I met with the tenth class of the New Mexico Agriculture Leadership Program. This is a great group of leaders from across New Mexico that recognize the need for educating existing and emerging leaders and providing them with effective tools to develop initiatives that will enhance the quality of life and address social and economic issues in New Mexico.

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- I also attended AgFest in Santa Fe, which is an event of the agriculture community during the legislative session. There were well over 1,000 people in attendance and NMDA provided one of its most popular tasting items, green chile corn chowder to all participants.
  - I also spoke at the New Mexico Organic Agriculture Conference in Albuquerque. This has become one of the largest conferences in New Mexico. While at the conference I had an opportunity to honor Craig Mapel, NMDA marketing specialist on his upcoming retirement.
  - NMDA staff supported a New Mexico salsa processor and retailer at the KeHE show in New Orleans, LA. Contacts with new retail businesses in new markets were established resulting in the company accepting contracts with Schnucks Grocers to showcase their products in 104 of Schnucks Grocer stores. The company also contracted with Rouse Markets, Winn Dixie, Piggly Wiggly, and Central Markets. The new geographical markets are the Gulf Coast and Midwest U.S. This show was a tremendous success for this New Mexico company. There will be many opportunities for other NM food and beverage companies from the show.