President Garrey Carruthers, Ph.D.

- I returned from the WAC Conference Basketball tournament still marveling at the amount of Aggie Pride exhibited in Las Vegas. NMSU had far and away the most fans in attendance and they were very supportive of both our men and women’s teams. The Governor and First Gentleman attended two games, including the championship game. The Governor is a big basketball fan. While watching a sports channel the other day, it was reported that after Butler went to the Final Four, their applications for admission went up 62%. It was also reported that after Doug Flutie threw the Hail Mary pass to win a game, the applications to Boston College went up 32%. Athletics, done properly, is a good promotion of our University.

- I met with the WAC Board of Presidents/Chancellors as we plotted the future of the WAC Conference, to include recruiting more members and approving a strategic plan. The WAC aspires to be recognized as a two pick NCAA basketball conference. Right now, only our WAC Tournament Champion is assured a berth in the NCAA March Madness Tournament.

- While in Las Vegas, Chairman of the Board of Regents Mike Cheney and I visited with our good friend Stan Fulton, who generously donated $1,000,000 to install synthetic turf in Aggie Memorial Stadium, thus making it much more of an all-purpose facility. In the past, use of the stadium was always restricted because of the wear and tear on the field and the fact that Bermuda grass greens up late and does not grow much after early October.

- Bruce Kite has resigned as General Counsel for NMSU but will complete his teaching assignments at DACC. The Interim General Counsel will be Lisa Warren. I anticipate advertising this opening sometime this spring.

- I visited with the Salopek Family Foundation to see if I could interest them in investing in the Heritage Farm project on the west side of the campus. I am hopeful this great way to mark the west side of the campus can be completely funded by the private sector.

- The Governor has signed the General Obligation Bond Issue appropriation and now we are gearing up for the public vote in November. Jerry Burke, former administrator/faculty member at NMSU will head up the campaign for passage. All Universities and two year colleges have a bond issue in the appropriation package. Not too long ago, one of these issues failed because we did not support it in Dona Ana County so we will be working harder to inform the voters. There is an authorization of $19,200,000 for remodeling Jett Hall, Jett Hall Annex, and Rentfrow Gym.
• Some of my colleagues and I had lunch with the WAC Champion Volleyball team and presented each a certificate of appreciation. I am starting a tradition of recognizing our championship teams and eagerly anticipate the time I have to buy lunch for the football team.

• I visited Channel 22 to watch an all student team broadcast the news on our public television station. What a great way to get hands on experience in the broadcast industry. The students do all of the copy, set up, production, and commentary. Very impressive Aggies.

• The Domenici Conference is shaping up with sessions on the Bipartisan Challenge in Washington, D. C.; Immigration Reform; National Security; Cyber Security; and the 2014 elections. The dates are September 17th and 18th. We have a number of national leaders already in the fold. This conference always features student participation as they serve as the panelist who questions each of the speakers.

Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Dan Howard

• At the Regents meeting on March 10th, the presentation from my office was handled by Deputy Provost Greg Fant who discussed the system course alignment effort that he is heading. The purpose of this project is to develop a more unified NMSU system in which courses that have the same name and number, on different campuses, are equivalent. An added benefit of the project is bringing faculty from all campuses together so that they get to know each other better and come to see each other as colleagues. The initial focus of the project has been the courses that are taught on all five campuses of our system. As the project continues the focus will become increasingly narrow, moving from courses taught on all five campuses to courses taught on four campuses to courses taught on three campuses and eventually to courses taught on only two campuses.

• Later on the same day, I met with the University Teaching Council to discuss classrooms, MOOCs, and the Baccalaureate Experience Alignment effort. The University Classroom Committee noted that NMSU needs more flexible learning environments and that one of the priorities, when buildings are constructed or refurbished, should be the creation of classrooms with mobile furnishings and appropriate technologies that encourage a variety of learning activities. The MOOC Committee recommended that NMSU should test drive one MOOC in order to learn more about offering such courses, to market NMSU internationally, and to extend the reach of the institution. The Baccalaureate Experience Alignment Committee discussed their ongoing efforts to help faculty members align their courses with the Baccalaureate Experience learning objectives. The Baccalaureate Experience vision for NMSU is thoughtful and forward thinking. I encourage all NMSU faculty members and students to familiarize themselves with the mission statement which can be found at: http://assessment.nmsu.edu/files/2013/04/Vision-of-BE.MissionGoalsObj.2013.pdf.
Dean, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Dr. Lowell Catlett

- Dr. Dennis Hallford, Regents Professor, was recognized March 12th for 24 years of service to the New Mexico State University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.
- Mr. Neil Burcham received the American Brahman Breeder’s Association (ABBA) “Friend of the Year” award during the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. The Brahman Friend of the Year Award was initiated to recognize individuals such as Burcham who devote their time and efforts to the improvement and promotion of the Brahman cattle breed. Neil has judged or participated in education seminars in Mexico, Sierra Leone, Colombia, Guatemala, Thailand, Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama, Paraguay and Ecuador. He has judged cattle and hogs in California, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida, and Alaska. ABBA Executive Vice President Chris Shivers stated, “Neil Burcham is truly a Brahman friend in every sense of the word and most deserving of this award. He is passionate about the breed, knows its role, has helped improve the breed and has promoted it. Mr. Burcham has been on the faculty at New Mexico State University for over 40 years and since this time has overseen the university Brahman herd and conducted practical research.
- Animal and Range Sciences judging team members (all members are students) and Dr. John Campbell provided officials, livestock and wool for the regional FFA Career Development Events in Carrizozo, NM on Saturday, March 8th. The judging team members have assisted with contests in Tor C and Carrizozo, and will help with the Las Cruces contests this Saturday. The Animal Sciences department sees these events and the state contests as a way to promote animal agriculture in the state and provide an excellent recruiting tool for NMSU and ACES.
- Media Productions/Ag Communications has received an invitation from USDA to join a multi-state team competing for a $5 million grant. NMSU's Media Productions’ faculty, Drs. Jeanne Gleason and Barbara Chamberlin, are Co-PIs on the grant, providing innovative media, which could include web, mobile apps, video and interactive tools. The USDA team for first round of reviews said the proposal, Enhancing Food Safety through Improved Processing Technologies, would meet a big need in the food production industry. The multi-state research team will be headed by Dr. Gönül Kaletunç of the Ohio State University. Dr. Kaletunç’s team is proposing to develop a microbiological sensor to detect the presence of bacteria, which could significantly improve scientists' ability to track the growth of microbes and the efficacy of sanitization techniques.

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

- We conducted annual performance reviews of Anthropology, Communication Studies, Geography, Creative Media Institute, and Astronomy.
- We held a college general faculty meeting at Fulton Center and solicited nominations for college committees and faculty senate. Marvin Paz and his
The Advising Center Staff moved out of Regents Row into the beautiful and newly remodeled Advising Center in Breland Hall. It is such a transformation and an inviting space for our students. Thanks Glen Haubold and Facilities crew!

Tom Smith and I hosted the Dean of Fine Arts and Communications and his colleagues from Brigham Young University, who came to campus to tour the Center for the Arts. They were impressed with the Gold LEED features, the architecture, the art work, and the natural lighting throughout the building.

Women’s Studies faculty member, Mary Benanti was the featured speaker in the Global Connections lecture series. She discussed her travels to Poland and her tour of Auschwitz.

Ricardo Rel and Aggie Saltman met with the associate deans and me to discuss the outcomes of the legislative session and budget distribution.

I attended the Art Department Juried Student Exhibition and Awards ceremony and presented the Dean of Arts and Sciences Best in the Show Award to Lea Wise Surguy. It is uplifting to see how many students were recognized with awards that are funded by many alumni and artist groups around the state.

The college held a thank-you reception for state legislators at the Center for the Arts and invited them and other community leaders to tour the facility and celebrate the Gold LEED status recently awarded.

We selected the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Graduate for Spring 2014.

Jeff Brown chaired a monthly CADRe meeting that discussed IRB, equipment issues, facility construction, and other issues. He also joined a group that reviewed recent renovations in the Biology Annex building.

Elba Serrano (Biology) was appointed a member of the Advisory Counsel to the Director of the National Institutes of Health.

Barbara Lyons (Chemistry & Biochemistry) received a $24,235 Bridges supplement. Aaron Rowland (Chemistry & Biochemistry) received $131,400 in second-year funding from NIH-SCORE.

Beth Pollack attended the University Classroom Committee.

Lisa Bond-Maupin met with Shelly Stovall about program and general education assessment in the college. She attended ADAC, the UAC, and the Arts and Sciences Colloquium featuring Geology Department Head Nancy McMillan. She also attended manager training on working with difficult employees.

Ken Van Winkle and the college Awards Committee selected the recipients of the outstanding faculty and staff awards and the faculty receiving travel grants and course releases for research.
Interim Dean, College of Business, Dr. Kathleen Brook

- Kevin Melendrez, department head in Accounting and Information Systems, and assistant dean Anthony Casaus recently attended AACSB International’s B-School Communications and Development Symposium in Florida along with Ammu Devasthali (NMSU alumnus and donor) and Andrea Tawney. Kevin was a co-presenter for “Development Strategies for “Rock Star” Faculty Fundraising.”
- Members of Beta Alpha Psi honor society, attended a regional meeting in San Antonio where they won a prize in the Deloitte Best Practices Competition for their Character Map, a set of professionalism attributes developed by the chapter members working with practicing accounting professionals.
- Bruce Huhmann (Marketing) is working with student teams preparing for the National BioEthics Bowl and the Daniels Fund Consortium Case Competition.
- Sierra Smith, who participated in the Collegiate Advisory Board for the El Paso branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas in the fall, had her paper on desalination accepted for a poster presentation at the Economic Scholars program at the Dallas bank during spring break.
- The College was delighted to learn that the Doctor of Economic Development will receive about $100,000 in Research and Public Service Program funding for 2014-2015.

Dean, College of Education, Dr. Michael Morehead

Michael A. Morehead, Dean

- Dean Michael Morehead attended the Board of Regents meeting where Sandra Romero from SPED/CD was recognized by the Regents with the “Above and Beyond Award.” Congratulations Sandra, you represent the department and college in such a professional manner, this is a much deserved recognition. The Regents also approved the name change for the department now named Educational Leadership and Administration. Dean Morehead met with staff to discuss the retention program implemented for freshmen and received a report on the activities and the retention rates for the past two years. The college is sponsoring a scholar for Mongolian State University of Education and Dean Morehead met with Mongolkatan to discuss her research and service interests. He attended the “Salt of the Earth” film and symposium that discussed the events which the film depicted. Dean Morehead participated in the Kidd Literacy conference on Saturday. This is yearly conference that is attended by about 200 teachers and NMSU students that discusses the most up to date strategies for literacy. This is sponsored by the Don and Sarrah Kidd Endowment and coordinated by the Endowed Chair, Dr. Anita Hernandez. Dr. Morehead presented to the attendees on testing, sharing information that teachers need to know about standardized tests. Consulted with Engage New Mexico about the Director position and discussed the type of candidate needed to meet the demands of the position. Reviewed candidates for the foundation position in the college, we should be doing interviews soon for this position. Reviewed the new state proposal for tests for future teachers and provided feedback to Regent
Mitchell and Provost Howard as well as Matt Pahl in the PED. Dean Morehead attend a meeting to discuss the accreditation process (CAEP) for the college, this was coordinated by Dr. James O’Donnell and had representatives from AXED, Family and Consumer Sciences, Music and programs in the College of Education.

Dr. Jim O’Donnell, Associate Dean
• Dr. O’Donnell continued work on the CAEP accreditation process, as well as held a CAEP meeting with program directors within the college and from directors from other TEP programs. He reviewed compliance information related to CAATE accreditation for Athletic Training, and met with doctoral student to review IRB application; received two doctoral dissertation proposals from two students for my review. Dr. O’Donnell also met with several students to address their issues and concerns; met, with respective program directors and department heads to keep abreast of issues expressed by students. He attended his weekly observation with Project MOVEMOS students at Hermosa Heights Elementary School, taught Project MOVEMOS seminar at Hermosa Heights Elementary School, reviewed the college’s CAFS, and prepared as an examiner for an NCATE accreditation visit for week of March 17 in California.

Jonathan Schwartz, Associate Dean for Research
• The Associate Dean for Research met with members of Arrowhead to discuss an entrepreneurial program in the College of Education. He was also able to meet with junior faculty on grant opportunities, and worked on university research issues with members of CADRE. Dr. Schwartz assisted with PI’s compliance issues with SPA, facilitated training and solving of IRB issues, and worked with a number of students on their dissertations.

Gladys De Necochea, Assistant Dean for Budget & Planning
• Dr. De Necochea provided leadership for ongoing discussions on data collection and reporting mechanisms to be established for use by Unit and Academic Department Heads in the annual reporting of all activity undertaken in support of the College of Education Strategic Plan. She also developed preliminary templates for the reporting of the strategic plan evidence to be demonstrated at year end.

Ron Dziwenka, Program Manager for Assessment
• Dr. Dziwenka attended weekly meeting with Associate Dean O’Donnell, and entered summary of meeting into meeting log. Met (separately) with SPED, ELED and SED program coordinators to identify students who are NOT clearly coded in Cognos as being in one of the four programs, in order to put them in the proper category in the upcoming Data Reports (due in August). He also communicated with the Program Coordinators, and began compiling data to prepare and send out the Cooperating Teacher-Mentor Surveys for SP14. He then communicated and worked with our Tk20 Program Consultant on how to most efficiently expand upon use of student portfolios in Tk20 by EDLT faculty and the ECED Program (which will be models for our other programs going forward). Dr. Dziwenka continued working on the NMTA test score reports for the AY2014 Data Reports to Program Coordinators (due in the summer), and continued working on collecting data for the Title II Reports and CAEP 2014 EPP Yearly Report. He met with Dr. O’Donnell & the C&I representatives on
Title II Reporting and coding of Alternative licensure students, and communicated with Deborah Gouldsmith (Advising) and Judy Bosland (IR) on the coding of alternative licensure students in order to more efficiently and precisely collect data on them. He also met with Ken Korn on interpretation of the NMSU graduate (now teaching in LCPS) data we compiled and met with Institutional Research (Judy Bosland) on coding (alternative licensure students) and on sharing data collection for 2014 Title II Reports, & 2014 CAEP EPP report, and the 2014 PEDS Data Collection (DUE APR 30) Parts A & B (all these yearly reports are due in April).

Ashley Jurado, Student Program Coordinator
• This week efforts went to the Salt of the Earth Festival hosted by the College of Education. Ashley worked with Adelina in coordinating all details for five different events this week, and also communicated with donor Elisa Sanchez regarding fundraising for her scholarship. Ashley also finalized organizing and adding stories for the monthly e-newsletter in the newly designed template. She sent out the e-newsletter to over 5,500 board members, alumni, and faculty and staff and received a 20% open rate. She will continue to track all results and make the necessary changes to improve the open rate and communication to all of our readers. Ashley is also continuing her planning for the upcoming Board of Advocates meeting on April 11th and the Aggie Cornerstone Award dinner on April 24th.

Adelina Rodriguez, Student Program Coordinator
• The focus for this week has been on executing and participating in the events for Salt of the Earth. During the events we are promoting upcoming events and passing out the pledge card for the Angelina G. Endowed Scholarship. On Tuesday, Dr. Federico Marquez hosted ENLACE students from our area High Schools. We provided a continental breakfast and pizza for lunch in which we picked up, delivered and set up. For the event on Thursday, copies of a questionnaire were printed to have available for the discussion. In the area of recruitment, Adelina followed up with a campus visitor and forwarded contact information to both Dr. Wood and Dr. Berning as student is interested in learning more about our Kinesiology program. Another campus visit was scheduled for Monday, March 17th with Advising and the Director for Secondary Programs, Dr. Jamie Baker. Ashley Jurado has been asked to give the student a tour of the building as Adelina will be recruiting next week at El Paso Community Colleges. College of Education brochure is being updated as changes are submitted from the departments. We are awaiting changes/ approval from SPED/CD and C&I. Changes were made to our Living Learning Community (LLC) marketing post card to reflect our new Community Assistant, Kyle Hurst and the contact information for requesting an LLC. Welcome letter from the Dean was updated to be inserted in the welcome packets for upcoming New Student Registration (NSR). From Foundation reports were requested of our Alumni for upcoming communication campaigns.

Michelle Valverde, Director for Alliance & BoCES
• Dr. Valverde finalized a major activity this week with the data summary for the Borderlands Center for Educational Studies. She had several individuals review the information and provided feedback and I integrated most of their recommended
changes. We will use this handout when meeting with potential funders and others interested in supporting BoCES.

Dean, College of Engineering, Dr. Ricardo Jacquez

- A paper on our algal research selected as one of 5 showcase papers in the inaugural issue of Environmental Science & Technology Letters, a sister publication of the most respected journal Environmental Science & Technology, published by American Chemical Society.
- Martha Mitchell attended the the American Institute of Engineering Education Engineering Research Council in Washington D.C. March 17-19. The council has sessions with program officers from federal agencies who provide funding to engineering researchers. The information on federal funding priorities and recommendation on how to develop strong proposals will be brought back to the College of Engineering faculty.
- Dr. Jessica Houston was named a Scholar of the International Society of the Advancement of Cytometry (ISAC) last week, representing one of the highest recognitions of accomplishment for a researcher in the field of cytometry.
- The mission of ISAC is to serve a multidisciplinary community by leading technological innovation, scholarship, and the exchange of knowledge in the quantitative cell sciences. ISAC publishes the journals Cytometry (leading journal for new advances and applications in cellular analysis and Current Protocols in Cytometry.
- Through Dr. Houston’s recognition, NMSU is now recognized alongside some very strong company that includes: the 2014 list of ISAC scholars includes representation from The Paul O’Gorman Leukemia Research Centre, Institute for Cancer Research, Glasgow University; The Centre for Immunophenomics (CIPHE), Marseille, France; The University of Pennsylvania; and The Centre for Image Analysis, Uppsala University and Imaging Platform, Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT.
- Dr. Houston will maintain the status of ISAC Scholar through 2018. 
- The College hosted the 6th annual Project Lead the Way conference for teachers and counselors from schools who teach the national PLTW curriculum. In addition to dynamic speakers, this conference provided a wonderful opportunity for networking and sharing experiences and ideas. The College serves as the affiliate university for PLTW for New Mexico.
- Signing of the collaborative PhD with NMSU Civil engineering and Northern China University of Technology in Beijing China.

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

- Associate Dean Joe Tomaka met with Jenifer Ward, MBA, BSN, RN and President of the Trauma Center Association of America (TCAA;
http://www.traumafoundation.org/) regarding contracts between TACC and the Survey Research Center to assist them with data analysis and report generation.

- Apple representatives met with Dr. Schultz, Director of Nursing, and Miriam Maske to discuss the use of IPAD’s in the nursing classrooms.
- Nursing’s Dr. Anita Reinhardt attended and presented at the Elsevier conference in Las Vegas, NV.
- Southern Area Health Education Center’s Bea Favela received additional funding for a diabetes self-management program under the Chronic Disease Program.
- Donna Wagner, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, CHSS was featured in the special report on Caregiving in The Washington Post, March 5th. Dr. Wagner was part of a panel that spoke to community members in Seattle, Washington to highlight caregiving issues. The Washington Post convened Caregiving in America forums in Chicago, IL and Seattle, WA.
- Public Health Science’s Dr. Cindy Kratzke was a member of the national SOPHE task force to develop a curriculum for an associate’s degree in public health. She worked with a subgroup to specifically develop the Accessing and Analyzing Health Information course.
- Dr. Cindy Kratzke was present in Albuquerque for the signing of the Community Health Worker bill into law by Governor Martinez on March 9th. She represented the Community Health Worker Advisory Council as a southern NM member. The next steps are completion of the statewide curriculum, certification process, and billing.
- Jennifer Cervantes met with university and Sierra Providence leadership in El Paso to develop ideas for a partnership with the School of Nursing.
- Masters of Public Health students Mayra Lovas and Swati Somuri were accepted as Graduate Summer Interns at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.
- The Training to Care for the Aging Population on the Border (TCAP) program conducted Dementia Empathy Training for faculty members of CHSS and the community on March 11th. Dr. Tom Teasdale from the University of Oklahoma’s Medical School and a consultant to the HRSA-funded TCAP program conducted the training of trainers. Trainers are now available for community-based organizations wishing to conduct the dementia training.

Dean, Graduate School, Dr. Loui Reyes

- Graduate Council Scholarship Committee scholarship awards selection completed.
- Successful Graduate Research & Arts Symposium (GRAS) with over 160 graduate students presenting in conferences and poster sessions. Graduate students scholarly research and art projects are laudable. The research conference culminated with a banquet.
• Attended the New Mexico Graduate Deans Council in Albuquerque.
• Conducted professional development workshop for TRiO: How to Apply to Graduate School.
• Maintained graduate student academic records and provided final verification that students had completed all requirements for his/her degree
• Addressed institution-wide graduate issues through the graduate education policy alignment committee meetings: graduate school, financial aid, admission, international border programs and registrars.

Dean, Honors College, Dr. William Eamon
No activities for the Week of March 10th
Dean, University Library, Dr. Elizabeth Titus

- The Dean participated in the Joint Meeting of the University Classroom Committee and the University Teaching Committee. At this meeting an active learning classroom proposal was introduced. The Provost and Deputy Provost were also present.

- Members of the library staff held a ribbon cutting ceremony which marked the reopening of the Branson Library 4th floor west collections area to the public. This area had been temporarily closed to the public for six months while this space was used to house special collections and political papers archives while their collection areas were being constructed or renovated.

- The library’s management group did a mid-year review of its 2013-2014 Strategic Targets.

- All library staff who are supervisors are actively engaged this week in doing performance evaluations.

- This week three job positions were posted and searches are now officially in progress for a Political Papers Archivist (faculty), an Assessment and Data Management Librarian (faculty), and a Communications Specialist (exempt).

- The library conducted an open forum on the University’s Vision 2020 Plan for all its library staff.

- This week the Governor signed SB53, the General Obligation Bond Bill which includes the Library GO Bond. In the Fall 2014 election, NM voters will go to the polls and vote on this bond. If the bond is approved, 3.5 million in GO Bond funds will benefit all academic libraries in NM, including NMSU’s University Library and all the community college libraries in the NMSU system.

Senior Vice President Administration and Finance, Angela Throneberry

- **NMSU CIO appointed** - Dr. Norma Grijalva has been appointed Chief Information Officer at NMSU. Norma has served as the interim CIO since June, 2013. She holds a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, and a Doctorate in Education Management/Curriculum and Instruction --- all from New Mexico State University.

- **Special Events – Pan American Center** - The NMSU Pan American Center has been designated as one of the five “Top Stops” for University venues by industry magazine *Venues Today* for 2013 as reported in its’ February addition. The designation is for gross tickets sales in arenas with a capacity of 10,000 to 15,000. In 2013 the signature event hosted by the venue was the first leg of George Strait’s farewell “Cowboy Rides Away Tour” that grossed $1.12 million with 12,962 in attendance.” The venues annual total gross receipts exceeded those reported in *Venues Today* Box Office Summary for such venues as UNM’s the Pit, The Bryce Jordan Center at Penn State, the Breslin Center at Michigan State University and fell just short of matching the gross receipts of the Schottenstein Center at the Ohio State University.” For the Pan American Center, concert/event sales totaled $2,554,423.
The Jeff Dunham show, *Disorderly Conduct*, was enjoyed by a crowd of 5,300 people on March 13th in the Pan American Center.

- **RecycleMania Update** - RecycleMania continues with great gusto! Students from the Environmental Science Student Organization, FS Fire Department, and our very own Pistol Pete joined the “March of the RecycleManiacs” to bring attention to the last three weeks of the tournament. We made our own musical instruments from items found on campus and then marched up International Mall with our noise-makers. We ended up at Corbett Center and had a drumming circle while chanting “Recycle!”. We are currently in 4th place in the Grand Champion category out of 247 schools!

- **ICT assists in ASNMSU elections** - ICT’s Student Technology group is currently assisting ASNMSU with its presidential and senatorial elections by providing a secure voting website, laptops for polling stations, and various advertising media. For more information about Student Technology, visit [http://studenttech.nmsu.edu/](http://studenttech.nmsu.edu/).

- **NMSU Insider** - This week, we have added a new “coupon” section to the NMSU INSIDER free mobile app. This feature is currently available on most devices and should be rolled out to the others shortly. This new feature will help bring attention to money-saving offers on campus for NMSU students, faculty, and staff.

- **NMSU’s IT compliance officer releases FERPA quick reference guide** - Carlos Lobato, NMSU’s IT compliance officer, with input from the NMSU registrar and the Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology, has developed a one-page guide entitled *FERPA and NMSU*. The guide summarizes NMSU’s compliance responsibilities as they pertain to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, which protects the privacy of student education records. The guide can be found at [http://compliance.ict.nmsu.edu/](http://compliance.ict.nmsu.edu/).

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

No Report Submitted

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

- Dr. Montoya briefed the Board of Regents on Monday regarding the semester’s enrollment. Enrollment is down compared to spring semester last year, and we are addressing this through closer collaboration with regional school districts and new retention efforts.

- With this week’s announcement of Dr. Renay Scott as DACC President, the DACC Presidential Search Committee completed its nearly year-long search. Dr. Montoya is grateful for the many hours search committee members dedicated to this task and to the support members of the NMSU–DACC community gave to this search.
This is strategic planning season for SAEM. Assessment Team co-chairs Dr. Michael Jasek and Melody Munson-McGee began meeting with SAEM leadership on this year’s update to our strategic plan. We are working toward making explicit SAEM’s alignment with Vision 2020 and its KPIs and on developing our own KPIs to measure our core function at NMSU.

University Admissions, Ms. Valerie Pickett
- Undergraduate recruiters visited local high schools, as well as high schools in Tucson. Staff attended transfer fairs at NMSU–Grants and three Central New Mexico Community College campuses.
- Admissions welcomed over 50 families to campus this week, including students from Arizona, Alaska, and Texas. They also hosted a group of 40 students from Rio Grande High School in Albuquerque.
- The reservation system for New Student Registration and Orientation 2014 opened this week with 70 students already reserving a date for an upcoming program.

University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services, Ms. Janie Merchant
- Shortly after the Governor signed SB 347, Financial Aid acted on direction from the New Mexico Higher Education Department to award a full tuition scholarship to all students on the Lottery Scholarship this semester. We are working on campus communication about this, and on being proactive regarding future funding levels.

University Registrar, Mr. Mike Zimmerman
- Military and Veterans Programs (MVP) presented a new faculty and staff training platform for the College of ACES Department Head Council, and we presented to the Advisors Work Group on MVP services and how the group can help student veterans.
- MVP created a new work group comprised of representatives from Tom Udall’s office, Steve Pearce’s office, the VA medical facility in El Paso and our local Workforce Connections to discuss careers and development for veterans. Our goal is to have a unified plan for aiding our Veterans seeking employment and education.
- We began developing a new NMSU Veterans scholarship, in collaboration with Debbie Widger from the NMSU Foundation office.

Student Life, Dr. Michael Jasek
- Dr. Jasek presented Building Hope, a look at depression, anxiety, and bipolar disorder, to the staff of SAEM as part of a Staff Development presentation.
- Joey Hannah, Counseling Psychologist, and Ashley Molin, Pre-Doctoral Intern from the Gamma Sigma Alpha, an academic honor society for Greek members, inducted 20 new members. Members must have a 3.5 or higher cumulative GPA and Junior or Senior classification.
Counseling Center, presented on sexual, gender, and relationship diversity in mental health treatment at Mesilla Valley Hospital as part of a continuing education program for local mental health providers. Over 100 practitioners attended. Nisha Todi, Counseling Psychologist, and Hyunjoo Shim, Pre-Doctoral Intern, also presented for the International Students Club as part of the services provided by the Counseling Center and liaison relationship with International Programs.

- Trudy Luken, Director of Student Accessibility Services, accepted the nomination to chair the Companion and Assistive Animal Committee.

**Office of Student Diversity and Outreach, Ms. Christina Chavez Kelley**
- Two speakers visited NMSU as part of Latino Week events: Ernesto Mejía addressed issues of identity and motivation, and Texas State Representative and the National President of Kappa Delta Chi Mary Gonzales also visited NMSU.

**Staff Highlights**
- The Office of the Dean of Students hosted a farewell reception for Ms. Tinsley Hembree, Assistant Dean of Students, who is leaving NMSU. She will be moving to Washington DC with her family. Tinsley’s work focused on Greek Affairs and Student Leadership Programs.

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

**Corporate Visit**
- Arrowhead Center hosted Robert Dye and Becky Coel-Robach, representatives of the Richard P. Feynman Center for Innovation (FCI) at Los Alamos National Labs (LANL) for a talk entitled *Mission Based Partnerships that Accelerate Innovation: A Perspective from Los Alamos National Laboratory*. In addition, Arrowhead Innovation and Small Business Program Manager Griselda Martinez, took Mr. Dye and Ms Coel-Robach to Santa Teresa for an area tour guided by Jerry Pacheco of the International Business Accelerator (IBA).

**New Mexico Economic Development Meetings**
- The State of NM Economic Development Department is currently updating the State Technology Plan as a foundation for driving the state’s economic vitality. As part of the process, the Economic Development Department coalesced focus groups for three critical industry categories: water, energy and biosciences.
- Pete Lammers and Sam Fernald collaborated with other industry specific experts to develop a situation analysis, identify critical success factors and risks as they relate to commercializing opportunities within the industry and decreasing federal funding reliance. This information will serve as a foundation for the State of New Mexico Technology Plan.

**Vice President Research, Dr. Vimal Chaitanya**
- Vimal Chaitanya participated in the red team review of NASA EPSCoR state-wide proposal selected to go forward. The proposal is led by Dr. Jason Jackiewicz of NMSU and is entitled, “Jovian Interiors from Velocimetry Experiment in New Mexico (JIVE).”
• Pete Lammers participated in an invitation-only session organized by the NM Economic Development Department (Barbara Brazil & Elizabeth Davis) in regards to the New Mexico State Technology Plan Energy. The Focus Group event occurred on March 13th at the State Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Office in Albuquerque. Kevin Boberg was the other invitee from NMSU.

• Pete Lammers was tasked by Barbara Brazil to generate an overview on involvement of Technology Research Collaborative (TRC) in coordinating “pre-competitive” research and development activities in support of the Energy, Water & Environment nexus emphasis formalized in the State Science & Technology Plan. The goal would be two-fold to: a) generate a self-sustaining commercialization capacity that links early stage technologies in the nexus with commercial sector needs and b) navigate the pre-commercial stage “valley of death,” specific to identify technologies involving commercial, university and national lab involvement.

• Pete Lammers participated in the Las Cruces Listening Session for the State Energy Plan conducted by the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department. That meeting was held on March 11th, at the Dona Ana County Building. Professors Pei (Civil Engineering) and Sam Fernald (WRRI Director), and James Peach (Business) also participated in this meeting.

• The proposal for the NASA Balloon Operations Contract (NBOC) was submitted on 10th March.

• Office of Research Development (ORD) conducted a National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER workshop for faculty interested in applying for this prestigious NSF program.

• Research administrative services (RAS) is working to release new Academic Research and Grants Information System (ARGIS) and new MAESTRO in the next two weeks.

• Governor Martinez signed a budget of $1M for NM Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) in water research initiatives to improve water management in NM plus $100K increase in NM WRRI base funding. This funding reflects high priority from NMSU administration, hard work by NMSU Government Relations office, broad support from NM stakeholders, and strong action in recognition of water importance by State of NM executive and legislative branches.

• WRRI received 27 applications for the Fall 2014 Masters and Ph.D. graduate degree program in Water Science and Management.

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

• Tammie Campos and I traveled to the WAC Tournament to support the NMSU men’s and women’s basketball teams.

• Barbara S. Wise, Director, University Advancement visited with seven alumni in the Houston area. Most were first time meetings and information was shared about NMSU programs and our goal to increase alumni giving.

• Barbara Wise also visited locally with two donors and presented to one a concept for a room naming in a campus building.
Athletics Director, Dr. McKinley Boston, Jr.

- Extremely proud of our men’s basketball team for winning the 2014 WAC Tournament Championship after defeating Idaho on Saturday night. This is the third straight year that the Aggies have won the WAC Tournament. Congratulations to Daniel Mullings who was named the WAC player of the year and Sim Bhullar named tournament MVP as well as the entire team and coaching staff for a successful win. I want to thank everyone who traveled to Las Vegas to cheer the team on. We had a large crowd in the stands which I believe contributed to the win. The Aggies are getting ready for the NCAA Tournament appearance in Spokane.

Associate Vice President University Communications, Maureen Howard

- Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News this week highlighted the cotton research program introducing shrimp production to New Mexico. New Mexico State University researchers are working to develop innovative new products using glandless cottonseed to increase profitability of the cotton plant, going beyond the traditional uses of fabric and livestock feeds. Some of the products the university is exploring use the seed as a high protein source for human consumption and also as aquaculture feeds.

- This week’s Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News profiled Harikumar Sankaran, New Mexico State University College of Business professor and Stan Fulton Chair in Business. Sankaran will travel to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, later this month, along with Interim Finance Department Head Ken Martin and Sankaran’s wife, Jayashree Harikumar, an engineer with NMSU’s Physical Science Lab, to present a workshop at the International Conference on Technology and Business Management hosted by American University in the Emirates.

- The Athletics Media Relations office prepared two feature stories on the men’s basketball program to distribute this week in advance of the WAC tournament. Aerick Sanders, Assistant Coach Men’s basketball, was featured with highlights of his career playing both college and professional basketball. Center Tshilidze (Chili) Nephawe was the focus of the second story. Chili’s mother traveled from South Africa earlier this month and this was the first time Mrs. Nephawe saw her son play basketball.

- U.S. Congressman Steve Pearce will visit the KRWG studios on March 18 for an interview on Fronteras- A Changing America.

- The KRWG-TV Spring Festival membership drive ended this week. More than 125 new members signed up, exceeding our goal of 100.

Assistant Vice President Government Relations, Ricardo Rel

State-Related Activities

- The Governor completed her action on all legislative bills on March 12th and signed the General Appropriations Act (SB313) with line-item vetoes; the GO Bond bill (SB53) without any line-item vetoes; the Severance Tax Bond Bill (HB55) with line item vetoes (no impact on NMSU specific projects); and the Lottery Tuition and

- OGR staff met to start the planning process for the interim committee and the upcoming legislative session. In addition, we are also preparing an action plan for education and outreach for the upcoming GO bond election.

**Federal-Related Activities**

- President Obama released his $3.9 trillion budget earlier this month. The budget includes $56 billion in extra spending above the existing discretionary spending cap, split between defense and non-defense programs, which would have to be approved by Congress. Based on information released recently, the budget takes steps towards restoring investments in research and higher education, however, agencies such as NIH would receive only a slight increase, and DoD basic research would be reduced significantly. NMSU NIFA programmatic funding priorities would remain level.

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

- This week I spoke to the annual conference of the New Mexico Wine Growers Association. New Mexico is the oldest wine region in the United States and our wineries continue to grow in numbers and are producing award winning wines in competitions around the world. Many wineries are becoming destination stops for locals and tourists alike.

- New Mexico was host to the National Farmers Union Convention in Santa Fe this week. I was honored to join a panel which included Jason Fearneyhough, Director or the Wyoming Department of Agriculture and John Salazar, Commissioner of Agriculture in Colorado, to discuss agriculture in our states.

- I also met with representatives from the agriculture organizations to recap the recent legislative session and begin discussions on issues which may arise over the interim and into the next session. Everyone agreed that this will be a busy “off season” for agriculture.

- Registration is now open for the, much anticipated, “AgriFuture” conference which will be held in Albuquerque May 12-14. We anticipate a large attendance and are targeting 18-40 year old individuals who are interested in a career in production.