



# New Mexico State University

## Weekly Activity Report

January 13 - 17, 2014

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

- I attended the performance of Annie Get Your Gun at the Music Hall. In looking around at the crowd (it appeared to be sold out to me); I was reminded about how important NMSU is to the quality of life in this region. Most of the audience I recognized as members of the Las Cruces community plus I noticed that some had arrived by bus, perhaps from El Paso. Many of the performers were local folks. Ron Washburn was outstanding as Buffalo Bill so I have concluded he doesn't spend all of his time working on NMSU space issues. The performance was excellent so kudos to Mark Medoff, Lonnie Klein and their colleagues for a super job. All part of being a caring community!
- Several people, including the architects for the Spiritual Center, met with members of the Interfaith Council to seek their views on the design and location of the Center. Great ideas offered up, to include putting a window on the east side of the building so those enjoying the Center can see the Organ Mountains. All members of the Council expressed great support for the project.
- NMSU has a number of great events but two of my favorites are commencement and convocation; both celebrations of success of our students and/or faculty. The Provost recognized eleven new Roush award recipients and three new Regents Professors. Congratulations to Professors Cibils, Lanasa, Wright, Steiner, Gilpin, Rockstraw, Kozel, Webb, Cantrell, Chappell, and Gutierrez for being outstanding teachers, and to Professors Bejarano, Pontelli, and Wright (a double winner) for their outstanding contributions to NMSU and our community. My thanks to David Rockstraw for accepting his Roush metal as a trade with me for a New Mexico A & M bolo tie, which he has instructed me to wear at the Roundhouse during the session.
- Dr. Teri Cook purchased a lunch with the President during a Tough Enough to Wear Pink auction and donated it to four students who joined me for lunch in my office. It was a nice treat for me. All of the students seemed to really enjoy NMSU and the sense of community but did point out issues with parking and the need to modernize or replace some of student married housing.
- It was a good week for fund raising – El Paso Electric donated \$50,000 for a number of projects at NMSU, one accounting firm in Albuquerque committed to raising \$50,000 for the Lionel Haight Chair and another in that City signed an agreement to give \$50,000 to the Chair. In addition, I had excellent conversations with officials of Intel (where we were given a tour of the plant), as well as the Chase Foundation and Yates Petroleum in Artesia.
- The legislative session is upon us so I will be drifting back and forth from here to Santa Fe over the next 30 days to attend hearings, meet with the Council of University Presidents, and promote NMSU to legislators and the Governor.



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

No Report Submitted

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

- The department of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) together with the Southwest Region National Child Protection Training Center is putting on the annual Children's Law Institute (CLI) in Albuquerque. The CLI is a statewide, multi-disciplinary conference addressing issues of importance in child welfare and juvenile justice. Over the last twenty years, it has grown from a small gathering of lawyers to an event attracting over 1,000 educators, child welfare workers, judges, lawyers, juvenile justice personnel, advocates, foster parents, young people, lawmakers, and others. The CLI has a well-earned reputation for providing New Mexico with the most up-to-date information on the law, best practices and changing trends locally and nationally as well as vital opportunities to network and share information.
- Dona Ana County Extension will be graduating thirteen Master Gardners. There will be a graduation ceremony at Trails West this week.
- David Thompson, Associate Dean and Director of Agricultural Experiment Station, attended the Corona Range and Livestock Research Center Advisory Committee meeting in Otero County on January 15.
- On January 14<sup>th</sup>, Steve Loring, Associate Director of Agricultural Experiment Station, along with others, gave a presentation to the Associate Deans Academic Council on a potential sustainability minor.
- Jim Libbin, Associate Dean of Academic Programs, held a meeting with the Academic Department Heads of ACES on January 14<sup>th</sup>.
- New Student Orientation began on January 14. Jim Libbin and his staff registered students and then took them to the various academic units in ACES for advising.
- Mark Marsalis, Ian Ray, Leonard Lauriault, and NMSU Cooperative Extension Service along with the New Mexico Hay Association coordinated the Southwest Hay & Forage Conference January 16-17 in Ruidoso. During the conference a variety of educational classes were given for forage producers in the State of New Mexico and other parts of the Southwest. Alfalfa is New Mexico's number one cash crop and the purpose of the conference is to help forage growers enhance productivity and maintain sustainability in hay, pasture, and silage systems. Educators included NMSU faculty, industry representatives, and other governmental agency personnel. The annual, 2-day event typically draws over 150 participants and includes a trade show.
- The faculty unit of Agricultural Communications/Media Productions submitted a \$300,000 grant proposal to the National Science Foundation Advancing Informal STEM learning in conjunction with faculty from the College of Education. The proposal, *exploring the Impact of Informal Gameplay on Math Preparedness in Students Entering Sixth Grade*, would research the impact that math learning games have on kids who use them outside of the classroom.

- Jim D. Brown, Rodeo Coach, reported that his Rodeo Team member, Justin Tyke Kipp, is currently ranked second for steer wrestling and was named 2014 Rookie this week by the Pro Rodeo Cowboy Association. This is a very prestigious ranking in the Rodeo world. Tyke is a student majoring in Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business.
- As Administrative Advisor, Dr. Steve Loring submitted the renewal proposal for the USDA Multistate Research Project Scaling Microirrigation Technologies to Address the Global Water Challenge. Dr. Manoj Shukla, department of Plant and Environmental Sciences, will continue to be an active participant with this long-standing project.

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

- I met with Robert Peterson, Patrick Knapp and faculty from the Government Department to discuss an estate gift to the Masters in Public Administration Program.
- Lisa Bond Maupin and I met with Shelly Stovall to discuss Assessment Liaisons and the process to evaluate general education courses.
- The college held a welcome back reception at Fulton Center for faculty prior to my delivery of the State of the College address.
- I met with a donor and the Art Department Head to discuss fundraising for Art.
- Provost Dan Howard and I discussed potential faculty collaboration with a new university in Ecuador.
- Lisa Bond-Maupin, Jim Maupin, Shari Harris and I attended opening night of Annie Get Your Gun, which was produced by Mark Medoff and Lonnie Klein. The excellent production played to sold-out audiences during its 3-day run. I also attended the reception sponsored by the Las Cruces Sun-News and the opening night party after the play.
- Ken Van Winkle scheduled all spring activities for the Student Ambassador program and worked with Shari Harris on promotional materials for Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe.
- Lisa Bond-Maupin, Ken Van Winkle and Shari Harris worked on plans for the J Paul Taylor Symposium on Social Justice.
- Lisa Bond-Maupin met with department head in Computer Science about outcomes assessment and attended the second meeting of the Online Infrastructure Task Force.
- Jeff Brown worked with Carol Campbell (Geography), Neil Harvey (Government), Jim Maupin (Creative Media), Steve Self (F&S) and Ron Washburn (F&S) on a number of aspects of the transitions that will shift the College of Arts and Sciences Records Office to the third floor of Breland Hall after the completion of renovations in the College Advising Center and move faculty and students to Milton Hall.
- Jeff Brown met again with the Shared Services Center Task Force and participated in a workshop to include a review of current Research Center post-award processes at ASRC and in Astronomy.

- Enrico Pontelli (Computer Science) learned that the \$5,000,000 CREST award will be funded. It will support the creation of an interdisciplinary center at NMSU to design intelligent technologies for smart grids.

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

- Congratulations to Robert Steiner for a job well done in receiving one of the Donald C. Roush Excellence in Teaching Awards.
- Applications are being sought from faculty members in the College for the Garrey E. and Katherine T. Carruthers Chair in Economic Development. The chair was vacated in July when Kevin Boberg became the Vice President for Economic Development.
- At the Hall of Fame dinner on April 25<sup>th</sup>, we will be honoring alumnus Greg Maxwell (for induction into the Hall of Fame) as well as Judy Johnson for the Traders Award (given to supporter who is not an alumnus of the College) and El Paso Electric for the corporate Traders Award.
- I met with the Department of Economics, Applied Statistics and International Business on January 10<sup>th</sup> to provide feedback from the evaluation of the department head.
- Associate Dean Liz Ellis recently met with Wukang Li, director of World American Cultural Exchanges about the possibility of renewing NMSU's agreement with his organization to facilitate admission of 2+2 students from China.
- On January 6, David Boje and Grace Ann Rosile, faculty members in Management, were guests on KOBE-AM 1450's *Speak Up, Las Cruces!* They discussed their shared personal and professional lives including their Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative project titled Tribal Wisdom for Business Ethics.
- I also met with ad hoc committees in the college to discuss celebration of the college's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and implementation of an online MBA program.

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

- This week began with all day interviews in El Paso on Sunday for the Foundation VP, the committee interviewed ten candidates on Saturday and Sunday.
- Presented at the EMD departmental meeting about a variety of issues including enrollment, funding for next year, and future plans for the college and department, responded to questions from the department about targeted hires and a couple of other topics.
- Presented to the department of Sped/CD about enrollment, funding for next year and future plans for the college and department, responded to questions about the fifth year program, accreditation and other topics.
- Communicated with the President/Provost/Glen Hauble and Ricardo Rel about the funding for Rentfrow remodel.
- Sent out 20 thank you notes to donors and friends of the college, discussed with another donor the possibility of supporting new scholarship.
- Met with a subcommittee of the Bridge to discuss teacher issues and support in this community.

- Participated in Convocation and observed Paco Gilpin receiving the Roush Teaching Award.
- Called the Superintendent in Roswell NM to offer our support and express our sincere concern for the families and teachers in his community.
- Met with Judge Macias to discuss future community support that the college can participate in to assist in improving the educational opportunities for children and families he works with.
- Coordinated and presented at the opening programs for the college, topics covered included enrollment in teacher education, foundation and scholarships, legislative issues, national trends in education, celebrated the stories of students and faculty, strategic plan, future accreditation, action research, diversity awards.
- Met with Dr. O'Donnell and Dr. DeNecochea' to debrief about the opening program activities.
- Requested draft letters from Adelina to send to future graduates of our college, the intent is to send a congratulation letter to each graduate from education each semester.
- Met with Dr. Osanloo to discuss the Fulton activities for the year and the new diversity award being developed by the College Council.
- Greeted our ten transfer students to welcome them to our college and find out about their background.
- Reviewed reports on gifts to the college in 2013, and began identifying those who have provided our college with extensive support and developed plans for future fund raising and communication.
- Met with the Faculty from CD, Dr. Boberg and Resound Ear Company and the Champion consulting firm to discuss our future Audiology program in collaboration with the new Allied Early College High School.
- The Audiology meeting discussed a future partnership and training program related to CD.
- Presented to the Rosemont Leaderships students on Saturday and welcomed them to campus.
- Worked with UNM/Regent Gonzalez/Rene Guillaume to develop a letter to Mr. Burrell outlining the requirements and timeline for funding the first year of the Rosemont Scholars.
- Dr. Reyes shared with me his plan to allocate assistantship dollars to the colleges, and I strongly supported his plan.
- Had lunch with a donor and Board of Advocate member to discuss the Board of Advocates recommendations for the Cornerstone Award.
- Discussed with Karin Trujillo a research collaborative project with the Bridge on teacher satisfaction and perceptions in Dona Ana County.
- Attended Dr. Huerta's retirement receptions and said a few words thanking her for the contributions she made to our community.
- Met with Dr. Hannan to discuss several budget issues and the feasibility of the market salary adjustments as it relates to our college.
- Met with a faculty member to discuss an offer made by another institution to that individual.

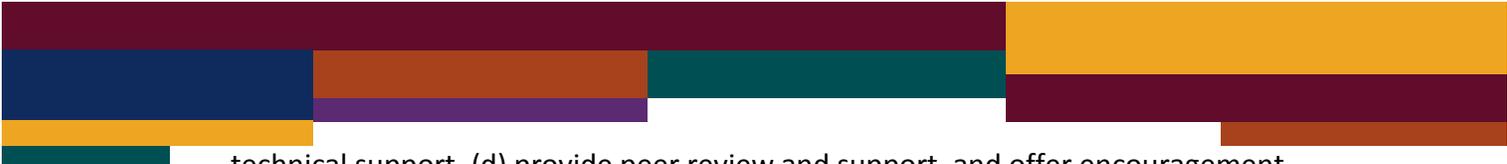
- Had a phone conversation with Kathy Moran from Indiana about the Inspectorate visit and outlined the requirements for the visit.
- Discussed with Dr. O'Donnell the national accreditation planning process and approved his initial recommendations for implementation.
- Reviewed legislation on licensure changes and responded to Dr. Fant and Ricardo Rel.

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

- The Institute of Energy and Environment, Department of Chemical Engineering, and the Engineering Research Center (ERC) collaborated on submitting a \$20 million, 5-year proposal to the Department of Energy to establish an Energy Frontiers Research Center at New Mexico State University.
- ME faculty members Lee, Shu, and Wei, submitted a successful proposal to the Department of the Army. The award will provide approximately \$500K in funding. The equipment that will be purchased will significantly enhance the department's ability to analyze and evaluate fluid structure interactions.
- The Chemical Engineering Department continues to move forward with a request to change the department name to "Chemical and Materials Engineering." The proposition for the name change was presented at the January 13 ADAC meeting where it was approved. The proposition will now be considered by the DAC and the Faculty Senate. In parallel, a minor certificate in Materials Engineering has been defined and approved for the 2014-2015 undergraduate catalog. Interim Graduate Dean Reyes has recommended this minor for graduate offering.

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

- The college welcomed new community and alumni relations coordinator, Courtney Lopez to the development office.
- The Community Advisory Committee of the Geriatric Education Program of the School of Nursing, College of Health and Social Services met on January 16 to review the progress of the HRSA-funded project and to plan our 2015 Community Conference on Geriatrics and Gerontological practice which will serve the training and professional development needs of professionals serving the geriatric population in Southern New Mexico.
- On behalf of the Survey Research Center, Associate Dean Joe Tomaka developed, finalized, and delivered estimate for project on Business Opportunities in Doña Ana County to Mr. Paul Kolp. Provided several cost estimates for different variations of this survey project, which will likely involve a combination of online, traditional mail, and telephone surveying. In total, we anticipate surveying close to 1500 businesses of all sizes in Dona Ana County
- Associate Dean Joe Tomaka arranged and began planning for the first meeting of CHSS Grant Club. The purpose of grant club is (a) to provide organized advice and feedback to anyone in the process of writing a grant, (b) Support new, newish, and experienced grant writers, (c) provide a forum for grant writing instruction and



technical support, (d) provide peer review and support, and offer encouragement and motivation in grant writing. We anticipate that this iteration of grant club will result in multiple submissions for internal and external funding.

- The School of Nursing's BSN students returned on Monday, January 13th for three days of clinical skills orientation. BSN faculty held orientations for all BSN semester throughout the college. On Friday, the lab simulated the "Aggie Hospital" so students could assist "patients".
- Dr. Pamela Schultz & Dr. Teresa Keller attended a meeting of the Nursing Council to address the needs of nursing at main campus.
- Several School of Nursing faculty attended the NMNEC curriculum meeting in Albuquerque on Friday, January 17, 2014 to discuss the status of the curriculum changes.
- Associate Dean Joe Tomaka developed syllabus and assignments for new course offering in public health: Survey Research Methods. This is the first offering of this class, which will involve use of the Southwest Survey Research Center.
- An abstract submission by Public Health Sciences' Dr. Rebecca Palacios and Dr. Elizabeth EnglandKennedy was accepted for the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology in Albuquerque, NM, March 18-22.
- HSS hosted El Paso Electric for an NMSU check presentation: SoAHEC was funded for an energy conservation program in the colonias. The School of Social Work's 2014 Workforce Development Summit also received \$4,000.
- A \$50,000 Grant from Mountain West Research Consortium (NIH funded) was awarded in December 2013 to Dr. Kris Robinson, Nursing, Dr. Cindy Kratzke, Public Health Science, and Bea Favela, Southern Area Health Education (SoAHEC). The interdisciplinary grant's title is Technology Use to Support Behavior Change: A Pilot Study.
- Through SoAHEC's efforts, \$9K was awarded to our student organizations (3K) to each Student Ambassadors, Student Nursing Association, and Public Health Students to participate in community health education on campus around the Affordable Care Act.

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

- Advising of 202 undeclared graduate students.
- Participated with International Graduate Student Orientation.
- Meeting with the Graduate Council Executive Committee to ensure graduate-faculty is active over academic matters pertaining to graduate degree programs.
- Implementation of graduate school policies and procedures for graduate student with 11 complaints/grievances resolved.
- Participated in Graduate Council to ensure graduate-faculty is active over academic matters pertaining to graduate degree programs.
- Maintained graduate student academic records and provided final verification that students had completed all requirements for his/her degree: certification of 294 graduate degrees.

- Participated with Graduate Student Council Executive Committee on semester activities: 1<sup>st</sup> Mondays, GRAS, and ensured for graduate student representation in the processes that establish and govern graduate degree programs.
- Addressed institution-wide graduate issues through the graduate education policy alignment committee meetings: graduate school, financial aid, admission, and registrars.
- Continued progress toward Electronic Thesis and Dissertation at NMSU.
- Meetings with College Deans regarding Graduate School Spring 2014 semester initiatives.
- Provided guidance to requesting departments on new and revise graduate programs.
- Collaborated with Admission Services on graduate student admissions.
- Spring 2014, planning of student support services and retention workshops.

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

- Dean Eamon and Valerie Torres met with Jeany Llorente-Ontiveros from University Communication to discuss and plan publicity for the Spring Speakers Series.
- Yvonne Flores developed and coordinated the Research Travel Grant for Crimson Scholars.
- Valerie Torres organized, and chaired a planning meeting with the Undergraduate Research and Creative Arts Symposium sponsors to discuss the logistics for the upcoming symposium on April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Dean Eamon presented at a reception for the Rosemont Leadership Institute Scholars reunion.

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

- Had beginning of the spring semester meeting with Library Faculty.
- Attended a program and luncheon meeting with the Dona Ana Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.
- Had a meeting with April Anaya, Library Development Director, Tina Byford, Associate VP, Office of Advancement, and Elaine Stachera, Regional Development Officer to discuss ways in which collaboration between the University Library and the Office of Advancement could be strengthened.

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

- **On-Campus Interviews for CIO Position** – Applicant finalists have been selected for the Associate Vice President/Chief Information Officer position. On-campus interviews will take place over the next couple of weeks. See <http://webcomm.nmsu.edu/hire/> for details.
- **Search Process for Vice President of University Advancement/Foundation President** – Round one interviews were conducted by the search committee on

January 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> with on-campus interviews expected to take place during the first half of February.

- **2014 Legislative Session** – Administration and Finance is participating in bill review and analysis for the 2014 legislative session through Office of Government Relations and the Vice President for External Relations/Chief of Staff
- **Administration and Finance Employee Action Committee** – Bruce Ernst, Sr. Enterprise Database Administrator and Committee Chair, provided the AF Leadership Team with an update on efforts of the division committee including the work of the A&F PRIDE (Positive Reinforcement In Daily Effort) subcommittee that is developing a proposed division-wide reward and recognition program.
- **Budget Director Position Filled** – Paula Pierson has been selected to fill the Budget Director position effective February 1, 2014. Paula returns to the Budget Office where she held the position of Assistant Director prior to moving to Auxiliary Service to serve as Director of Auxiliary Business Support for past four years. Prior to coming to NMSU, Paula worked for the University of Michigan as a Senior Financial Analyst/Specialist and Accounting Supervisor. We are very pleased to promote “one of our own” and welcome her back to the Budget Office.

#### **Auxiliary Services**

- The Barnes & Noble Bookstore at NMSU welcomed the students back this week with the beginning of a 3 week discount of 25% on one spirit item. This coupon can be found in the Round Up.
- NMSU Housing & Campus Life opened the housing facilities on Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> for returning students. The NMSU Corbett Center Student Union went back to its regular hours on Monday, Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>.
- The NMSU Pan American Center hosted classic rock act STYX in concert on Wednesday, Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>, with over 2700 in attendance.

#### **Information and Communication Technologies**

- Free to all active NMSU students, NMSU is offering Office365 ProPlus --- Microsoft’s office suite with Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Outlook, OneNote, Publisher, Access and Lync --- for download by all enrolled NMSU students.
- Norma Grijalva, interim CIO, and Piayarat Nilkaew, ICT’s interim Director of Telecommunications and Networking Services, attended the Westnet conference in Phoenix, Arizona. Westnet, is a regional organization comprised of higher education institutions who share common technology concerns. The topics included research support, software defined networking, managing complexity, and career ladder development to aid in recruitment and retention.

#### **Facilities and Services**

- Preparations have started for the RecycleMania competition that begins Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Look for promotions, posters, banners, and gatherings that help *you* recycle and help *us* win Grand Champion!
- FS PD&E Estimator Heidi Hubble, as well as fellow Project Managers, are actively working on estimate requests from departments throughout the campus interested in applying for BRR (Building Renewal and



Replacement) funding. The deadline to apply for this year's allocation is February 21, 2014.

- FS Engineer Dale Harrell reports that eight 4" conduits were installed from the manhole south of the Computer Center manhole to the Computer Center server room. These conduits will facilitate the installation of fiber optic cable from the main campus and areas beyond to the Computer Center server room. Pictured are the conduits coming up through the foundation of the Computer Center server room and transitioning from PVC (plastic) conduit to EMT (steel) conduit.
- FS Environmental Health & Safety honored David A. Rockstraw,



Chemical Engineering Department Head and Robert Davis Distinguished Achievement Professor, as a "Friend of Safety." He was recognized for his efforts to enhance the culture of environmental health and safety and steps he has taken to improve laboratory safety at NMSU. Katrina Doolittle, Executive Director for EH&S, presented the award at a laboratory safety seminar titled, Improving the Culture of Safety at NMSU, which was attended by 80 faculty and staff from the College of Engineering who learned about roles and responsibilities for safety and their important leadership role in promoting a positive safety culture.

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

- Kicked off formal bill analysis process with OGR and senior staff. Meeting each morning, assigning bills and FIR requests and meeting to review and develop consensus position to present to policy makers.
- Developing WAC Tournament logistic support plans.
- Finalized support coordination for the 2014 Legislative basketball game.
- Completed support coordination for the January BOR meeting.
- Participated in media training with UComm.
- Developing analysis of options for President to consider regarding approaches to asset development process.
- Hosted HVS to campus visit regarding the market feasibility study for the proposed hotel RFP.
- Supporting Feb 7<sup>TH</sup> Army ROTC Alumni group gathering and plan to dedicate a plaque to Aggies that have given their lives in service to our nation since 2001.

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

- On Monday, Dr. Bernadette Montoya addressed a meeting of the Aprendamos Intervention Team, which provides therapy and consultation services to children in the community who are at risk or have a developmental delay. She spoke on Building Teamwork During Organizational Change.

- Dr. Montoya is serving on the NMSU Legislative Strike Force, and SAEM staffs have been analyzing bills that were pre-filed before the 2014 legislative session. We expect to see more relevant bills filed as the session actually opens on January 21<sup>st</sup>. The primary issue that SAEM is focusing on is the Lottery Scholarship.
- Dr. Montoya is working to build support of The RoundUp and has met with members of the RoundUp staff and their advisor, Jeff Hand. In addition, the RoundUp has enlisted the expertise of Dave McCollum to help with various aspects of the newspaper. Departments throughout the University are encouraged to partner with our student-run newspaper by alerting them to newsworthy articles and by purchasing advertisements.
- In partnership with the Office of Student Engagement, the Office of University Admissions hosted New Student Registration and Orientation for incoming undergraduate students.

**University Admissions, Ms. Valerie Pickett**

- Norma Palomino, Admission Advisor, presented at International New Student Orientation.
- In partnership with the Graduate School, an advising program has been developed for undeclared graduate students. The goal of the program is to ensure undeclared graduate students understand the limitations of the undeclared status and are working with their potential departments.
- Valerie Pickett is working with Ben Woods, Maureen Howard, and members of the University Communications staff on the upcoming spring advertising campaign.

**University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services, Ms. Janie Merchant**

- The Graduate School, University Admissions, International Admissions, The Office of the Registrar, and University Financial Aid are working on a project to bring consistency between NMSU academic and financial aid policies and state and federal regulations.
- Valeria Olsson, Financial Aid Business Manager, is working with Siiri Rogers and Student Information Management to automate error reporting for work-study positions, which were recently switched from manual to electronic hiring procedures.
- Marlene Melendez, Assistant Director for Scholarships, and Siiri Rogers, of Student Information Management, are working with the Office of Admissions and The Office of The Registrar, to post tuition waivers as scholarship awards. This change allows students to be more aware of the tuition discount they receive and that there are requirements to keep their award. Additionally, Business and Finance is better able to report tuition waivers and their fiscal costs to the New Mexico Higher Education Department.

**Office of Student Engagement, Dr. Terry Cook**

- Thirty-three faculty and staff have volunteered to serve as QuickConnect responders for Spring 2014. Faculty and instructors use the QuickConnect system to report student challenges with attendance and course content.
- The Spring 2014 New Student Registration Program and Orientation welcomed 104



New Aggies on January 14. The event featured a Resource Fair, the opportunity to speak with program representatives, a Scavenger Hunt, and lunch for students and families with addresses by Vice President Dr. Bernadette Montoya and Dean of Students Dr. Michael Jasek. Approximately 180 New Students who were unable to attend the orientation were invited to participate in a New Student Online Orientation through Canvas.

- Two junior-level mentors for Chase Scholars, Kaylene Womack from Truth or Consequences and Meghan Ontiveros from El Paso, attended training on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Chase Mentors meet weekly with nineteen students receiving a scholarship from the Chase Foundation of Artesia, New Mexico. Since starting the mentor program began in fall 2010, retention and the average GPA have improved for Chase Scholars.

#### **Health and Wellness, Ms. Lori McKee**

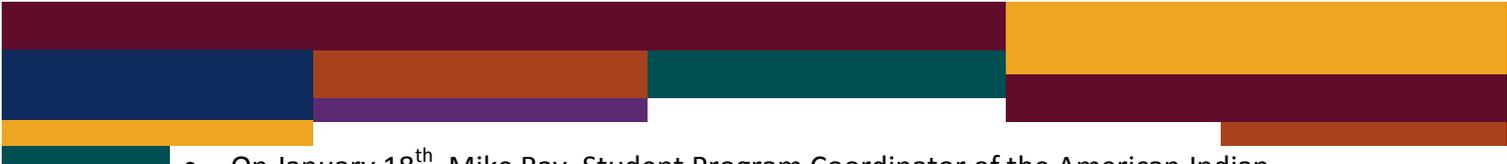
- **Campus Health Center** coordinates with the Center for International Programs to provide a clinic for incoming international students to screen for TB infection prior to attending classes at NMSU. The clinic scheduled on January 13<sup>th</sup> facilitated the incoming spring cohort of 70 international students. A second clinic on January 24<sup>th</sup>, will serve 90 participants in the third Go Teacher cohort. The screening consists of TB testing, reading, chest x-rays, and clearance and referrals.
- Lori McKee is a member of the Online Education Infrastructure Task Force, which is charged with prioritizing issues that affect processes and procedures related to the growth and expansion of online program offerings. The Task Force will provide recommendations to the Deputy Provost for improvements. The Task Force subgroups work on issues relating to students, faculty and department, and institutional policy and administration.

#### **University Registrar, Mr. Mike Zimmerman**

- Jacobo Varela, Director of Military and Veterans Program, attended the National Student Veterans Association conference in Phoenix, Arizona to learn about student veteran concerns across the nation.
- Mr. Varela met with Athletics and both ROTC commanders to plan for the upcoming Military Appreciation Game and attended the Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee meeting.
- Military and Veterans Program hosted the New Student Veteran Welcome and Orientation for the 2014 spring term.

#### **Office of Student Diversity and Outreach, Ms. Christina Chavez Kelley**

- On January 10<sup>th</sup>, Laura Gutierrez Spencer, Director of Chicano Programs, conducted the “Small Talk and Intercultural Communication Workshop” for the orientation of new international students.
- On January 14<sup>th</sup>, the Sexual & Gender Diversity Resource Center held a Safe Zone Training for new Community Assistants from Housing and Residential Life.
- All OSD offices participated in the spring New Student Registration Resource Fair held in Corbett Center on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

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- On January 18<sup>th</sup>, Mike Ray, Student Program Coordinator of the American Indian Program, attended the Los Lunas Title VII Indian Education and Isleta Pueblo Higher Education Department Annual College/Career Day at Isleta Pueblo. He spoke with prospective undergraduate students interested in pursuing higher education.

### **Interim Vice President Economic Development, Dr. Kevin Boberg Studio G Student/Alumni Business Incubator**

- Studio G client ByteWare has seen great success with the launch of the company's first app on Apple's App Store. In the first month the company received over 120 purchases of their \$4.99 app, Superflat, which adds features to the hit game Minecraft. Purchases have come from around the world. ByteWare is excited about the reach they've been able to have through Apple's App Store and plans to release several more apps through the spring. More information is available on-line at the [company's homepage](#) and [through itunes](#).

### **Arrowhead Innovation Network (AIN)**

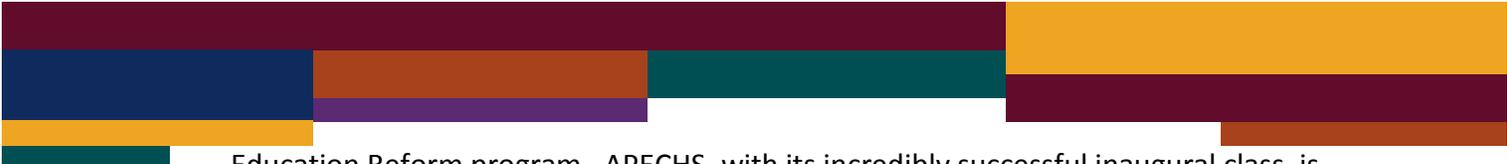
- An AIN Advisory Council meeting was held January 14<sup>th</sup>. The group discussed Arrowhead's student innovation and entrepreneurship programming plans (and met Studio G student/alumni business incubator clients Brendan Sullivan and Taylor Burgett), Arrowhead communication and promotion plans, corporate engagement, and NM Legislature initiatives to be considered in the upcoming session. Current Advisory Council members include Barbara Brazil (Deputy Secretary, New Mexico Economic Development Department), John Chavez (President, New Mexico Angels and Managing Director, New Mexico Start-Up Factory), Jackie Mitchell Edwards (Independent Branch Leader, Charles Schwab Las Cruces), John Freisinger (President and CEO, Technology Ventures Corporation), Elizabeth Mata (Attorney, Hamilton Brook Smith Reynolds Intellectual Property Law), Reynie Ortiz (Investment Committee Chairman, NMSU Foundation Board and St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees), Deborah Peacock (President/CEO and Managing Partner, Peacock Myers, P.C.), Lee Rand (Sun Mountain Capital), George Ruth (Senior Vice President, Citizens Bank of Las Cruces), and Ronald White (Independent Wealth Advisor, Raymond James Financial Services).

### **Corporate Engagement**

- Arrowhead staff member Pam Wood, with Joe Graham and Jeanelle Chavez from Indian Resource Development (<http://aces.nmsu.edu/academics/ird/>), facilitated a meeting between Dupont/Pioneer representatives and Beulah John, Navajo Agricultural Products Industry, to provide an additional scholarship, sponsored by Dupont/Pioneer, for the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry (NAPI) Scholarship Program. This program provides a scholarship for undergraduate students and an internship opportunity leading to full-time employment with NAPI upon completion of degree.

### **Arrowhead Park**

- Gov. Susana Martinez attended a ceremony at Arrowhead Park Early College High School (APECHS) to honor recent awards for NM schools from the Daniels Fund K-12



Education Reform program. APECHS, with its incredibly successful inaugural class, is serving as a model for four similar institutions to be established across the state (News releases on the Governor's visit are available at <http://krwg.org/post/matched-million-nm-early-college-schools> and [http://www.lcsun-news.com/las\\_cruces-news/ci\\_24929181/four-nm-districts-receive-early-college-high-funding](http://www.lcsun-news.com/las_cruces-news/ci_24929181/four-nm-districts-receive-early-college-high-funding)). APEHCS and the Bridge of Southern New Mexico are being recognized outside the State as well. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's (USCCF) Education and Workforce program—which promotes the rigorous educational standards and effective job training systems needed to preserve the strength of the workforce—recently recognized both in its video series [Profiles of Change](#).

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

- Vimal Chaitanya, Jeff Arterburn, Brad Shuster, Ross Staffeldt and Jay Misra completed a productive tour in India to enhance research and academic collaborations with some of the most prestigious academic institutions there. Among the institutions visited were Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mumbai, IIT Bhubaneswar, IIT Indore, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune and the M.S. University of Baroda.
- Vimal Chaitanya delivered a talk at the Indo-US Joint Workshop under the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) at IIT Mumbai on Natural Resource Constraints Dictated Design Principles for Large-Scale Biofuel Production Systems
- Pat Hynes was an invited presenter to the Dona Ana County Commission on 2.24.14 regarding the Student Launch Program. New Mexico Space Grant was awarded \$7500 from El Paso Electric for support of the International Symposium for Personal and Commercial Spaceflight.
- Two unsolicited proposals were submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration this week by PSL.
- PSL received additional funds for Army/IOVSA (Information Operations Vulnerability-Survivability Assessment) program to the tune of about \$1.7M.
- PSL entered into a Non-Disclosure Agreement with AerSale.
- PSL is working on the ongoing proposal preparation for the NASA CSBF (Balloon) program. The Request for Proposal was released on January 8, 2014.
- Neta Fernandez participated in the subcommittee for setting up the first service center at Arts and Sciences.
- OGC completed all required documents for the new contract with Ecuador, so the Provost and Dr. Menking could travel to Ecuador this week for the signing ceremony.
- ORD reviewed approximately 675 funding opportunities and narrowed them down to disseminate approximately 38 to faculty researchers through the NMSU Grants and Research Information Database (GRID) system, based on interest and eligibility for NMSU.
- Sam Fernald met with the NM Bureau Geology Mineral Resources to talk about their Aquifer Mapping Program, support for WRRI at the legislative session in Santa Fe,

and sharing of data. The hope is to work on a statewide aquifer map to determine locations and types of aquifers throughout New Mexico.

- WRRRI sent to NASA the Letter of Intent for the remote sensing project proposal for the Evapotranspiration (ET) part of the statewide water budget.
- WRRRI had conference calls with state officials regarding an expansion of WRRRI's existing septic maintenance workshops to other New Mexico border counties. Four workshops are planned this spring for Luna County property owners.
- The Water Science and Management program Management Team met for update on state of the program and to adapt graduate catalog language for core classes and associated minors. Program has 18 current students and about five more accepted but not enrolled and four students expect to graduate this spring or summer.

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

- VPUA office staff continues to fine tune the office work plan conducting an office-wide and department-specific SWOT analysis.
- VPUA/NMSU Foundation hosted the annual New Board Member Orientation on Wednesday. Twenty-five board members attended remotely and/or in person. The orientation is designed and intended to give each member an overview of their duties and expectations as NMSU Foundation board members.
- The NMSU Foundation Investment Committee held a special meeting on Thursday. Among the business was the introduction of the 2014 committee members in addition to reviewing the performance of the international equity managers.
- Corporate and Foundation Relations (CFR) has been busy since the start of the New Year.

#### **Highlights**

The CFR team coordinated and prepared for an all-campus meeting with El Paso Electric that led to the check award ceremony this week where EPE provided grants totaling \$50,075 to NMSU colleges and units.



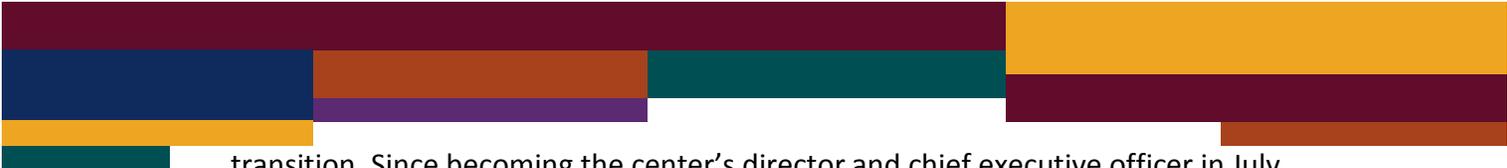
- CFR met with representatives of Walgreen's and CVS regarding cultivation of partnerships with campus. CFR continues work on large grant requests for support of Veteran's programs and early childhood education to Kellogg Foundation and Blackstone Foundation. The CFR team submitted grant requests to Daniels Fund for scholarships and Texas Guaranteed Foundation; a partnership between College of Ed and Student Affairs for research on helping Military Students succeed. Moreover, CFR has arranged a telephonic meeting with a new donor prospect, a foundation based in Oklahoma, which is interested in supporting agriculture programs.
- **NMSUF 2014 Women's Estate Planning Conferences**  
Gift Planning Director and Conference Facilitator Robert Peterson has organized two NMSU Estate Planning Conferences for Women -- in Las Cruces (7th annual) and in Albuquerque (inaugural). These special programs are offered as a community service for area women with support from Debbie Widger, NMSU Foundation; Glenn Davis, ScottHulse PC; Kenneth C. Leach and Associates PC; Dr. Tammie Campos, NMSU Alumni Association, and Kristina Martinez, NMSU Albuquerque Center.
- Albuquerque Business First announced the NMSU Alumni Association made the list of top 13 alumni associations ranked by total members. The NMSU Alumni Association moved up from number six in 2012 to number 2 in 2013 and was number 3 on the Top Five list of Associations based on diversity of alumni events.
- Colleen Richardson, alumni relations officer, supported the Student Resource Fair on January 14<sup>th</sup> with a booth highlighting the NMSU Alumni Association. She spoke to incoming transfer students about the programs and services the Alumni Office has available for students.
- The posting of the quarterly alumni US and NM maps and numbers is available online highlighting our alumni by location. Visit <http://alum.nmsu.edu/s/422/internal.aspx?sid=422&gid=1&pgid=2135> to view the maps.

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

- Dr. Boston attended the 2014 NCAA Convention held in San Diego, CA. The schedule of events included WAC and Sun Belt AD Winter meetings, Division 1 Leadership Council meetings of which Dr. Boston is a member and the D1 Governance sessions.

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

- For the week of January 6<sup>th</sup>, news stories in both local and national media totaled 117 placements. The top story covered by the media this week was the launch of a new organization, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), by students in the College of Health and Social Services. The student club, which focuses on mental health issues, will be the first chapter in New Mexico.
- This week's Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News profiled Kathy Hansen, Arrowhead Center CEO, who has spent the last six months leading New Mexico State University's Arrowhead Center through a period of continued expansion and



transition. Since becoming the center's director and chief executive officer in July, she's helped shape the innovation hub's mission to boost economic development in the region and across the state.

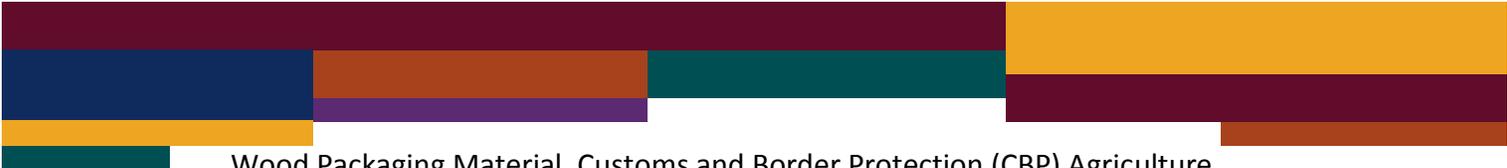
- This week's Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted NMSU researcher Donovan Bailey's project, which received an \$861,269 National Science Foundation grant to develop plant breeding markers and to investigate the evolution of gene expression between species of the "miracle trees," a genus of plants found in the tropics that hold great potential for sustainable agriculture.
- Media Relations Director Minerva Baumann met with Albuquerque Journal Las Cruces Bureau reporter Lauren Villagran about her priorities for the new year and stories for the Journal's Education page.
- The News/Media Relations staff conducted media training for university administrators with the help of facilitator Noreen Jaramillo, journalist and anchorwoman from KTSM-TV.
- KRWG-FM aired a story on the efforts by the NMSU Campus Health Center to provide vaccine shots to students. With flu season upon us, this was an important message to share with our listeners.
- The KRWG-TV program "Newsmakers" continued its comprehensive series on 2014 politics this week with an interview of Leslie Endean Singh, a Democratic candidate for Congress in New Mexico's 2nd District.

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

No Report Submitted – at Legislative Session in Santa Fe

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

- This week I attended the annual New Mexico Hay Growers Conference and was asked to serve as an ex-officio member of their board. Hay is the third largest commodity grown in New Mexico. There were over 150 registered for the conference.
- Planning continues for the upcoming Agrifuture Conference to be held in Albuquerque May 12-14<sup>th</sup>. This conference will target young potential agriculturists and returning veterans, who are interested in a career in production agriculture. The conference will feature discussions on entering agriculture production, programs available for new and young producers, issues associated with generation transfer, tours and much more.
- NMDA hosted a Trade Seminar for those utilizing the Port of Santa Teresa for commodity import and export. The meeting was sponsored by the Port of Santa Teresa, New Mexico and U.S. Customs and Border Protection El Paso Field Office. The seminar's goal was to provide agricultural producers with information and a better understanding of current trade issues including: Good Management Practices for Chile and Vegetables, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Import Operations, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Pest Identification Services,



Wood Packaging Material, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Agriculture  
Importation, and information about Free Trade Zones (FTZ).