



New Mexico State University

Weekly Activity Report

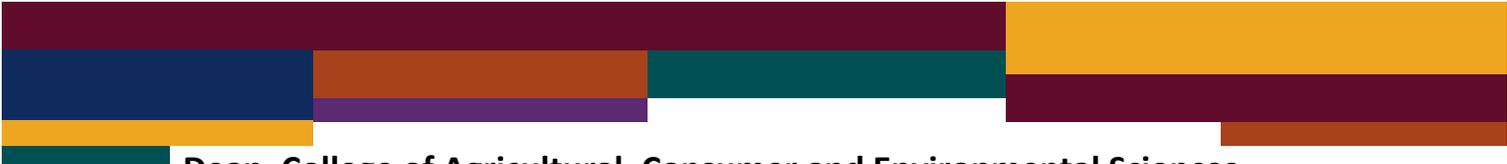
April 14 -18, 2014

President Garrey Carruthers, Ph.D.

Donor Development – next week will provide update of activities from Artesia, Hobbs, New York, Washington D.C., and Denver.

Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Dan Howard

- I met with Patrick Alexander, a postdoc who is working in our herbaria, to discuss the future of the herbaria at NMSU. He noted that our herbaria collections are extremely valuable and contain more than 700 type specimens (the specimen that represents a species, typically designated when the species is described for the first time). Dr. Alexander is concerned that with his departure for a job with the BLM, the herbaria at NMSU will become orphans and their curation will be threatened. Given the value of the NMSU herbaria collections to science, it is important that NMSU plan for their proper care.
- I attended a meeting with student leaders to discuss the proposed change in admission standards. None of the leaders expressed opposition to the plan, although they did note the importance of helping students on the Guaranteed Pathway feel that they are part of the NMSU community. Setting up a cohort model in which students on the pathway take classes together will be important for the success of the program.
- Natalie Kellner and I met to discuss the work of the Digital Measures Task Force. The goal of the task force is to make Digital Measures more relevant and easier to use for faculty members, while at the same time allowing for the aggregation of the data collected in a Digital Measures report. The work is ongoing, although Ms. Kellner is happy with the progress to this point.
- The Peace Corps was front and center at NMSU last week as representatives of the Peace Corps from Washington and New Mexico, as well as faculty members from the University of Arizona and Michigan Tech, met with faculty and staff from NMSU to discuss the Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program and the Masters International Program. The major goals of the meetings were to find ways to better partner with the Peace Corps and encourage more Peace Corps volunteers to come to NMSU for graduate degrees after their service, or as part of our Masters International Program. Peace Corps volunteers are typically high achieving, service oriented students, who can lift the spirit of a department and a cohort of graduate students.



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

- **Entomology, Plant Pathology and Weed Science.** Graeme Davis and Heather Bedale gave a presentation to Conlee Elementary school kids during their career day events. They went to Conlee Elementary with a large number of insect specimens from the Arthropod Museum (located in Skeen Hall) and some live arthropods as well. They talked to the kids about what it means to be an entomologist, their connection to other fields of study such as Plant Pathology and Weed Science, the importance of the study of insects, what each of their jobs entail, and what they like about their work as entomologists. Graeme and Heather took quite a few live arthropods to share with the classrooms they visited in order to expose the kids to some of the diversity of arthropods out there in the world in an exciting way. They used the live arachnids and insects to talk about some differences in body plans among arthropods and how that relates to the different habitats that they occupy, and some of the roles they play in natural systems and in agriculture, and, of course they answered the ever popular question—**does it bite?** Graeme and Heather finished by showing some insect and arachnid specimens explained what they were and what they do, and tried to convey the importance of well curated and well organized specimens for the continued study of arthropods. The kids seemed to get especially excited about the live creatures, as is usually the case, and they also managed to interest a few of the adults that were present. At the end of the day the two entomologists were told they were one of the most popular visitors with the kids that day, along with an FBI agent carrying all sorts of interesting looking weapons and shields—if only there was an FBI entomologist, which would have been really popular!
- **Cooperative Extension.** The Just Be It! Healthy & Fit (JBI) youth nutrition program is being taught to 800 elementary school-age children in Rio Rancho public schools. JBI was created by NMSU Extension home economists in Santa Fe, Los Alamos and Rio Arriba counties. The JBI curriculum teaches youth to make nutritious food choices, such as eating fruits and vegetables for snacks instead of junk food, and promotes regular physical activity. The program has been used in several of the district’s elementary schools for the past two years, but this year it was expanded to all 10 elementary schools with the help of a grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico’s Healthy Kids, Healthy Families initiative. Cooperative Extension Service provides manuals to the schools that include all of the lessons, activities and recipes for the nutritional snack. The full article can be seen at <http://newscenter.nmsu.edu/Articles/view/10256/nmsu-extension-expands-just-be-it-program-to-rio-rancho-elementary-schools> and you can watch a video at <http://youtu.be/APTUDblPFyw>
- **Media Productions:** The ACES Media Productions team has collaborated with the College of Business to create a video presentation honoring NMSU alum and 2014 Hall of Fame recipient, Greg Maxwell which will be shown at the Hall of Fame celebration on Friday, April 25. Maxwell is the executive vice president, finance and chief financial officer for Phillips 66. He earned a bachelor of accountancy from NMSU in 1978.

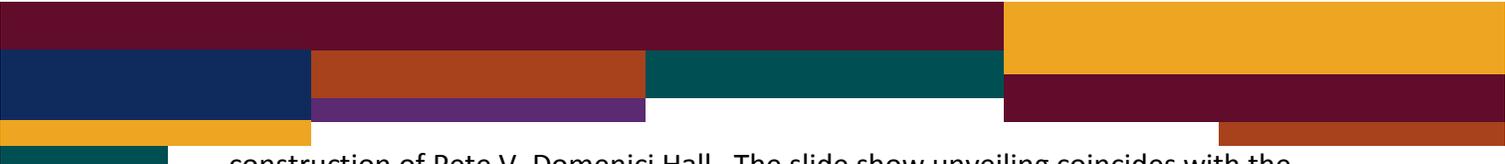
- **Dr. Steve Loring**, Associate Director of Agricultural Experiment Station, attended the Western Rural Development Center’s annual Board of Directors meeting in Albuquerque. The Western Rural Development Center is a regional catalyst for capacity building in the West. The Center collaborates with its public and private sector partners to promote excellence in research, education and Extension for the prosperity of western rural communities by sharing scientific discovery and application of sustainable practices with rural citizens via conferences, trainings, Web 2.0, and publications. The Center aims to help rural communities prosper, thrive economically, and become self-sustaining. During the meeting Edmond Gomez, Director for Extension’s Rural Agricultural Improvement & Public Affairs Project, talked about the history of New Mexico, and John Garlisch, Extension Ag Agent in Bernalillo County, conducted a tour of Albuquerque community gardens.
- **FFA.** Whether it’s studying plants in the field or completing a practicum indoors-FFA members have been hard at work showcasing their knowledge and skills. What better place to do so than the home of the Aggies at New Mexico State University! They flooded NMSU and the city of Las Cruces with their blue and gold, and have shown the pride and professionalism that is integral to the FFA organization. We are proud of the hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm that each member brings to this event. The 2014 New Mexico FFA State Career Development by the numbers: 1,600 Kids competed, 417 teams, 63 chapters, 21 events. Having these kids come and compete on campus is a recruiting tool for all NMSU colleges.
- **Family and Consumer Sciences.** **Dr. Carol Turner**, Extension Nutrition Specialist, was honored last week with the Outstanding Dietitian of the Year award from the New Mexico Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
Dr. Marcel Montanez, associate professor in Family and Child Science, was selected to participate in the Family and Consumer Sciences Emerging and New Leaders Workshop in Tulsa, Oklahoma July 27-30.
Dr. Kourtney Vaillancourt, college associate professor in Family and Child Science, was invited by the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy to go to New York in June to help write items for the national licensure exam for marriage and family therapists.
Maria Gomez, undergraduate student in Family and Consumer Sciences Education, was recently selected to attend the Family and Consumer Sciences Leadership Honors Boot Camp in Washington, DC May 18-23. Maria was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to help defray the cost of the boot camp.

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

No Activity to Report

Interim Dean, College of Business, Dr. Kathleen Brook

- Thanks to webmaster Renee Brown, there is a short slide show on the college web page (<http://business.nmsu.edu/about-us/history/>) showing the evolution of the college’s buildings – from the demolition of World War II barracks to the



construction of Pete V. Domenici Hall. The slide show unveiling coincides with the Hall of Fame banquet on April 25.

- Congratulations to outstanding staff members, Justine Adkisson, Doris Rios, and Yolanda Sanchez who were recognized with plaques and monetary awards for their service during the past year. Awards were announced at the annual staff awards luncheon attended by staff members and their supervisors at La Posta.
- Congratulations on tenure and promotion to associate professor to Bill Smith (Management), on tenure to Collin Payne (Marketing), and on promotion to professor to Steve Elias and Grace Ann Rosile (Management), Richard Oliver (Information Systems), and Maria deBoyrie (Finance).
- Congratulations to Liz Ellis, interim associate dean and alumna of the College of Business, on her appointment as university counsel.
- With Ken Martin and Jim Peach, I attended a faculty appreciation dinner sponsored by Pi Beta Phi sorority – a very nice opportunity to talk with students and other faculty and staff.
- In recent weeks, undergraduate advisor Deb Cardinali has represented the college at transfer days at three El Paso Community College campuses and at Santa Fe Community College, and at the NMAAA conference on advising VA students and students with disabilities. Advisor Justine Adkisson arranged opportunities for faculty members to learn more about study abroad opportunities for students.
- Richard Oliver (Information Systems) presented a talk and demonstration on accessibility tools for content presentations in online classes in the Let's Talk Online Teaching session of the Teaching Academy. Topics included narration of PowerPoint presentations, creation of presentation scripts, automatic speech recognition and macro-enabled PowerPoint presentations.
- Carlo Mora (Information Systems) attended the SAP Academic Conference in Atlanta, GA, March 26-29. He participated in workshops on Business Analytics and In-Memory Computing (HANA).
- Jeff Bickel ('03 Information Systems alum) spoke to two of Jennifer Kreie's Information Systems classes on April 7. Jeff works in the Management Systems group at PNM Resources, based in Albuquerque. He manages process improvement projects based on the Lean Six Sigma methodology.
- On April 11, accounting faculty held a reception for Accounting 221 and 222 students to provide them with an opportunity to gather information about careers in accounting and about the NMSU accounting program. The reception also gave students an opportunity to interact in an informal setting with the faculty that will be teaching their upper-division accounting classes. Master of Accountancy students were also in attendance to discuss their experience in the program.
- Larry Blank (Economics) made presentations to a group of 45 undergraduate business students at Lubbock Christian University on Economists in the Public & Private Sectors and to the Lubbock Economics Council on the electric utility industry structure, regulation and economics.

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- Chris Erickson (Economics) participated in the Las Cruces City Council-sponsored Great Conversation on minimum wage. The Great Conversation took place over three sessions, each lasting 1½ hours.

Dean, College of Education, Dr. Michael Morehead

- Dr. Morehead interviewed candidates from Speech Pathology and for the CEP and ELA shared position. All the candidates were excellent professionals that had extensive experience and quality backgrounds. Dean Morehead participated in the Education Council meeting. At this meeting the council, discussed future accreditation visits and the plans for partnering with PED as we move forward with national and state accreditation. Dr. Morehead also met with several individuals to discuss the Turn Around school initiative funded by the state. He also discussed with Vi Florez from UNM the possibility of partnering with UNM on the Turn Around school project. Dean Morehead reviewed the Cornerstone Award banquet and celebration preparation with Ashley Jurado. He also met with three faculty members to discuss and review a variety of college issues. Dean Morehead met with full professors to discuss promotion and tenure questions dealing with the Boyer model and allocation of effort. This meeting also included a report from Dr. Chavez Chavez on his work with Associate Professors and the qualities of and requirements to attain the rank of full professor. On Thursday, Dr. Morehead and Ashley Jurado met with donor, Mrs. Irene Willey for lunch. We wanted to thank her for generosity and continued support for the college.

Jim O'Donnell, Associate Dean

- Dr. Jim O'Donnell met with three potential candidates for two positions on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. He also conducted the Education Council meeting, attended the ADAC meeting, and worked with the Program Manager for Assessment to finalize the first of three annual reports that are due. Dr. O'Donnell attended the Peace Corps discussion and dinner, and met with the strategic plan director to discuss data collection process for the annual report. He completed the evaluation process for those he supervises, and met with the department head of C&I rote assist in developing plan for the clinical onsite programs. He visited and observed students at the elementary school and taught his weekly seminar.

Jonathan Schwartz, Associate Dean for Research

- The Associate Dean for Research and Outreach worked to support the restructuring of the Alliance. He also worked on a recently funded grant to support behavioral health options in the area, and on the newly funded HRSA grant for behavioral health training. Later in the week he submitted a RISE application for a doctoral student, and reached out to faculty in department meetings to support grant writing. Dr. Schwartz also attended meetings and worked to create programs and business models for the new Early College High School programs.

Gladys De Necochea, Assistant Dean for Budget & Planning

- Guiding the College of Education Sustainability Committee effort to commemorate Earth Day on Tuesday, April 22, a special program is planned from 3 PM to 4 PM in



O'Donnell Hall 104 which will include the presentation of the College of Education Green Award to recognize demonstrated best practices in sustainability. In addition, the program will showcase the Switch Energy Project resources and explore new undertakings which may serve as future sustainability initiatives within the college. All College of Education faculty, staff and students are invited to attend.

Ashley Jurado, Student Program Coordinator

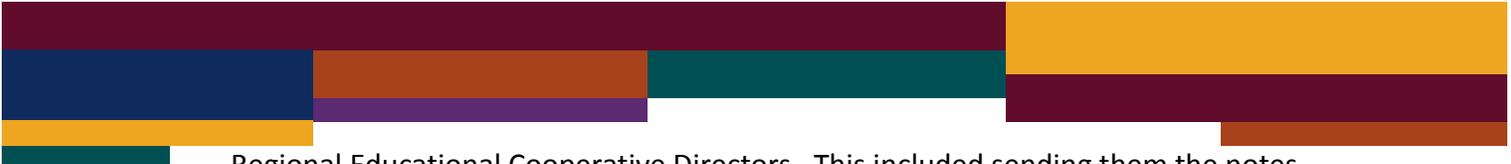
- Ashley created the April Crimson Connections e-newsletter on Monday, April 14. This was sent out on social media, and to all of our alumni, faculty, staff, NMSU administrators and to other constituents affiliated with the college. Throughout the week, she tracks the progress of the e-newsletter, and views the open rate on social media and the email list serve. Ashley also coordinated the final meeting with the Student Affairs committee on April 15. Recipients have been chosen for all of the scholarships in the College of Education, and Ashley has created a spreadsheet with all recipients and their info, and will be notifying students about their scholarships beginning April 28. Ashley is also working with Tricia Holser from Marketing for the Faculty Ad going out this summer. The college will be featuring Drs. Jeanette Haynes Writer and Joseph Berning. The HPDR story by Dr. Bob Wood was submitted by Ashley to the Las Cruces Sun-News. The college and LC Sun-News will continue their partnership of featuring a story from the College of Education each month. Dr. Morehead and Ashley have created a schedule for all of the stories that the college will be featuring for the next few months. Dr. Morehead and Ashley also met with Mrs. Irene Willey for lunch on April 17. We wanted to thank Mrs. Willey for her continued support for the college, and update her about the new recipient selected to receive the scholarship that she created in honor of her late husband, Dr. Darrell Willey. Ashley is continuing to finalize details for the Aggie Cornerstone Award. She has sent out all information to all of the guest speakers, and has confirmed the catering, program, and other arrangements for the dinner. The college is expecting over 100 guests, and will be having Regent Cheney and Mr. Del Hansen speak at the event.

Adelina Rodriguez, Student Program Coordinator

- Adelina Rodriguez met with Valerie Pickett, Director of University Admissions, this week to discuss updating the recruitment communication plan for undergraduates in our college, as well as some targeted recruitment opportunities. Adelina also provided an outline of the current communication plan for prospective students, and it was submitted to Provost Howard. Current department recruitment letters were sent to be revised by the department. Adelina continues to work on details for the Graduation Reception, Dean's Academic Award Reception and Dean's Doctoral Tea. An information packet along with a pennant and novelty items was also put together for a 5th grader interested in showcasing NMSU at her Elementary School.

Michelle Valverde, Director for Alliance & BoCES

- Major activities this week included drafting an article that will be included in the Las Cruces Sun-News, completing the presentation proposal for the annual meeting of the New Mexico Coalition of Educational Leaders, and following up with the



Regional Educational Cooperative Directors. This included sending them the notes and contact information from the meeting held on March 31. Dr. Valverde also attended a pre planning meeting where they discussed Turn Around activities in the coming year and two external planning meetings for the upcoming fall literacy expo (Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce Education Subcommittee) and a summer youth leadership conference (Ocotillo Institute for Social Justice). We continued exploring budget and staffing needs for FY15 as well as how to best conduct an inventory of all outreach activities occurring in the College of Education with non-public school entities and organizations. Michelle also prepared for a class that she will be facilitating next week and continued overseeing the needs assessment that we are conducting with the Alliance superintendent members.

Dean, College of Engineering, Dr. Ricardo Jacquez

- Edward Pines, Department Head of Industrial Engineering was named to the Board of Directors for Quality New Mexico. The program provides a stair-step approach to performance excellence with four levels of assessments and public recognition and uses the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence as the tool to conduct organizational assessments. The assessment and formal feedback help you identify your strengths, gaps, and opportunities for improvement.
- The Institute for Industrial Engineering student organization at NMSU held their annual Industry Night on April 17. Representative from across the state were on campus to meet with industrial engineering students about career opportunities and outreach programs that they could become involved in to enhance facility design, organizational optimization and enhanced manufacturing in New Mexico.

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

- Public Health Sciences' (PHS) Dr. Sue Forster-Cox was recently appointed by President Obama to serve as the New Mexico representative to the US/Mexico Border Health Commission.
- Dr. Rebeca Palacios, PHS, and Associate Dean for Research Dr. Joe Tomaka met with Joe Sharkey from the Department of Health Promotion and Community Health Sciences at Texas A&M Health Science Center. Sharkey is interested in collaborating with NMSU on a multisite grant submission under the USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program under their Integrated Approaches to Prevent Childhood Obesity program area. The collaboration would include Texas A&M, UT School of Public Health (Houston/El Paso), and NMSU (CHSS and cooperative extension). We will be organizing a team from NMSU to assist with proposal development.

Dean, Graduate School, Dr. Loui Reyes

No New Activity to Report

Dean, Honors College, Dr. William Eamon

No Activity to Report

Dean, University Library, Dr. Elizabeth Titus

- Attended a joint meeting of the President's Academic Council and the University Executive Committee.
- Had a meeting with a library donor whose family has established a library endowment.
- Interviewed a candidate for a library faculty position, Political Papers Archivist
- Had individual meetings with four department heads and had a department heads group meeting.
- Met with the Provost.
- Reviewed and signed as an approver on 10 staff/faculty performance evaluations.
- Wrote and submitted for approval a faculty merit distribution plan and a faculty salary enhancement plan to the Provost's Office.

Associate Provost, International and Border Program, Dr. Cornell Menking

No Activity to Report

Senior Vice President Administration and Finance, Angela Throneberry



- **Financial Systems Administration - Solutions Management team** – has implemented an electronic signature solution for the University Material Services warehouse. The team defined a process to use an iPad for paperless Counter Releases and for attaching the electronically signed PDF to the AiM (Facility Management System) Work Order. This process improvement eliminates the need to print the paper release forms and store the signed copies.
- **NMSU Golf Course Irrigation Project** – The installation of the new irrigation system is currently around the 4th and 7th hole. The next step is the 5th hole and finally finishing up on the 6th hole. This project is set to complete the installation within the next month. The maintenance staff will then start concentrating on adding sod to a number of areas that will provide improved turf conditions that we think our customers will enjoy going forward.
- **ICT tests disaster recovery capabilities** – In its ongoing effort to ensure continuity of business operations in the event of a disaster, ICT concluded testing of Banner production environment restoration. In the test that simulated cessation of service due to a city-wide disaster, ICT's Systems and Database Administration teams were able to restore Student and Financial data in less than 24 hours with existing computing hardware.

- **Administration and Finance hosts Rocky Mountain Business Officers (RMBO) –**
The office of Administration and Finance hosted a one-day business officers meeting on NMSU Campus. The attendees included members from the Rocky Mountain and Pacific Northwest regions.
- **Sodexo –** On Tuesday, April 15th Taos Restaurant hosted the “Taste of Ecuador”. The event included culturally specific food as well as music, dance, and cultural information provided by the Go Teachers Program.



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

No Activity to Report

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

Office of the Vice President, Dr. Bernadette Montoya

- Dr. Montoya took part in the discussions regarding changing standards for admission to NMSU this week with LULAC and NMSU students. These discussions point to the importance of ensuring that students on the Guaranteed Pathway be well served regarding advising.
- SAEM Service Awards Reception honored the service milestones for our staff of about 250 employees. This spring, 31 employees are celebrating anniversaries from 5 years to 20 years. We are also celebrating this year’s graduation of 18 staff: 3 staff are graduating with associate’s degrees, 5 with bachelor’s degrees, 7 with master’s degrees, and one with a doctoral degrees. Two SAEM staff also earned certificates.

University Admissions, Ms. Valerie Pickett

- We hosted group visits from Ensor Middle School, Mayfield High School, and San Juan College this week. In addition, we hosted 48 families for individual campus visits.
- Recruiters visited high schools in Melrose, Grady, Clovis, Texico, Hagerman, Loving, Lake Arthur, Ft. Sumner, Ruidoso, and Los Alamos. Our recruiters spoke to juniors and seniors in 22 Focus Group classes at Las Cruces High School. We attended a college fair at Los Lunas Middle School.
- We attended transfer events at El Paso Community College, Luna Community College, and at NMSU-Carlsbad.

University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services, Ms. Janie Merchant

- Over 1,850 high school seniors from about 150 New Mexico high schools will be honored around the state as recipients of NMSU’s top merit scholarships. Certificates recognizing this award will be distributed at Honors Night events over

the next few weeks. These scholarships are valued at \$6.85M for academic year 2014–15 and \$23.4M over the next four years, if all students maintain the renewal criteria.

Student Life, Dr. Michael Jasek

- Greeks completed another successful Greek Week. Over 700 students in Greek chapters participated in Greek Sing, College Bowl, Greek Carnival, Day of Service, and Greek Olympics.
- Joey Hannah and Deb Darmata from Counseling and Student Development attended the American Association of Suicidology, April 9–12 in Los Angeles, California.
- Trudy Luken and Carol Brown of Student Accessibility Services attended a Teaching Academy presentation: “Let’s Talk Online Teaching.” Trudy Luken presented at the Orientation Leader Training.

University Registrar

- Nearly 1,000 students will graduate with an associate’s degrees this May at NMSU campuses system-wide. At NMSU’s main campus, over 1,500 bachelor’s degrees and over 600 graduate degrees will be awarded.
- About 1,600 students are expected to attend commencement in May. Commencement ceremonies are the biggest public events NMSU hosts each year, and nearly 100 NMSU volunteer staff and students will assist. Commencement staff will represent all the colleges, Accounts Receivable, Admissions, Athletics, Counseling and Student Development, Facilities and Services, Grants and Contracts, the Library, Mail Services, and the Registrar’s Office.

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

- American Indian Week (April 7–12) events included an opening ceremony and blessing, traditional dances, an Indian taco demonstration, a native comedy show, an arts and crafts expo, a musical performance by Randy Granger, and a Miss Native American NMSU Pageant.
- On April 14, 2014, Justin McHorse and Michael Ray of the American Indian Program (AIP) hosted students and staff from San Juan College. The students are touring 4-year institutions and are interested in engineering, journalism, public health, and kinesiology.
- On April 17, 2014, Michael Ray represented NMSU and AIP at the Southern Ute Tribe Education Department's 13th Annual Career Fair in Ignacio, Colorado.



Savannah Lee was selected as Miss Native American NMSU 2014-15. She is a junior majoring in Kinesiology.

Vice President Economic Development, Dr. Kevin Boberg

Rural Economic Development Planning

- Michael Patrick, NMSU Extension Community Resource and Economic Development Specialist, continues his work with communities and counties throughout New Mexico as part of the Stronger Economies Together (SET) program, launched in 2009



by USDA Rural Development in collaboration with the nation's Regional Rural Development Centers (RRDCs) and their land-grant university partners. The purpose of SET is to strengthen the capacity of communities and counties in rural America to work together in developing and implementing an economic development blueprint that strategically builds on the current and emerging economic strengths of their region. Representatives from seven counties in North East New Mexico participated in the Phase I pilot of SET, this week meeting in Las Vegas.

NSF I-Corps

- Led by Arrowhead Center, in collaboration with the College of Engineering, NMSU submitted a proposal in partnership with Arizona State University to establish the Southwestern Entrepreneurial Launchpad, an addition to the national network of I-Corps Nodes established for the purpose of strengthening the national innovation ecosystem. NSF Innovation Corps (I-Corps) is a set of activities and programs that prepare scientists and engineers to extend their focus beyond the laboratory into the economy and society. Combining experience and guidance from established entrepreneurs with a targeted curriculum, I-Corps is a public-private partnership program that teaches grantees to identify valuable product opportunities that can emerge from academic research, and offers entrepreneurship training to student participants.

Community engagement

- NMSU completed and submitted an application for Community Engagement Classification by the Carnegie Foundation. The team who compiled the self-study and application met with more than 25 NMSU administrators, faculty and staff to discuss community engagement efforts and activities of the institution. The narrative portrays a wide range of engagement programs and activities implemented by NMSU that have a significant impact on the campus community, Doña Ana County, the State of New Mexico and beyond. The designation award will be announced in December.

Vice President Research, Dr. Vimal Chaitanya

No Activity to Report

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

- I held multiple meetings with staff and with Foundation Board member to discuss the Spring Board meeting the first of May.
- As part of the committee, I interviewed two candidates for the KRWG Director of Development position.
- University Advancement hosted a student appreciation luncheon honoring our exceptional student employees.
- Alumni Relations Officer Colleen Richardson presented to the NMSU RGH housing residents on the history and traditions of NMSU as well as the activities and benefits of the Alumni Association.

- Mallory Driggers, Charlotte Tallman, Katherine Vandertulip and Colleen Richardson attended the CASE district IV conference in Houston, TX May 13-15.
- As part of the CASE conference, the Alumni Relations team was presented with CASE Awards including a silver award for Black and White Photography and two bronze awards for Photographer of the Year and Alumni Program, Project or Special Event. The awards competition included schools from Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Louisiana and Arkansas.
- Diane Calhoun, Director of Stewardship and Scholarship in the University Advancement office, has been invited to be a member of a panel discussion on scholarships at the annual International Conference for the Association of Donor Relations Professionals. The conference will be in Seattle, Washington in mid-September; the 500+ attendees will be development and donor relations leaders from universities, health care entities and other non-profits from around the world. The other members of the panel will include Roberta O'Hara, Sr. Associate Director of Stewardship at Princeton and Angel Colarusso, Director of Development at Dartmouth. The tentative title of the session is THE SESSION THAT WILL ANSWER EVERY QUESTION YOU EVER HAD ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS SO THAT YOU NEVER HAVE TO ASK ANOTHER QUESTION ABOUT THEM AGAIN AT A CONFERENCE EVER. SERIOUSLY.
- Debbie Widger is contacting the incoming PA Scholars – freshmen class of '14. Of the 15 top tier prospective students 7 are attending NMSU, 3 are not and 5 have not returned calls as some are on spring break.

**Vice President University Advancement / Foundation Executive Director,
Ms. Cheryl Harrelson**

Start Date May 1, 2014

Athletics Director, Dr. McKinley Boston, Jr.

No Activity to Report

Associate Vice President University Communications, Maureen Howard

No Activity to Report

Assistant Vice President Government Relations, Ricardo Rel

- Last week, the Higher Education Department published a notice of hearing on rule making/changes on the following topics and is requesting written comments by May 5, and a public hearing on May 19 and 20:
 - 1) Operating Budgets-Approval by the Commission on Higher Education,
 - 2) Operating Budgets-Funding Recommendations,
 - 3) Building Improvement Bonds,
 - 4) Capital Budgets –Planning and Funding Recommendations,
 - 5) Capital Projects Approval by Commission on Higher Education,

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- 6) Instructional Funding,
 - 7) Legislative Lottery Scholarship Program.

As of April 21, the proposed rules were not available.

- The Office of Government Relations completed the process memo for requesting Non I&G legislative requests and will send them out to the Campus Administrators on April 21.
- A post session legislative briefing was provided to the Office of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

Upcoming Legislative Events:

- April 23 Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee – Santa Fe, State Capitol, room 309.
- April 23-24 LESC meeting – Santa Fe, Capitol, room 322.
- May 7 – May 9, Legislative Finance Committee, Santa Fe.

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

- I participated in the opening panel of the New Mexico First Town Hall on water policy. There was a record turnout for this very important conference in New Mexico; recommendations will be developed for future discussions across the state.
- NMDA staff and I participated in the fourth annual New Mexico Food Protection Alliance meeting. The agenda this year was coordinated around the nation’s critical mission areas. This is also the fourth year out of the five years of this conference, that the food alliance conference was supported by a United States Food and Drug Administration grant.
- NMDA Staff prepared for and attended the Incident Command System NMDA Exercise After Action Review on April 16. Agenda items included reviewing the events of the NMDA Exercise, observations of NMDA’s and other agency’s response to the Exercise emergency, and ways to improve the systems and protocols surrounding emergency response at NMDA.
- Staff coordinated and participated in a meeting with the New Mexico Future Farmers of America (FFA) and the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum regarding an agricultural tour during the upcoming state convention. The Museum and FFA struck a deal to wave admission fees in return for the FFA members conducting some form of outreach about the Museum when they return to their communities.