President Garrey Carruthers, Ph.D.

- The legislature closed their business on time and under budget on Thursday. Generally speaking, higher education was reasonably well treated by this body. In a nutshell, NMSU Las Cruces Campus Instructional and General Funding was up 3.3%. NMSU Alamogordo up 2.3%, NMSU Dona Ana up 4.2%, NMSU Grants up .5%, and NMSU Carlsbad down 3.6% (due their relatively large financial contribution from the local community). Jett Hall, Jett Hall Annex, Rentfrow Gym and surrounding infrastructure will be on the General Obligation Bond issue for $19,200,000 which is $2,000,000 less than requested. NMSU requested $48,712,000 in GO bond issue funding for all of our units but received $25,100,000. All campus received some GO Bond issue funding. The legislature also appropriated 1.5% (this will be slightly sanded) for compensation for faculty and staff members. All in all, a pretty good session. We now await the action of the Governor.

- In case you missed it, this week I named Cheryl Harrelson to be the next Vice President for University Advancement/President NMSU Foundation. Thanks to all who served on the search committee, attended the various functions and sent in their comments. Cheryl will be joining us on May 1st but will be in town on March 19-23rd to get the lay of the land.

- I met with Andrew Pena and associates regarding the new Compensation Guidelines that are out for comment. One issue of concern by some was the “red circle” provision which stated that if a person’s salary was above the market band, they could receive one time bonuses when pay increases were made but it would not be included in their base. We have decided to reverse this course and let folks in the “red circle” add this increment to their base.

- I visited with the Kitchen Cabinet again regarding tuition and admissions policies, particularly focusing on guaranteed four year tuition and higher admission standards. I always receive good ideas and constructive criticism from these former Chairs of the Faculty Senate. The guaranteed tuition program is still possible but probably not for this fall.

- I met with two daughters of Ken Barrick, the renowned NMSU artist, J. Paul Taylor, and members of OFS and the Art Department to discuss how to save the murals on the soon to be destroyed Jacobs Hall. The bad news is they are painted on asbestos based material, making it very difficult to preserve and display. The good news is the Art Department believes they can take high resolution photographs of the murals in place and develop some very attractive displays of this work for Hardman Hall. The two daughters seemed pleased with the recommendation of doing this to preserve this great art.
An entourage of Cummins Diesel Company folks was in town visiting the College of Engineering and other sites. Steve Charlton, a VP for Cummins, discussed how much Cummins liked NMSU grads. There were five graduates with them and when asked by me how their educations stacked up to grads from other Universities that they worked with at Cummins they said as good or better than their counterparts and indicated that the hands on approach of the NMSU faculty, the teaching of critical thinking instead of memorization, and the caring community of scholars as reasons they believed they were better prepared. Way to go faculty and staff!

Brian Rashap of Intel Corporation out of Albuquerque was in town to visit with students and to open the Aggie Innovation Center in the College of Engineering, which was partially financed by Intel. Some students discussed some of their projects, to include using three dimensional printers to make rockets for high school science classes, a revelation that had occurred to him while listening to a lecture in engineering. Very impressive group of students and faculty/staff in this Center. Some good inventions on the way!

Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Dan Howard

We have many proud, hard-working staff members at NMSU who are essential for the smooth functioning of the university and play an important role in student success. Indeed, few groups on this campus play a more important role in student success than advisors, and it was my pleasure to spend an hour and a half with the Academic Advisors Council this week and learn more about the history and activities
of this group. One thing is clear—academic advisors are dedicated to students and, indeed, they view themselves as teachers. During the course of our hour and a half long conversation we touched on many topics but several issues raised by the advisors resonated with me and will require follow up on my part. One of these issues is the location of developmental classes, particularly in math, which have moved from the university campus to the East Mesa campus of DACC, and in so doing have become less accessible to students on the university campus. It is important that we bring some of these classes back to the university campus. Jim Libbin noted that ACES has done exactly that, and has had great success with an accelerated course that combines MATH 103 and 114 into a single semester course. The keys to success seem to be:

- A good instructor
- An accelerated course that meets four times a week and provides all the material in each separate course (103 and 114) in eight weeks
- Location on the main campus
- A cohort of students that work together to get through the course

The advisors also noted that NMSU needs to offer more online, night, and weekend classes. Finally, they made the observation that contact information for students is often bad and that an easy fix would be a pop-up screen that could appear occasionally on My NMSU and ask users to update contact information. Bad contact information is a source of constant frustration for advisors and hurts efforts to keep students informed, keep loan default rates down, and intervene when students show signs of distress.

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

- The 22nd Annual Ag Expo was held on February 18-19th at the Roosevelt County Fairgrounds in Portales, NM. The Expo brings a wealth of information for area farmers and ranchers on topics ranging from cattle health, nutrition, urban tree care, stock dogs, herbicides, and creativity with paint, pallets and more. ACES cooperative Extension Service sponsored the event, along with local businesses and Dairy Farmers of America.
- State 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification training for adult volunteers wishing to be state certified shooting sports instructors, took place on February 21st through 23rd in Deming. Leaders who have been screened first through their county will learn safety, risk management, liability and shooting techniques in archery, shotgun, air and .22 rifle, air and .22 pistol, hunting and muzzle loading.
- UNM funded ACES Family and Consumer Sciences to work with five counties on the eastern side of the state to encourage people to get enrolled through the NM Health Insurance Exchange. This is part of collaboration with UNM on health related issues.
- The School of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management (HRTM) held a career fair on February 20th and 21st at the Las Cruces Convention Center. Recruiters attending the event were: Angel Fire, Darden Restaurants, Eldorado Hotel & Spa, Enchantment
Resort, Enterprise, Heritage Hotels, Jason’s Deli, Hyatt Regency Tamaya, Las Cruces Convention Center, Lodging Host Hotels, Marriott, National Distributing, Ocean Properties, Pappas Restaurants, Philmont Scout Ranch, Radisson Austin, Red Barn Restaurant, Signature Services, and the Club at Las Campanas, Sodexo and The Lodge at Cloudcroft. The recruiters handed out information to students about internships and conducted interviews with the students.

- Dr. Janet Green, Department Head of the School of HRTM, met with Dr. David Boje, Distinguished Professor of Management, and Eric Norman of CATIE University in Costa Rica, CATIE was established in 1946 and is a regional research and education center in agriculture and natural resources. The School of HRTM has been collaborating with CATIE’s Sustainability in Tourism Series for two years.
- The New Mexico Senate and the House of Representatives gave certificates of congratulations to New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service for their 100th year anniversary. 2014 marks the Centennial of the signing of the Federal Smith-Lever Act, which established the CES, the nationwide education system operating through Land-Grant Universities in partnership with federal, state and local governments and the NM CES serves as the “front door” to NMSU through its presence in all thirty-three counties.
- Morgan Stanly Financial Investment Services conducted a private administrator’s dinner in the School of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism’s Bobby Lee Lawrence Academy of Wine on February 20th. They were overwhelmingly impressed by the students of HRTM and Chef Zeck’s service and dedication to excellence throughout the evening’s event.

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

- Completed a successful faculty search in Government.
- Jeff Brown met with the college’s ad hoc Graduate Assistantship Criteria Committee and with the Southwest and Border Cultures Institute Committee and attended a meeting about mental health research.
- Barbara Lyons (Chemistry and Biochemistry) received $218,000 as the final year’s funding on the Bridges award. Gary Eiceman (Chemistry & Biochemistry) received $288,000 from Morpho Detection. Patrick Morandi (Mathematical Sciences) was awarded approximately $117,000 as a participant in the College of Education’s NMPED-MC2 award.
- Lisa Bond Maupin compiled academic program outcomes assessment material for all departments and submitted copies to Provost and Director of Assessment and met with the group planning NSRs in the college.
- Aunt Rani, a play written by Theatre Department Head Tom Smith and directed by Tony-award winner Mark Medoff opened in the Mark and Stephanie Medoff Theatre. It is the first play directed my Medoff in the Theatre named in honor of him and his wife.
Interim Dean, College of Business, Dr. Kathleen Brook

- On February 19th we had a wonderful celebration of the successes of our Crimson Scholars and Dean’s List students for fall 2013. The College used to have an awards day in the spring to honor students for a variety of purposes, but we discontinued it when it became challenging to get students to come. We were pleasantly surprised to have an overflow crowd, including some parents and friends of honorees. Special thanks to Associate Dean Liz Ellis for making the event happen.
- In addition to celebrating student success, we used the honors reception to “kick off” the 50th anniversary celebration of the College. The Regents authorized the creation of the College in 1963 and the first students were enrolled in fall 1964. The certificates awarded to students included a gold 50th anniversary seal.
- The third annual economic outlook conference, co-sponsored by the College and Wells Fargo, was quite successful. Attendance was great at the convention center, including a number of students. The featured speakers were Eugenio Aléman, senior economist and director at Wells Fargo, and Jim Peach, NMSU faculty member. For those who missed the event, the slides are available at [http://business.nmsu.edu/2014/02/21/economic-outlook-conference-february-2014](http://business.nmsu.edu/2014/02/21/economic-outlook-conference-february-2014)

Dean, College of Education, Dr. Michael Morehead

- Dean Michael Morehead met with Dr. Candace Kaye and Dr. Dana Christman to discuss the Mongolian delegation visit on March 2nd. They also discussed the five university international research symposium being conducted online, which will review action research and the benefits of this type of research to inform programs.
- Dr. Jon Schwarz the Associate Dean of Research assisted in facilitating two grant proposals. He presented to BRAIN students on success in graduate school. Dr. Schwartz presented the welcome to a conference facilitated by the Alliance in Roswell on student assessment. He also took part in multiple college interviews and conducted faculty orientation.
- Ashley Jurado started the template Transforming Lives Brochure, noting all the updates and changes for the 2013-2014. We will begin contacting alumni and faculty to notify them that we would like to include them in this year's brochure. Ashley collaborated with Adelina Rodriguez to finish the alumni campaign letter that we will be sending out to current graduates, as well as alumni who update their contact info with us.
- Ashley Jurado worked with Adelina Rodriguez and our student ambassadors on February 18-20th to call incoming freshmen as part of a recruitment/retention initiative. During the evenings over 286 prospective students were telephoned to remind them to sign up for New Student Registration, to apply for Scholar Dollars, and answer any questions they may have about attending NMSU in the fall.
- Adelina Rodriguez worked on multiple projects this week. She finalized the marketing material for the Salt of the Earth Festival (March 10-14th) which includes a poster and our event pages on our website.
The four events are listed individually on our events website, with access to a pdf of the poster and a link to the giving website.

- Adelina coordinated a call-a-thon in which our Student Ambassadors followed up with an email to all the students providing them with the information we gave over the phone (Scholarship deadline, Join us on our Social Media and a reminder to start checking their NMSU email address for information on New Student Registrations (NSR) since we left message with a large number of the students).
- Dean Michael Morehead met with new faculty to answer questions about the college and future initiatives and budget implications for next year. This meeting was coordinated by Dr. Jon Schwartz and is one way the college supports early career faculty.
- Dr. Michelle Valverde-coordinated the conference titled "Shedding Light on Student Assessment" held on February 19th in Roswell, NM. Approximately 70 public school educators (mostly administrators) attended the event. Updates were provided by key personnel from the NM PED on End of Course Assessments and the PARCC followed by two interactive sessions facilitated by seasoned educators (including Dr. Cathy Kinzer). Based on the discussions and the input of the participants it is clear that in general, the districts and schools are not receiving the level of or type of support needed to 1) effectively align instruction to the standards or 2) effectively use data to inform teaching and learning.

**Associate Dean James O’Donnell Activities:**
- Met with representatives from Computer Science, Math and Math Education to discuss proposed NSF Grant
  - NOTE: During the week of February 23-28th, will be in Belize meeting with education officials from Sacred Heart College, a member institution of COBEC, and visiting and observing four NMSU student teachers.
- Dean Michael Morehead chaired the NM Education Deans and Directors meeting in Albuquerque. The meeting discussed topics including, recruitment of future teachers, new accreditation standards, and annual reports to the PED and Title II, legislative updates, national trends and admission standards for teacher education.

**Dean, College of Engineering, Dr. Ricardo Jacquez**
- The Engineering Research Center for Reinventing the Nation’s Urban Water Infrastructure (ReNUWIt), composed of Stanford (lead), UC Berkeley, CO School of Mines, and NMSU was one of the four Centers selected by NSF for funding in 2011, from 29 teams from the top research institutions. The total award for the first 5-year cycle is $18.5M, with $2M to NMSU for 5 years; upon successful completion of the first cycle, the Center would be eligible for funding for a second 5-yr cycle. Currently, ReNUWIt is in its third year; NSF will consider the performance during the first three years to determine if ReNUWIt would be renewed for the second cycle or terminated with the first cycle.
• The NMSU ReNUWIt team is lead by N. Khandan (Civil Engr.) and currently composed of the following five researchers: S. Bawazir (Civil Engr.); P. King (Civil Engr.); P. Xu (Civil Engr.); S. Deng (Chemical Engr.); and B. Leinaeur (Extension Specialist).

• The following key research outcomes of ReNUWIt (extracted from the Year 2 Annual Report) document the outstanding contributions by the NMSU team, far surpassing those by the partner institutions:
  o NMSU team published 175% more papers on their ReNUWIt projects than the average at the partner institutions.
  o NMSU team’s publications on ReNUWIt projects were cited 290% more times than the average of those at the partner institutions.
  o NMSU team filed 200% more patent applications resulting from their ReNUWIt projects than the average by those at the partner institutions.

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

• The third meeting of the HSS Grant Club was conducted by Dr. Joe Tomaka. We started examining and providing feedback on ongoing grant writing projects from England-Kennedy (PHS), Scarbrough (NURS), McDonald (PHS) and Tomaka.

• Dr. Joe Tomaka met with Jonathan Schwartz, Associate Dean for research to discuss several ongoing research projects and potential collaborations between faculty in the colleges of Education and Health and Social Services. Projects relating to reducing teen pregnancy and addressing men’s health disparities were discussed.

• Dr. Jill McDonald met with NM Department of Health division directors and attended the Quarterly Epidemiology Meeting in Santa Fe on February 19-20th.

• The college hosted Wheeler Family Student Professional Development Conference with five area healthcare organization representatives. Representatives from each organization fielded student questions about career trajectory as well as navigating their HR structure.

• An introductory visit was taken to Alamogordo Gerald Champion Hospital, CEO Jim Heckert and Executive team along with Jennifer Cervantes and School of Nursing director, Dr. Pam Schultz and Dr. Anita Reinhardt to discuss the future of Alamogordo nursing students and the hospital’s needs.

• Dr. Reinhardt and Dr. Keller traveled to Albuquerque for a New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium meeting to discuss implementation of the statewide curriculum. Dr. Reinhardt also met with the Nursing Excellence committee to review Nightingale Scholarships applications for BSN & ADN applicants.

• Christi Fields was named MSW student of the year at the annual NM Chapter of National Association of Social Workers 33rd Annual Conference February 18-21st in Albuquerque. Christi is a second year student in the MSW Albuquerque program. She is an intern at the NM National Association of Social Workers headquarters in Albuquerque and has taken a lead role in advocating for clients and therapists affected by the New Mexico behavioral health crisis.
• Dr. Satya Rao, Public Health Sciences, was part of the successful efforts to pass legislation regarding injury prevention in terms of advocacy and policymaking in New Mexico. The texting and driving legislation sailed through the Legislature, with only five lawmakers opposed in the House and one in the Senate. The law would make New Mexico the 42nd state to outlaw text messaging by all drivers. The state already has a ban on use of communications devices by driving students under age 18. It has no other cell phone laws. We also have a fall prevention bill in statute. The vote in the Senate was 42-0 with Senator Kernan doing the honors.

• Public Health Sciences faculty/student abstract was selected for an oral presentation at the NMPHA Annual Conference, “NM Tobacco-Free Campus Policy Initiative: Connections between Policy, Power, and Health” by Dr. Susan Wilson, Dr. Cindy Kratzke, Chris Spurny, Candyce Luna, and Melinda Wilson.

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

- Meeting with the Graduate Council Standards, Fellowships/Assistantships, Retention and Degree Completion committees to discuss and draft graduate policies related to professional and research degrees, fractional grading, and graduate admission.
- Addressed institution-wide graduate issues through the graduate education policy alignment committee meetings: graduate school, financial aid, admission, and registrars.
- Planning of graduate student professional development workshop series: How to Survive Graduate school; How to Graduate.
- Website development: Graduating from NMSU with your Advanced Degree.

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

- Dr. Eamon and Valerie Torres met with Gatis Cirulis Visiting Art professor for ART 355 Type and Layout class to discuss the design artwork for the Undergraduate and Creative Arts Symposium the "All About Discovery".
- Dr. Eamon was a RISE grant evaluator for the evaluation of the RISE grant for the Biology Department.
- Dr. Eamon met with Dr. Ron Dzwenka discussing the development of a new Honors history course.
- Dr. Eamon met with Dr. Tom Schnurr, EPCC director to discuss the option of transfer Honors credits from EPCC to NMSU.
- Yvonne Flores completed the Crimson Scholar statistics on gender, ethnicity and classification for FA2013-SP2014 to Dean Elizabeth Titus, for the use in recruiting a new Dean of the Honors College.
- The Honors College sponsored the Lecture with guest lecture Dr. Andrea Orzoff "Women and the Third Reich" and Exhibit of photographs by Leni Riefenstahl.

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

- As of this week, over 110,000 e-books have been added to the NMSU Library Online Catalog. These e-books were made available to all libraries in the NMSU System via a
New Mexico Academic Library Consortium purchase. NMSU Library is “All About Discovery” using our online catalog.

- NMSU Library is working on a collections exchange with the Branigan Public Library, Las Cruces, NM to acquire additional holdings of New Mexicana materials.
- NMSU Library hosted a library orientation meeting and library tour with NMSU’s regional development officers.
- There were several meetings held with potential donors of collections or support for digital projects including a collection of Mayan photographs documenting stelae, a collection of Casa Tabor papers, and a Clyde Tombaugh digitization project.

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

- **NMSU Dining Services** - Taos Restaurant featured Caribbean cuisine for lunch on Thursday, February 20th as part of this month’s African Heritage Cultural Luncheons.
- **NMSU Auxiliary Services** - Our NMSU INSIDER free mobile app has been installed in over 7,000 users/devices as of this week.
- **ICT continues to develop IT and data governance initiatives** - ICT’s IT Compliance Office and IT Security Team are developing IT governance initiatives that are aimed at ensuring NMSU compliance with data-related federal and state regulations, as well as protecting NMSU data from breaches such as the one that occurred at the University of Maryland ([http://umd.edu/datasecurity/](http://umd.edu/datasecurity/)) where 309,079 student, faculty, and staff records were stolen.
- **Free Scantron sheets for students** - ICT’s Student Technology Group is providing free Scantron forms at Pete’s Place computer lab during mid-terms and finals week. The ASNMSU student government office also provides free Scantrons year round. ASNMSU is located on the second floor of Corbett Center.
- **Electrical Infrastructure Project** - The 25-kV cable pull for the Zone 2300 Electrical Infrastructure Project in the parking lot by Corbett Center. This project will make for a more stable and reliable power grid in the Zone 2300 area. It is part of a larger electrical infrastructure project which will make it easier to place critical buildings on the Turbine in the event that El Paso Electric has stability/reliability problems. This Project also allows the electric shop the ability to maintain the campus electric grid in a more customer friendly manner resulting in electrical customers seeing less electrical outages.
- **Newly Established Maintenance Crew** - Facilities Maintenance has recently established a Building Maintenance crew that is dedicated to addressing the appearance of entryway, common areas, restrooms, and classrooms in our Academic Buildings. The crew leader will meet with the building monitor to identify any areas of concern in addition to our scheduled work. Currently, the crew is working in the Biology Annex and we will be sending out pictures when the work is completed.
The Institute for Public Policy / Herschel Zohn - Branson Library Renovation has reached its 50% mark, big milestone!! Jayne’s Corp. has up scaled the work force and the crews are now working on interior and exterior finishes. Additionally, the contractor has completed the structure steel on top of the tower which completes the structural steel work.

Senior Vice President External Relations / Chief of Staff, Ben Woods
- Proof of RFQ for Hotel Development out for final review.
- HVS market study edits completed and revised study in hand for hotel development.
- Completed the 2014 Legislative Session with improvements made in the internal bill analysis process and strong results overall.
- Special recognition to the Office of Government Relations, ASNMSU and the entire NMSU community that supported efforts in Santa Fe.
- Initial point papers submitted to President regarding potential steps to implement a team approach to renewed efforts for development of real estate assets.
- Supporting the development and implementation of the April 2nd Post Session Convocation.
- Supported the recent Army ROTC alumni reunion with dedication of a new plaque at Young Hall with names of seven Aggies who have fallen in service to their nation since 2001.
- Supporting planning and execution of the WAC Basketball tournament.
- Supporting NMSU participation in the WSMR Academic Summit that will take place on Feb 26th.

Vice President Student Affairs/Enrollment Management, Dr. Bernadette Montoya
Office of the Vice President, Dr. Bernadette Montoya
- The Legislative Session closed! SAEM staff supported the Office of Government Relations regarding the Lottery Scholarship, tuition waivers, high school diplomas, home schooling, and dual credit, among other issues. Governor Susana Martinez has until March 12th to sign bills. At that point, SAEM staff will begin implementing new legislation as needed.
- After an extensive search, Dr. Montoya and the DACC Presidential Search Committee selected three finalists for the DACC
President. Dr. Montoya thanks the Search Committee for their hard work.

- Dr. Montoya had three lunch events this week. The first celebrated Jodie Kenney and her contributions to NMSU. The other two welcomed high school and community college advisors to campus. On Friday, Dr. Montoya addressed advisors from El Paso Community College about their students enrolling at NMSU.
- This week, there was a full committee meeting for implementation of the Campus SaVE Act. This group is also addressing rights and responsibilities of Aggies, Title IX, and other issues.

**University Admissions, Ms. Valerie Pickett**

- Over 90 high school counselors were on campus for the 55th Counselors’ Conference. High school Counselors toured the College of Engineering, met with faculty and staff for the Department of Nursing, and toured the Center of the Arts.
- The first of several calling campaigns for incoming freshmen kicked off this week. Student ambassadors from around campus joined Admissions staff in calling students about the upcoming scholarship deadline.
- Valerie Pickett and Judy Weicherding, Dual Credit Coordinator, met with staff from Doña Ana Community College and Arrowhead Park Early College High School to discuss the upcoming advising sessions for summer and fall 2014 registration.
- Over 40 academic advisors from El Paso Community College were on campus for an articulation and transfer meeting with Admissions, Financial Aid, and the colleges.
- On President’s Day, families from as far away as Canada and the state of Illinois were on campus to meet with staff and academic departments.

**Student Engagement, Dr. Terry Cook**

- The Student Success Center is working with the Go Teacher Program to provide assistance in practicing conversational English.
- The Student Success Center conducted a *Textbook Reading: Strategies for Success* workshop for students. The Student Support Services Program staff also held a *Preparing for Graduate School* workshop that focused on writing application letters and the Graduate Record Examination.
Student Support Services and the Student Financial Aid and Scholarship Services Department are collaborating on helping students complete their FAFSA and Scholar Dollar applications.

On February 17th, Terry Cook was a keynote speaker at the Central New Mexico Community College Assistance Centers for Education (ACE) "I Make a Difference" Conference. Approximately 100 staff and students who serve as tutors, literacy volunteers, and computer lab support attended the conference at the CNM Westside Campus.

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

Earlier this month, Justin McHorse, Director of the American Indian Program, and Christina Chavez Kelley testified before the New Mexico House Education Committee on the appropriation for the Indian Resource Development Program. We appreciate the tireless support of Rep. Sharon Clahchischilliage, Rep. Sandra Jeff, Rep. Georgene Louis, Rep. Roger Madalena, Senator John Pinto, and Senator Benny Shendo, Jr., and several legislators from Doña Ana County.

Black Programs continued several events that are part of Black History Month, including Open Mic Night and Muscular Dystrophy Workshop.

On February 18th, Dr. Amy Ganguli, Assistant Professor of Range Science; Erin Riley, Instructor of Natural Resources; Dr. Leola Tsinnajinnie, Instructor of Social Science, of the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI); and Justin McHorse met with USDA officials in Washington, D.C. to discuss a National Institute of Food and Agriculture [NIFA] Grant to facilitate a faculty research mentoring partnership between NMSU and SIPI. This collaboration has the potential to develop another pipeline for SIPI graduates to continue their higher education at NMSU.

Vice President Economic Development, Dr. Kevin Boberg

Corporate Visitor

Kathy Hansen, Jason Koenig and Marie Borchert met with Brian Rashap from Intel this week. Mr. Rashap was given an overview of Arrowhead programs and visited with some of Arrowhead’s Technology Commercialization Associates, students from across campus on the AHC staff.

Speaker Series

Christine Logan from the New Mexico Economic Development Department gave a presentation on how to use state resources to propel your business forward on February 20th. Ms. Logan discussed ways that businesses can gain access to state resources, how to apply for incentive programs offered by the state for employee training, and government sponsored programs and services that may be helpful to small businesses.

Studio G/Alumni Incubator

Drs. Laura Boucheron, Assistant Professor and Phillip De Leon, Professor at NMSU’s Klipsch School of Electrical and Computer Engineering have been awarded U.S. Patent No. 8,639,502 for their Speaker Model-Based Speech Enhancement System.
The invention relates to speech enhancement methods, apparatuses, and computer software, particularly for noisy environments.

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

- Lammers and Nirmalakhandan met with Terry Mount, Department Head, Water Treatment programs at Dona Ana Community College to discuss construction of pilot algal wastewater treatment system using the Waste Water Treatment plant facility at the Dona Ana Community College. The project would provide access to primary wastewater from the municipal sewage collection system for pilot-scale trials on an energy-positive, algae-based waste water treatment process.
- This week, three archival papers were published in reputable journals by Ph.D. students working on algal biofuels project. The students are co-advised by Pete Lammers and N. Khandan and Tanner Schaub.
- Pete Lammers met with Mesilla Valley Transportation and Global Alternative Fuels Dean Rigg to discuss partnering on wastewater to biofuel commercialization. The basic proposal was favorably received with follow up meetings planned to develop estimates on cost factors for demonstration scale plant designs.
- OGC provided PI Certification training to faculty interested in submitting research proposals.
- OGC provided Public Health Service (PHS) Financial Conflict of Interest training for the faculty.
- Sudha Murthy participated in the Clinical Translational Center-Infrastructure Network video conference focusing on mental health research. Faculty from five member institutions presented their research interests and current projects, including three from NMSU.
- VPR office provided $61,174 for the Water Degree Graduate Program (Two Graduate Research Enhancement Grants at $23,087 each and $15,000 for administrative support).
- VPR office provided $17,000 towards cost-share for the Social/Natural Sciences and Algal components of the National Science Foundation Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research Award.
- New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) is in the budget passed 2/19 by the New Mexico legislature with additional funding to support water research to address critical water issues in New Mexico. The Legislative Finance Committee recommended increase of $101,200 in the general fund for New Mexico’s the Water Resources Research Institute. Senator Mary Kay Papen was instrumental in crafting a package to fund an additional $1M for the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute that is awaiting the Governor’s signature. The funds will be used primarily to support water research at New Mexico universities to address critical water issues in New Mexico.
- New research awards worth $1.6 Million were recorded this week.
Interim Vice President University Advancement / Foundation Executive Director, Dr. Tina Byford

- Forty-two VPUA staff members and college development officers attended an orientation for NMSU Foundation. It included the governance structure of NMSU Foundation, the relationship between NMSU and NMSU Foundation in addition to disseminating a packet of reference material on the Foundation.

- NMSU Sports Enterprises, Inc. Board met this week to review the January 31\textsuperscript{st} financial statements and sponsorships and received an update on the status of the transition plan.

- Wayne L. Savage, Executive Director of Arrowhead Park, and I met to discuss his vision and strategies to see the Park grow.

- The NMSU Foundation Governance Committee met on Wednesday, February 19\textsuperscript{th}. The committee reviewed board member giving and attendance for FYTD, reviewed current terms and determined recruitment goals to fill two immediate vacancies and two vacancies for the 2015-2017 term. The committee reviewed 43 potential board candidates and has recommended their top six candidates for board cultivation.

- NMSUF Investment Committee held its quarterly meeting to review Q4 2013 performance report in addition to holding a discussion on the NACUBO-Commonfund Survey results released on January 28\textsuperscript{th}.

- Barbara Wise, University Advancement Officer, held discovery visits with five alumni in the Phoenix area. All were first meetings and information was presented regarding the goal to increase alumni participation. Specifically, graduates of the Business College received the 500 for $500 campaign information. Three alumni are identified as possible major gift donors. Future visits will identify specific areas of interest. Two alumni are not major gift candidates, but will be consistent donors to the annual giving program.

- Twenty-three alumni and friends attended the Aggie Winter Round-Up with Lou and Mary Henson at Jim, '71, and Brynn Wetherbe's home in Lubbock February 17\textsuperscript{th}. Coach Henson signed memorabilia and shared some of his favorite memories with the group. Senior Alumni Relations Officer Charlotte Tallman supported the event.

- Eighteen alumni and friends attended the Roswell Alumni lunch with Lou and Mary Henson at the home of Jim, '71, and Marilyn Manatt, '71, Feb. 19. The crowd enjoyed comments by Regent Mike Cheney and Coach Henson signed memorabilia and shared some of his favorite memories with the group. Senior Alumni Relations Officer, Charlotte Tallman supported the event.

- The 7\textsuperscript{th} annual NMSU Women’s Estate Planning Conference is in its third week. Thirty five women from the region were presented with Chatting about Administration and Trusts, by volunteer speaker, Joe Sayklay, Wealth Manager, Weststar Bank. Also, Kristina Martinez and Robert Peterson, both from NMSU Advancement, led a spirited discussion on “Women’s Philanthropy Rising”. 
Athletics Director, Dr. McKinley Boston, Jr.

- Attended the Council For Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Convention in Florida. CASE is the education’s leading resource for knowledge, standards, advocacy and training in fundraising, alumni relations marketing and other related activities. The three day conference consisted of a number of sessions focused on Development.

Associate Vice President University Communications, Maureen Howard

- For the week of February 10th, news stories in both local and national outlets totaled 155 placements. Local newspapers ran a guest column by Jon C. Boren, Associate Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension Service. The article focused on STEM and health-related programs offered by NMSU Cooperative Extension Service.
- This week’s NMSU Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News focuses on Myrna’s Children’s Village as a collaboration of seven different programs designed to serve the community in various ways. While Myrna’s Children’s Village is known as an educational, financially accessible and high-quality childcare service for Las Cruces families, the Village also provides a platform for early childhood education students at NMSU to gain valuable training.
- The Eye on Research this week in the Las Cruces Sun-News focuses on a Research Rally held on campus to spotlight work being done by NMSU researchers in the area of cancer research. New Mexico State University and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Wash., received a $9 million grant from the National Cancer Institute to support cancer research, internships and outreach activities in the span of five years.
- Ana Henke, Publications Supervisor was one of the presenters in the “All Things Photography” webinar on February 18th. The webinar covered composition ideas, digital camera tips, image formats, and what sources work best for Web and print projects. NMSU developed the webinar in collaboration with University of Wyoming and the University of Kentucky. [https://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p6lhu45tcqg/](https://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p6lhu45tcqg/)
- The KRWG team traveled to Elephant Butte this week to meet with local viewers and listeners. These community visits help our team to connect with supporters and discuss feedback on programs and schedules.

Assistant Vice President Government Relations, Ricardo Rel

At Legislative Session in Santa Fe

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

- NMDA staff will be participating in the Leadership Las Cruces Professional Development Program sponsored by the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce.
- NMDA staff gave a presentation on organic certification at the annual Apple Growers workshop in Santa Fe this week.
We assisted with Ag Feed activities at the State Capital including product delivery, display setup, food service, and cleanup. While at the event also visited with industry, legislators, staff, and other agencies regarding current issues.