



New Mexico State University

Weekly Activity Report

November 18 - 22, 2013

President Garrey Carruthers, Ph.D.

Once again, I wish everyone a very pleasant and thankful Thanksgiving holiday. As a result of the short week, **there will not be an Activities Report next week** (Nov. 25-30).

Our legislative agenda is taking shape. Legislative Affairs has developed a card with non I & G and Research and Public Service expansion requests on one side and NMSU capital outlay projects on the other. Our highest priority is a request for a 3% salary increase for employees and an appropriation to cover a .75% contribution to the Educational Retirement Board. I will ask Ricardo Rel to post the information on the President's web site for those interested in reviewing. The latest word is there may be as much as \$300 million new dollars to appropriate but problems with the Lottery Scholarship will take some of these bucks. ASNMSU has recommended a very creative and sensible way of bringing the Lottery fund into actuarial soundness and have been asked to craft legislation reflecting their novel notion.

I dropped in on the new Employees Orientation to welcome them to NMSU and discuss our identity as "a caring community transforming lives through discovery." Our staff is incredibly important to our being a caring community.

I visited with Betty Asher of Greenwood and Asher, the firm assisting with the search for a new Vice President for Advancement. The project is in on time and under budget. They may have finalist on the campus in late January and early February. Angela Throneberry is chairing the Search Committee.

I attended the Employee Council Forum on NMSU Budget 101, presented by Angela Throneberry and Anna Price. Great presentation and excellent questions. Kudos to Monica Dunivan and the Council for bringing us together to discuss important issues. I understand the next Forum will be on our legislative activities.

Athletics Director Boston, Mayor Miyagishima, and I signed a Memorandum of Understanding in which NMSU extends our community outreach efforts by involving our student athletes in a number of city recreational events. The student athletes already offer over 5,000 hours of community service annually to Las Cruces and the surrounding area.

I joined a group of agricultural producers, their lawyers, officials of the State Engineers Office, Secretary of Agriculture Jeff Witte, Bruce Kite, WRRD Director Sam Fernald, and others to discuss water banking in this valley. Water banking would allow those producers who "over draw" their water allotment, to go to the water bank and buy unused water from producers who may have left their land fallow. NMSU would participate in that we do have water rights and irrigate from both surface and ground water on our farms. There seemed to be some dissention among the groups. Consensus is difficult to achieve in politics and in water resources. Politics may actually be more likely to achieve success than adjudicating scarce water resources.



I met with Bernadette Montoya, David McCollum and four students representing the leadership of *The Round Up* newspaper. The paper is struggling financially and not sure which format – magazine or newspaper – will best serve their primary audience, the student body. Dave gave them good tips and shared experiences on how to turn around a newspaper. The students would like to have various units at NMSU, such as Colleges or Departments, buy advertising.

I met with Katharine Chartrand of the New Mexico Consortium regarding this LANL driven program and the relationship to NMSU. I had been advised years ago that there would be a revenue stream coming to the three science universities if Bechtel/University of California were successful in winning the bid to operate the lab. Apparently not, according to Katharine, so I was pressed to see what was in the Consortium for NMSU.

I had a conversation with Secretary Retta Ward (Department of Health) and Secretary Jon Barela (Department of Economic Development) regarding the Governor's legislative agenda re health related workforce development appropriations. We agreed to be supportive but asked that they join us in supporting some of our similar expansion proposals. Dean Adera joined me in the conversation. Secretary Barela announced that the Governor would be requesting a \$2,000,000 increase expansion of the WRRI budget. We also discussed the prospects of setting aside \$10,000,000 of State Investment Council funds for early stage ventures to commercialize intellectual property generated by faculty in the science universities.

Highlights of the week included beating UTEP twice in basketball and touring the Mariachi educational programs. Over 500 students come to NMSU for over 3 days to be trained in both music and dance. It was a joy to watch the fine instructors teach and encourage young talent. NMSU is a proud sponsor of the Mariachi Conference.

Executive Vice President and Provost - Dan Howard

- Visited with the faculty and staff of the Extension Animal Science and Natural Resources Department at NMSU. Among the many issues we discussed were the need for investment in animal facilities. Corrals are becoming unsafe and NMSU cannot employ low stress cattle handling techniques.
- Met with Academic Liaisons and discussed the need to implement academic program reviews at NMSU. One issue is whether program reviews should occur every year or whether a five-seven year cycle is more effective.
- Met with staff in the Office of Grants and Contracts to discuss shared service centers and other issues. Concerns were expressed about Banner because its invoice system is not up to industry standards, which hurts NMSU's chances of winning competitive contracts.
- Met with the New Mexico Education Work Group to continue discussions of how to enhance the effectiveness of New Mexico teachers and improve learning in New Mexico classrooms, as well as how to evaluate the effectiveness of Colleges of Education in New Mexico. Participants agreed that there was a need to bring the discussion back to the Colleges of Education in their home institutions. A major issue that needs discussion is evaluation of the colleges. The approach that has support within the work group would base evaluations, in part, on evaluations of teacher effectiveness among teachers who graduated from programs within the past three years. Teacher effectiveness would be measured, in part, through classroom observations, other measures agreed to by school districts, and a value added model. Another focus of



discussion was the Woodrow Wilson MBA Fellowship in Education Leadership and whether New Mexico should participate in the program. There was consensus to participate if funding could be found at the state level.

- Met with faculty in the Department of English. Concerns were expressed about the loss of faculty lines and graduate student lines through the years even as the department added a Ph.D. program and a Master of Fine Arts program. Faculty noted the need to be realistic with regard to the acquisition of new resources as new programs are added at NMSU.

Senior Vice President Administration and Finance - Angela Throneberry

Auxiliary Services

- NMSU Corbett Center Student Union and Conference Services are hosting the Las Cruces International Mariachi Conference November 21 – 23.
- NMSU Housing and Residential Life will remain open and providing service to our residents throughout the Thanksgiving holiday. All buildings remain open and staffed throughout the break for those students who need to remain on campus.
- Barnes & Noble Bookstore at NMSU reports the 1st Annual Hungry Games were enjoyed by all and the entry fee of food donations went to Casa De Peregrinos.

Information and Communication Technologies

- EDUCAUSE, an association of information technology leaders and professionals who are committed to advancing higher education, has notified Carlos Lobato, NMSU's information technology compliance officer, that an article he authored will be published in the organization's magazine. *IT Compliance for Higher Education* details NMSU's development of an IT compliance framework model that is currently in its early stages of implementation at the university. In the article, Carlos shares the model and lessons learned by NMSU with an EDUCAUSE membership of over 1,800 colleges and universities and 300 higher education-serving corporations. The model provides institutions of higher education with a short visual checklist with which to identify essential gaps in meeting major regulatory requirements and helps ensure that the requirements for compliance are applied at a holistic, university-wide level. "In my opinion, NMSU is ahead of many higher education institutions when it comes to IT compliance. Since we are part of the community of universities, it makes sense that NMSU helps those institutions in benchmarking their IT compliance efforts." --- Carlos Lobato.
- ICT shows its appreciation to student and staff at the annual ICT Thanksgiving potluck luncheon. The event was well attended with approximately 125 students and staff employees in attendance. The luncheon is ICT's way of thanking its student and staff for their hard work during the year. In particular, the 44 ICT student employees, who work less than 20 hours a week on average, are recognized for their contributions to ICT's support of the university. Students who work for ICT are often the "face" of ICT and represent the department to other students, faculty and staff. They fill a myriad of positions and perform critical functions that include:
 - Troubleshooting networks and expanding the fiber optic cable plant as members of the Networking Team;
 - Assisting students, faculty, and staff with technology issues as ICT help desk representatives;
 - Supporting computer labs across the Las Cruces campus as both lab proctors and system support;

- Designing, installing, and maintaining the technology in the “smart classrooms” and also supporting satellite uplink activities as part of the Classroom Technology Team;
- Students out of the ICT Business office are responsible for software sales and check out program as well as providing accounting clerical support;
- Performing ad hoc clerical tasks and meeting support out of the CIO’s office;
- Designing webpages, writing technical documentation and assisting in the development of online training as part of several ICT teams;
- Maintaining operating systems as systems administrators; and
- Assisting in research and proposal development for the Student Technology Advisory Committee.

Because of staffing constraints, ICT student employees are expected to continually improve their job performance, employ critical thought in problem solving, and use interpersonal skills to relate well to those around them. In return for their hard work, ICT provides its students with a hands-on, real work training experience that translates to jobs once they graduate. It is not unusual that students who were ICT-trained in technical areas such as network operations are hired at a very high rate and at salaries that exceed those of the staff who trained them. ICT-trained students often return to thank ICT, detailing how prepared they were to join the workforce and make contributions in advance of those who did not benefit from the kinds of work experience they’d received as a student at NMSU. One such student who joined the military and recently returned from a tour in the Middle East reported that because of what he learned in the computer center, he was able to diagnose and fix military computer networks in Afghanistan when others could not. He credited his time at ICT for much of his success. The experiences of ICT student employees who have graduated from NMSU and are contributing to the fabric of society are emblematic of ICT’s efforts to foster discovery and enhance the possibility of success.

- ICT Computer Center staff members, Terry King and Rey Madueno, attended Scantron training classes in the month of November and both agree that NMSU will benefit greatly from what was presented. From the classes, the staffers learned how to develop Scantron sheets that could be customized to the needs of NMSU. Terry and Rey were able to store customized objects, (such as backgrounds, logos, and information that is repeated), into libraries and then import them, eliminating the need to create those objects from scratch and thereby improving the efficiency in the development and customization process. They learned that, with a simple software upgrade, NMSU could not only scan pencil marks on Scantron sheets, but scan ink as well. In addition, the enhanced version of the software has the capability to digitally record the entire Scantron sheet or selected fields on the sheet. The images can then be archived for later review. This capability is very useful in the comment section of evaluations, and should drastically reduce the time it takes to develop Scantron sheets used for evaluations. The advanced techniques learned will be used to produce better products and enhanced services in a more efficient manner for the university community.

Facilities and Services

- The FS Office of Sustainability and the Sustainability Council had a wonderful first meeting with Andrea Tawney and Fred Heinrich in regard to increasing funding for the “Sustainability Fund”. This is a fund that anyone can donate to either directly or as a direct deposit from your NMSU paycheck. The fund is managed by the Office of Sustainability for purposes of raising awareness on environmental practices at NMSU, such as speaker series, more recycling bins, and the proposed Sustainability Research Center.

- Facilities and Services Grounds shop has completed a Xeriscaping project at the corner of Gregg Street and Espina Street. This project was designed in house by the Grounds Shop staff and follows the standards that were used around Jett Hall. They have scheduled two large Xeriscaping projects for this fiscal year. They will be Xeriscaping the North side of Goddard Hall and the planter areas of the Baseball Parking lot, Lot 40.
- Facilities and Services Custodial group has sent out an RFP for exterior window cleaning. Local vendors will be bidding on the annual exterior window cleaning of the campus I&G buildings. It also has provisions for on-call service to perform additional cleanings. Custodial Management is reviewing the proposals and will make a recommendation to Purchasing within the next two weeks. Their goal is to have the vendor on contract so they can start cleaning windows in January 2014.



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

- Continued work on implementation of the student tailgate reforms underway.
- Arranged for kick off meeting for the Kitchen Kabinet that will provide the opportunity for President Carruthers to meet with the past and current chairs of the NMSU Faculty Senate.
- Continued efforts to resolve concerns from College of ACES regarding split in AES/CES funding.
- Working details of the proposed UNM/NMSU basketball game and invited guests.

Vice President Student Affairs/Enrollment Management - Bernadette Montoya

- Last week, stories of the Legislative Lottery Scholarship appeared in newspapers coast to coast and included local media in Las Cruces, Silver City, Alamogordo, Santa Fe, and Albuquerque; plus national media in Lexington, Kentucky; Miami; Kansas City; San Francisco; Connecticut; Olympia, Washington; plus Higher Education News.
- On November 21, Dr. Bernadette Montoya and Dr. Dan Howard met with state legislators at NMSU's Albuquerque Center to discuss the Legislative Lottery Scholarship. Students Jeremy Witte, Sage Peterson, and Lydia Hammond, who have all been strong advocates for the Lottery program, also attended. They also discussed the Lottery Scholarship with the Legislative Education Study Committee and the Legislative Finance Committee in Santa Fe.
- On November 22, Dr. Montoya participated in a phone conference by the New Mexico Higher Education Department to discuss the Legislative Lottery Scholarship in regards to the upcoming spring 2014 semester. HED plans to issue a communication to New Mexico institutions next week.
- Dr. Montoya attended the NMSU Multicultural Greek Council Charter Reception on November 19; it was a pleasure to meet with enthusiastic members of the campus' Greek community.



Lydia Hammond (left), Jeremy Witte (center), and Sage Peterson (right) attended a Legislative Lottery Scholarship meeting in Santa Fe.

University Admissions, Ms. Valerie Pickett

- Aggie Ambassadors participated in a phone calling campaign to high achieving prospective freshmen to remind them of the upcoming competitive scholarship deadline. Over 320 students from the state of New Mexico were called over a three-night period.
- Undergraduate recruiters met with prospective transfer students at UNM–Gallup, Central New Mexico Community College, and El Paso Community College this week. Recruiters traveled to northwest New Mexico, eastern New Mexico, and to the local high schools to meet with prospective students.
- University Admissions hosted group visits from Eastwood Knolls Middle School and Alderete Middle School from El Paso, Texas.

University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services, Ms. Janie Merchant

- On November 13, Marlene Melendez, Assistant Director Financial Aid, toured the Las Cruces Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC) call center. Staff at the Center answered questions about federal financial aid and work with callers to trouble-shoot the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process. The Center provides help to Spanish-speaking callers nation-wide, and Carol Mowbray, the center manager, is researching how to improve the FAFSA in Spanish.
- The Financial Aid Office saw a rise in the number of questions related to the New Mexico Legislative Lottery Scholarship, and about half of the front window traffic has been about this topic. About 70% of questions have been from parents; in addition, we have had much concern from students on major state scholarships. The mentions of the Lottery Scholarship are on the rise on social media, and arrangements are being made so that the front desk staff can monitor these outlets.

Student Life, Dr. Michael Jasek

- On November 14, The Order of Omega, the National Greek Leadership Honor Society, inducted 20 new members. The honor society only inducts the top 3% of the Greek Community on campus. Members must be a junior or senior with at least a 3.0 GPA and have held leadership positions on campus.
- Trudy Luken, Director of Student Accessibility Services, presented “The Impact of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on Higher Education” to COMM 485: International Teaching Assistant Development.
- Carol Brown, Assistive Technology Specialist, and Trudy Luken present “SOAR with Us to Empower Student with Opportunity, Access and Resources: Focus on Assistive Technology” at the Teaching Academy.
- Bonnie Smith, Staff Interpreter/Interpreter Coordinator, presented “Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students In Your Classroom” at the Teaching Academy.



New members of The Order of Omega National Greek Leadership Honor Society.



Multicultural Greek Council of NMSU was installed on November 19. Five students were inducted as the new executive council members.



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

- On November 13, Mike Ray, Student Program Coordinator of the American Indian Program, visited the Central New Mexico Community College's Native American Resource Fair in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- In celebration of Native American Heritage Month, the Native American Business Student Association (NABSA) hosted the First Annual Native American Market at the Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park in Mesilla on November 16.
- On November 20, Christina Chávez Kelley welcomed eighth-grade students from Camino Real Middle School, who toured NMSU as part of Dr. Michele Valverde's "Closing the Opportunity Gap" Program.
- On November 20, Dr. Laura Gutiérrez Spencer, Director of Chicano Programs, visited Vado Elementary School to recruit fifth-grade female students and their mothers to Chicano Programs' Generaciones Mother-Daughter Program for Spring 2014.

Interim Vice President Economic Development - Kevin Boberg

Las Cruces Startup Weekend

Las Cruces Startup Weekend (November 15-17, 2013) was a resounding success. The event gathered 63 attendees, sparked 21 business pitches, and facilitated the creation of six team-finalists. Winning teams included Lovely Share (<http://www.lovelycamera.com/>); The Future Cooperative (<http://greenshare.co>); and paraParking. Each team will receive incubation services through Arrowhead Technology Incubator or Studio G student/alumni business incubator. A brief video summary of the weekend is available at <http://lascruces.startupweekend.org/>.

Global Entrepreneurship Week

Arrowhead Center hosted a number of events and meet-ups for Global Entrepreneurship Week. Studio G hosted booths on campus November 18th and 19th, and held an open house informing students about the resources of Studio G. Quite a few students showed up to the open house; three new student-led companies joined the incubator. Ken Ruble from the NMSU Innovation Space in the College of Engineering was among the faculty who showed up as well and toured Studio G. Arrowhead staff members are working on creating a partnership/collaboration between Studio G and this new program. Twelve participants from Las Cruces Startup Weekend participants joined Studio G affiliates at Milagros's for a meet-up, where they were able to network their startup ideas.

Industry Events

The New Mexico Programming Group (NMPG) met November 21st at Arrowhead's Genesis Center. A panel of local entrepreneurs shared their startup stories with attendees and provided personal perspectives on the challenges and rewards of launching a venture in our region. Panelists included Vinney Kelley (Founder, Solutionhead Technologies, LLC and Arrowhead Technology Incubator member); Chris Lang (Founder/CEO, The LNG Company, LLC); and Aaron Garcia (CEO, Silicon Mesa Corporation and Arrowhead Technology Incubator member).

2014 Innovation and Economic Prosperity Universities Designation and Awards Program

NMSU will participate in this APLU program that recognizes member universities demonstrating excellence and leadership in planning, implementing, and evaluating programs and initiatives that support regional economic development. Economic engagement efforts includes working with public and private sector



partners to support economic development through a variety of activities—innovation and entrepreneurship, technology transfer, exemplary efforts in education and workforce development, and community development. To be conducted and coordinated through the OVEP over the next year, several personnel attended an orientation seminar conducted by the APLU 11.19.13.

Vice President Research - Vimal Chaitanya

- Vimal taught a class on religious studies for Professor Weldon Lamb on the philosophy of Vedanta.
- Vimal discussed and strategized the future of the current solar observatory with Jon Holtzman, Astronomy Department Head.
- Vimal met with Professor Kenneth Carroll and Sudha Murthy about promising strategic interdisciplinary areas of research. Vimal also met with Young Lee and Youkyang Bae to discuss interdisciplinary research opportunity in the area of speech therapy
- Pat Hynes presented to the noon rotary club on the International Symposium for Personal and Commercial Spaceflight (ISPCS) and the road progress for southern New Mexico.
- New Mexico students from across the state have submitted 69 fellowship and scholarship applications to the New Mexico Space Grant Consortium (NMSGC). Awards will be made by December 13th.
- New Mexico faculty have submitted eight applications for funding, for a total funding request of \$183,000. Awards will be made by December 13th.
- Final preparations are under way for the 14th Annual Unmanned Aircraft Systems Technical Analysis and Application Center Event, UAS TAAC 2013, to be held December 10th – 12th at the Hyatt Regency Tamaya, located on the Santa Ana Pueblo, north of Albuquerque, NM. This is one of the most prestigious and well attended international conferences in this area of research.
- The request for proposal for the Columbia Scientific Balloon Facility (CSBF) re-compete scheduled for release on 18 November 2013 has not been released.
- The Physical Science Lab (PSL) will be supporting Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) activities on Alaska's Northern Slope during the Spring of 2014.
- PSL is providing thermal modeling and analysis support for National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) Planetary Science Division's Observatory for Planetary Investigation from the Stratosphere (OPIS) project to be flown in September 2014.
- PSL received new funding from Neany, Inc., Northrop Grumman, Coleman Aerospace and NASA/Columbia Scientific Balloon Facility (CSBF).
- Office of Grants and Contracts worked with A&S to transfer National Science Foundation (NSF) and NASA funding to a new Principal Investigator (PI) since Dr. Jeremy Smith left NMSU.
- Neta Fernandez has continued to plan for the first pilot service center to be located at A&S
- Research administration services has released version 1.2 of the homegrown Maestro System, which went live on Tuesday, that incorporates a few fixes and improves system operations and capabilities for users and Institutional Review Board (IRB) project reviewers.
- The Maestro project was advanced to the next stage in round three of Arrowhead Center's Launch program.
- The first meeting was held about NMSU's participation in the Star Metrics program. Star Metrics is a program of the federal Office of Science and Technology Policy, operated in conjunction with the NSF and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).
- Per Water Resource Research Institute (WRRI) Director, Dr. Sam Fernald, this was a great week for NM WRRI, successfully advancing our mission through support of research, delivery of information, and



inclusively bringing together actors in the State of New Mexico water management to find new approaches to dealing with water issues.

- WRI held statewide water budget innovation working group at Santa Ana Pueblo attended by 25 people including out of state experts and state, regional, federal, stakeholder, and university participants.
- WRI held a regional groundwater banking meeting at WRI with the Office of State Engineer (OSE), pecan growers, and diversified crop growers.
- Sam Fernald met at City Hall about water rights with City of Las Cruces (Mayor, Garza, Garcia) and President Carruthers and Secretary Witte.
- WRI held Annual Water Conference “New Water Realities: Proposals for Meaningful Change” in Albuquerque with attendance of ~330; cited by many as “best water conference”.
- Sam Fernald presented at the Acequia Resilience Research to the Congreso de las Acequias in Tesuque held by the New Mexico Acequia Association.
- This week more than \$2 million worth of proposals were submitted and more than \$1 million worth of awards were received.

Interim Vice President University Advancement/Foundation Executive Director - Tina Byford

- NMSU Foundation Governance Committee held a meeting this week as we wrap up the calendar year. Nine new board members take office on January 1, 2014. The committee discussed the orientation agenda and meeting for new members to be held in January as well as reviewed the current geographic and demographic dispersions of board members throughout the U.S.
- NMSU Foundation Development, Communication & Marketing Committee held a meeting on Wednesday and hosted the Bank of America/Merrill Lynch philanthropic team. As a Merrill Lynch customer, the Foundation has access to this team and the resources they offer for infrastructure review, governance audit, policy review and campaign support. It was decided that the opportunity will be presented to the Executive Committee in February 2014.
- NMSU Foundation Investment Committee held a meeting to review Q3 2013 performance report and to consider investment opportunities. Return for the first quarter was 4.1%. The Endowment Pool balance closed at \$147,625,068 on Friday, November 15.
- The NMSU Alumni Association has over 75 alumni volunteer leaders who serve on the NMSU Alumni Association Executive Council and International Board of Directors and is currently looking for nominations to fill two vacancies for 2013-2014. One position is open on Executive Council and one on the International Board of Directors for a member-at-large. The Executive Council is made up of 14 member seats, including 4 officer positions, and meets quarterly in Las Cruces. To ensure access to alumni leaders across the U.S. who is interested in serving, Executive Council meetings may be attended by phone or webinar. The Executive Council meets four times per year and all members are required to attend, either in person or via phone/webinar. The International Board of Directors is made up of class representatives, college representatives, university representatives, representatives at large, executive council and chapter representatives. Nominations are due by end of day November 25th. The nomination committee will consider all applicants and make recommendations to the Executive Council. Selected candidates will be notified immediately.
- The New Mexico State University Alumni Association will kick off their first virtual event, Noche de Luminarias, Sunday, December 1, 2013. To participate, alumni and friends can take a photo of their NMSU

- Luminaria (download a template at alum.nmsu.edu/NDL2013) and then send the photo to the NMSU Alumni Relations Office via Facebook, Twitter, or Email, after the sun sets on Sunday, December 1, 2013. Photos will be on display on the NMSU Alumni Social Media Sites and will be used for the 2013 Holiday Digital Card.
- The Crimson Central Alumni Chapter established a local game watch location, Altitude Sports Grill, where they will watch all the televised men's basketball games. The first watch party was Nov. 15.
- Terra V. Winter, Director of Development, College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences attended her first course as part of the Ag Leadership of NM program. This two year program will take her throughout the state meeting constituents and provide donor relation opportunities.
- ACES received a \$12,000 donation for several Plant & Environmental Scholarships including full endowment of James T. Fisher Scholarship.
- ACES received its first \$5,000 installment from the Rootin' Tootin' Rib Cook-off event which will go to support a new scholarship in Plant and Environmental Sciences.
- There has been great movement on the Rodeo/Amphitheater project. Funds have been raised for the feasibility study and the fundraising committee is convening next week. The honorary chairman for fundraising will be named soon.
- Elaine A. Stachera, University Advancement Officer, reports immediate results from one of the San Jose discovery visits: CEO of solar startup has been connected with College of Engineering faculty, researchers, and development for possible collaboration.
- Barbara Wise, Director, University Advancement, received notification from Mosaic Corporation that NMSU Carlsbad is mentioned as a partner in the Mosaic 2013 Sustainability Review. The paragraph states: *An example is Mosaic's partnership with New Mexico State University's Carlsbad campus, where our local investment helped launch a new industrial maintenance mechanic program. By engaging in workforce development in our operating communities, we help meet our need for trained workers—and enable community members to gain job skills needed for employment.*
- Barbara Wise completed several projects among them was to finalize printing of a new NMSUF presentation folder layout and finalized an amended agreement with Margaret Ritter for Mildred Lee Bonnell Endowed Scholarship. Furthermore, Barbara scheduled visits with donors in central Texas and sent Development Officer Evaluation Metrics final report information to all gift officers for review.
- Kristina Martinez, Regional Advancement Officer, wrapped up the thanksgiving cards mailing, worked on a presentation for Rotary, and continues discovery calls/ e-mails. Although our property was not selected, ABC Studios contacted us regarding the availability of the Shirk Estate property for filming of Killer Women. Kristina represented us in the touring of the property with ABC Studios personnel.
- AVP, Deb Widger and Gift Planning Director, Robert Peterson worked with the Genin family to establish a new endowed scholarship in the College of Engineering in memory of Dean Emeritus Joseph Genin. The two partnered with the College to host a well-attended and inspiring memorial reception in Jett Hall. Mrs. Genin attended in company of her three sons and signed the agreement and funded the endowment.
- A second disbursement, \$80,000, was received from the Elizabeth Shirk Estate in support of the new endowed scholarship in the College of Education. Dr. Maria Martinez and Robert Peterson have been working with the attorneys, personal representative and NMSU Foundation leadership to facilitate the next steps, which will now be to sell the farmland in Albuquerque.
- A task force of three central staff, Darlene Nelson, Elaine Stachera and Barbara Wise, is working on board engagement plans for the NMSU Foundation Board members.



Athletics Director - McKinley Boston

- The Sports Enterprises Board of Directors voted to support a new sales business approach that will end our outsourced sales strategy to be replaced with an in-house sales effort. The new approach will be effective January 2014 and will be managed by David McCollum.
- I met with the AAC Board of Advisors to discuss and evaluate the fall semester community outreach strategies. The Board decided that going forward there will be fewer locations/events in Dona Ana County focusing on events/locations with higher levels of attendance.
- NMSU initiated and finalized a partnership agreement with the Las Cruces Recreation Department. The agreement will offer opportunities to NMSU athletes to provide community service hours in support of the Las Cruces Rec Department youth initiatives. NMSU student-athletes must commit a total of 15 hours in an academic year to maintain team membership.
- The NMSU Women's Volleyball team won the WAC regular season championship and Coach Mike Jordan was recognized as WAC Coach of the Year. Senior Desiree Scott was the WAC Player of the Year. The team will be the number one seed in the WAC Tournament and will play on Tuesday evening in Phoenix, Arizona, at Grand Canyon University.
- Wayne Stickney and I met with the AD's Cabinet (\$10,000 a year donors) to discuss a number of issues including the Department's draft of its new strategic plan. The feedback from the stakeholders was very positive with a strong endorsement. The group also discussed the Department's legislative agenda and offered to assist in our efforts to move the agenda forward.

Associate Vice President University Communications - Maureen Howard

- For the week of November 11 - November 17, news stories in both local and national media totaled 162 placements. The top story covered by the media this week was the Lottery Scholarship.
- This week's Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted the research project of Immo Hansen, assistant professor in the College of Arts and Sciences, who will receive \$1.4 million over the next four years from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, part of the National Institutes of Health. Hansen is studying how amino acids obtained from blood proteins are transported and interact with nutrient signaling pathways inside mosquitoes and trigger egg production. The research could lead to the development of new insecticides to reduce the spread of mosquito-transmitted viruses, such as Dengue fever.
- This week's Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted the wide variety of public outreach by NMSU Extension vegetable specialist Stephanie Walker. In addition to her Extension outreach efforts at field days and fairs, she has served as an expert in a wide variety of ways, including as a green chile cheeseburger judge for "Throwdown with Bobby Flay." Walker also shared her expertise with the contractors on the Public Broadcasting Service series "Ask this Old House."
- The News/Media Relations team worked with Todd Dickson from the Las Cruces Bulletin for a briefing regarding legislative priorities and a tour of NMSU's capital outlay projects at Rentfrow Gym, Jett Hall and Jett Annex.
- The Athletic Media Relations office hosted a press conference on Tuesday, Nov. 19, where a partnership was announced between the NMSU Athletics Department and the City of Las Cruces to help build community involvement.
- KRWG-TV presented an Immigration Reform town hall program this week. Kevin Cardoza and Cesar Eber Montelongo, two NMSU students, were featured as a part of the panel for the discussion. The town hall meeting was well attended and positively received by our diverse studio audience.

- Our Extension Publications supervisor Ana Henke has been working with her peers from Oregon State, University of Kentucky and University of Wyoming to develop a photography and design webinar for the Association for Communications Excellence (ACE) members. The webinar is planned for February 2014 and will cover composition rules, digital camera tips, image formats, and what format and image sources work best for Web and print projects.

Assistant Vice President Government Relations - Ricardo Rel

- On November 18, 2013, Representative Nate Cote attended a tour of NMSU's capital outlay projects.
- At the request of Mr. Todd Dickson with the Las Cruces Bulletin, OGR staff discussed the legislative priorities and provided him with a tour of the facilities for our capital outlay requests.
- OGR staff met with the Larry Blank (Chair of the Faculty Senate Subcommittee on Government Relations) and Monica Dunivan (Chair of the Employee Council) and briefed them on our legislative initiatives. Mr. Blank and Ms. Dunivan also toured the facilities involving our capital outlay requests
- Mr. Vargas facilitated and attended a meeting with Provost Howard, VP Montoya, ASNMSU representatives, Representative Jimmy Hall, Senator Padilla, Senator Ivey-Soto to discuss lottery related issues. Mr. Vargas also facilitated other meetings for the ASNMSU students with legislative staff and members.
- OGR staff assisted in arranging and attended a luncheon briefing of the Minority Student Services program (CAMP and AMP Programs), for legislators on Nov 18. Representative Mary Helen Garcia attended the lunch at which students from CAMP and AMP told their inspiring stories. Representative Garcia suggested that MSS and the students testify before a hearing of the Economic and Rural Development Committee sometime next year.
- Mr. Vargas attended the 2013 New Mexico Water Conference which was hosted by NMSU's Water Resources Research Institute. Attendees included Senator Pat Woods and Representative Cathrynn Brown, and Senator Peter Wirth was a presenter.
- We received a request from Senator Udall's office to review H.R. 3178 which amends the National Historic Preservation Act to extend eligibility to Hispanic Serving Institutions to access technical financial assistance to establish preservation training and degree programs.
- The Legislative Finance Committee higher education hearing is scheduled for December 10, 2013.
- OGR staff worked with the Governor's press staff to assist them with a press conference that will be held on November 26, 2013 at the Water Resources Research Institute.

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

- Western United States Agricultural Trade Association European Inbound — Bakery Ingredients Buyers Mission 2013 took place this week. It focused on promoting pecan exports to the European market. The international delegation included five buyers and one contractor from the European Union. The buyers held meetings with Mesilla Valley pecan producers and processors on the farm and at the processing facilities. NMDA staff guided this international delegation.
- Staff conducted a telephone interview with a reporter from Wisconsin-based *Modern Farmer Magazine* regarding New Mexico green chile. The conversation added background on the topic as well as information on the "Get Your Fix" campaign and its focus on promoting New Mexico green chile as a versatile gourmet pepper.



- A press release regarding this year's Rounders Award recipients was picked up in a few places, including http://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/blogs/neighbors/santa-fe-author-receives-rounders-award/article_63cdf73e-5216-11e3-aa19-001a4bcf6878.html.
- An Emergency Support Function (ESF) #11 Exercise was held in Albuquerque. The exercise itself was led by United States Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service ESF #11 regional personnel and coordinated by the Southwest Border Food Safety and Defense Center. The exercise attracted over 30 participants.