



# New Mexico State University

## Weekly Activity Report

December 2 - 6, 2013

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

- The Presidents Academic Council is in the process of tweaking the Vision 2020 strategic plan to refine some of the metrics. The Goals will remain the same but some strategies will be added. We hope to complete this work in January as we need to make sure our NMSU budget and the strategic plans of all units at NMSU are aligned with Vision 2020. Not to worry, the changes will not be significant but will improve how we communicate the plan.
- Dan Howard and I joined Professor Nancy Chanover in a visit to Apache Point Observatory and the Dunn telescope at the National Solar Observatory near Cloudcroft. Although both installations have been around for a while, they seem very serviceable for years to come. Apache Point is operated by a consortium of Universities but the Dunn telescope is soon to be replaced by a new one in Hawaii. The NSO folks were hoping that NMSU would assist in keeping it operating. While there, scientists from three universities were tracking a comet that was headed toward the sun. Gretchen at Apache Point introduced us to liquid nitrogen ice cream, which you should try if you have some liquid nitrogen handy. They have plenty at Apache Point as they use it to keep the telescopes cool.
- I played one hole of golf with Rich Beem (Aggie graduate and winner of a PGA title who said it was too cold to continue our round) and discussed his reengagement with NMSU. He seems very interested in getting reconnected. He has offered to join us in golfing outings where we are courting donors and/or stewarding previous gifts. He is soon to become a golf commentator with the Golf Channel.
- Kathy Carruthers, Ben Woods, Sharon Jones, and I attended the promotion ceremonies for Major General Gwen Bingham. She is such a great leader. While she indicates she would like to stay a little longer at WSMR, this promotion probably means moving on. It was a great ceremony for a great American soldier!
- Kathy Carruthers and I had lunch with J. Paul Taylor at his home in Mesilla. He has traditionally invited new Presidents of NMSU to lunch and to tour his historic home. If given the chance, you should tour it and see all of the art and artifacts representing New Mexico history and culture. His home has been donated to the State and will be a State Monument. J. Paul is the greatest!
- The Board of the Borderplex Alliance met at La Posta. Most surprising was the turnout from El Paso. The Alliance is making progress in attempting to make us all think and behave regionally. I serve as a VP for the Alliance, representing southern New Mexico but Tom Hutchison is really the driving force for the Alliance in our area.
- I spoke to about 150 members of the movers and shakers in the Albuquerque Economic Forum. The subject was “NMSU – all about discovery” and what that

means for our students, faculty/staff, and our communities. It seemed to be well received, even in Lobo country.

- I visited with the Governor regarding several issues facing higher education but specifically the problems with the Lottery Scholarships. She is inclined to support making it merit based and to require a 2.75 GPA with 15 hour full load – all good suggestions. I promoted our students proposal which is to backload the program to offer more scholarship money as the student progresses through school.
- I attended the Millionaires Dinner sponsored by Dr. Chaitanya and VPRs office. These folks have done an amazing job of proposing and winning grants and contracts. I thanked them for their contributions to NMSU, our programs, and to the State but mostly wished them well in becoming Billionaires.
- I will be attending a very important LFC meeting on Tuesday in which we will get our first glimpse at what the LFC has in mind for funding higher education. We are still struggling to accommodate Secretary Jose Garcia regarding the funding formula but probably will not be able to do so until after the LFC plays their hand.

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

- I visited with Dean Titus and Associate Dean Norice Lee to discuss the NMSU libraries and their funding. A special focus of the meeting was the materials budget of the library and the need to add additional continuing funds to this budget. A tour of the library revealed physical spaces under transition from repositories of books and journals to learning spaces.
- Interim Vice President for Economic Development Kevin Boberg and his leadership team are in the process of writing an Economic Development Administration grant to fund continued expansion of the Arrowhead Center. As is true of so many current grant proposals, matching funds are required for the grant. Identifying such funds is a continuing challenge for NMSU, although in this case, funds set aside years ago for the purpose of supporting the Arrowhead Center should help close the gap.
- On Wednesday, I traveled to Washington D.C. to attend the Provost Roundtable of the Education Advisory Board. At the two-day meeting we discussed:
  1. A Business Model Under Threat: Understanding the Enrollment Downturn
  2. Beyond the Enrollment Playbook: Building Pathways to New Student Segments
  3. Frontiers in Graduate Education
  4. Building a Sustainable Online Infrastructure
  5. Setting the Student Success Agenda
- I will distribute copies of the written materials from the meeting to the deans and we will discuss some of the topics at our mini-meetings.

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

No report submitted



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

- Associate Deans and I met with college Dean's Advisory Council to discuss successful fund-raising event, Starry Night, that honored supporter of Arts and Sciences and to begin plans for the annual event.
- Attended Lavender Graduation Ceremony with Lisa Bond-Maupin; Millionaire's Dinner with Jeff Brown to recognize the university professors who received over \$500,000 in research funding in the year.
- Attended with Jeff Brown the research rally honoring James McAteer (Astronomy) and Shelley Lusetti (Chemistry/Biochemistry).
- Held a Listening Lunch with faculty from Physics, History, English, Anthropology, Creative Media Institute, and Center for Latin American and Border Studies.
- Met with Mathematics Department faculty and Physics Department faculty to share results of department head evaluations.
- Selected a department head for the new Arts and Sciences Department, Interdisciplinary Studies, which will be the home department of Women's Studies faculty and the students in the Bachelor of Individualized Studies and Bachelor of Applied Sciences Department.
- Beth Pollack attended the Articulation meeting for MATH 111 with representatives from all five NMSU campuses; Phi Kappa Phi initiation.
- Jay Misra (Computer Science) received an \$80,000 two-year award. Brian Hampton (Geological Sciences) received a \$23,000 award.
- Jeff Brown attended a lab safety and decommissioning meeting scheduled by Katrina Doolittle; student awards ceremonies in English and Criminal Justice; the retirement ceremony for Jeanette Smith; and the Department of English Awards Ceremony.
- Ken Van Winkle and Lisa Bond-Maupin met with Facilities staff to finalize the plans for remodeling the Arts and Sciences Advising Center. Construction began and is to be completed by the end of January.

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

- Two Finance faculty candidates and one Management (Entrepreneurship) candidate visited the campus during the week. At this point the College has filled one position (in Accounting) with four more to fill for next fall.
- Bruce Huhmann and Kathy Brook represented the College of Business at the semi-annual meeting of the Daniels Fund Ethics Consortium in Fort Collins. The consortium is completing the fourth year of five years of funding so the Daniels Fund will soon be reviewing performance and considering how to proceed beyond year five. Plans are underway for the ethics case competition in April 2014 and an ethics summit focusing on social media in Fall 2014.

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

- Dinner with donor Joel Granger and past member of our Board of Advocates.

- Met with the Bridge subcommittee to discuss programs that support teachers and improve communication with the business community - Research project started—celebrating the teacher—teacher impact stories—asked to identify a member from the College to serve on committee and assist with research of this Bridge subcommittee.
- Reviewed the LESC agenda and shared my observations with Vicente Vargas.
- Met with Kathie Davis to discuss possible partnership with Rio Grande HS in Las Cruces.
- Selected Karin Trujillo to assist with the Teacher Committee for the Bridge.
- Attended a graduation celebration in O'Donnell atrium for undergraduates and master candidates.
- Participated in the LCPS Committee to support the Bond Issue.
- Reviewed faculty promotion and tenure recommendations.
- Researched the Woodrow Wilson program for math and science teachers.
- Reviewed summer funding formula proposal from the PAC meeting.
- Conducted an interview with Valencia County press on teacher education production in NM.
- Interviewed by Education Week about accreditation and the Pilot visit by the Inspectorate.
- Met and discussed with teacher education faculty (OTCP Committee) about strategies to modify teacher education including raising admission standards and the fifth year program.
- Participated in the Phi Kappa Phi recognition.
- Met with Jeff Hackney and Adelina Rodriguez to discuss our first-year retention program, a report on the progress will be submitted to me by December 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Participated in the celebration for the Million dollar research recipients from the college and university, the college had nine members recognized that were awarded either a half a million dollars or one million dollars of funding during the past year.
- Met with Dr. Baker/Jeanette Haynes Writer/O'Donnell to discuss the Woodrow Wilson graduate program for future teacher's; this was pre-planning meeting.
- Met with Dr. Menking to discuss future international programs and the Advisory Council.
- Agreed to serve on the Foundation Board as the Deans representative.
- Began the selection of the search committee to choose a new foundation officer for the College of Education.
- Researched the "Institute for Recruitment of Teachers" for the Provost and submitted a brief summary.
- Reviewed enrollment numbers for spring 2015 and asked for a report on graduate enrollment in Curriculum and Instruction.
- Reviewed recommendation from Curriculum and Instruction on CAEP accreditation with Dr. O'Donnell.



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

- Dr. Ruinian Jiang was recognized for bringing in more than \$0.5 million during fiscal year 2012-2013 by the Vice President for Research and President Carruthers. Dr. Jiang will be attending a dinner on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> to recognize his accomplishment.
- The Engineering Physics committee is working on a photonics (optics) concentration for the Engineering Physics undergraduate degree (in partnership with the electrical and computer engineering department).
- The NMSU Chemical Engineering Department was well represented at the 2013 American Institute of Chemical Engineers' national meeting in San Francisco, CA last week. A contingent of 15 undergraduate students also attended with numerous faculty and grad student attendees. The department presented about 30 papers/posters in total.
- The Engineering New Mexico Resource Network received \$100k to support the establishment of the Aggie Innovation Space. A portion of the funds (\$50k) were awarded from the Intel Foundation and Intel Corporation and the remaining \$50k from the NMSU President's Performance Funds. The funding will create a Makerspace environment to foster innovation and entrepreneurship with collaboration from NMSU Arrowhead Center. The facility will house 3D printers and scanners as well as a number of engineering and design materials, supplies and tools for use by students, faculty and staff.
- The Entrepreneurship Minor, to be offered in collaboration with Department of Management, was presented to Associate Dean for Academics Council (ADAC). It will be placed in the 2014-5 catalog.
- Dr. Valles-Rosales, of the IE department, and her IE 316 Methods Engineering class are conducting a project at the world-famous Lucchese Boot Company in El Paso, TX. They are developing a lean manufacturing approach for boot manufacturing.
- Three New Mexico AMP students presented at the New Mexico Academy of Science (NMAS) and NM Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Joint Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, NM. This event was an open forum for sharing the results of research and teaching on Impacts of Climate Change on Water and Sustainable Energy Development in New Mexico. Theresa Garcia, biology major at Northern New Mexico College (NNMC), who is a 2012 Summer Community College Opportunity for Research Experience (SCCORE) participant, made an oral presentation entitled, "Antimicrobial Properties of Medicinal Plants of the Southwest" that she researched with NNMC Faculty Mentor, Dr. Viviana Balzaretto Maggi. Amanda Lara, Environmental Engineering major at NMSU and a 2013 SCCORE participant, presented "Study of Phosphate Removal from Algal Cultures," research that she currently conducts as a research assistant with Faculty Mentor, Dr. Nirmal Khandan. Reece Broughton, Electronics Technology major from NMSU-Alamogordo, who is a 2013 SCCORE participant, presented "Using High Speed Photography to Determine Rainfall Droplet Size," research that he conducted with Faculty Mentor Dr. Salim Bawazir in the SCCORE program.

- The Engineering Research Center hosted an open house to introduce new (or continuing faculty) to the staff of the ERC. The ERC staff were available to answer questions about proposal preparation, proposal submission and post-award management. This open house was particularly important because the research center is housed in Engineering Complex I, apart from the rest of the College administration in Goddard Hall.

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

No Report Submitted

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

- Attended the public hearings on the NMSU Campus Master Plan review.
- Honored the retirement of Jeanette Smith, Distinguished Achievement Professor, who has contributed over 30 years of service to NMSU at a reception on December 5, 2013.
- Along with the Associate Dean, did a facilities/space management walking tour of Zuhl Library and Branson Library with Executive VP and Provost Dan Howard.
- The Library has announced the release of its 2014 calendar, *Our Beginnings: The First Ten Years of New Mexico State University*. This year's calendar focuses on the University's 125th anniversary, and each month features a photo which showcases the architecture, students, presidents and lifestyle during the earliest years at what was then Las Cruces College.



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

#### **Auxiliary Services**

- Trans-Siberian Orchestra once again performed a great show this past week at the NMSU Pan American Center to about 7,800 attendees.
- The Pan American Center hosted over 7,600 attendees for the NMSU vs UNM Men's Basketball game.
- NMSU Transportation & Parking Services is planning temporary parking changes to accommodate staff and contractor needs during the remodel projects for Hadley Hall, Corbett Center Student Union and the Computer Center.
- Sodexo, Barnes & Noble, Corbett Center Student Union participated in the festivities to illuminate the Las Cruces campus on Sunday, December 1, for the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Noche de Luminarias event that included 6000 luminarias. Barnes & Noble hosted a Faculty/Staff Shopping Night during the event offering discounts on most purchases.
- Faculty/Staff Block Meal Plans for Taos Restaurant are being offered for the first time. More information is available at <http://www.nmsu.edu/~idsvs/>.
- Auxiliary Services' departments have been actively working with organizers of the 2013 New Mexico Class 5A state football championship between Mayfield High



School Trojans and Las Cruces Bulldawgs to be held at Aggie Memorial Stadium on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

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

- Working closely with a number of departments, including Payroll, Human Resources, Financial Aid, Center for Learning and Professional Development, Student Information Management, and the team headed by ICT added three Electronic Personnel Action Forms (EPAF) to the EPAF system: Exempt Staff Temp, Non-Exempt Staff Temp, and Supplemental Comp. The EPAF system uses Banner functionality to electronically route staffing transactions to the appropriate departments, recording hiring approvals, and updating payroll and other personnel files accordingly. Since implementation, over 7,850 EPAF transactions have been initiated through the EPAF system.
- ICT presented its yearly Las Cruces campus student technology fee support request to the ASNMSU Student Senate. The request of \$1.9M remains unchanged from previous years and will fund a diverse set of student-focused technologies including lab and classroom technology, wireless and network connectivity expansion, specialized educational software purchases, and IT support services.
- The ICT communications rate four-month adjustment and revised monthly billing for FY14 was completed based on updated average salary non-I&G FTE data generated on October 25<sup>th</sup> and adjusted by departments.

#### **Facilities and Services**

- FS Fire is All About Discovery! NMSU's new motto is now proudly displayed on its 75' aerial fire apparatus. This apparatus is a 2004 Emergency One capable of flowing 1500 gallons of water per minute. Kudos to Tina Patton at the FS Sign Shop for producing the banner.



- Our Energy Services contractor, Ameresco, held an all-day workshop to discuss energy savings related to the Energy Conservation Measures (ECM's) and the models and methodologies used to develop cost savings for the university. ECM's include upgrading HVAC systems, switching out old fluorescent lights for more energy-efficient lights, and installing occupancy sensors so lights will automatically turn off.
- Under the supervision of Project Manager Jon Padilla, the Institute for Public Policy is continuing to progress. The structural steel is being installed for the new addition on the east side of the building and the east retaining concrete masonry unit (CMU) staircase wall and concrete wall footings are being formed. CMU block is also being installed in the renovated spaces in the interior of the building.
- The NMSU Golf Course Irrigation project is underway. The contractor has been on site all week potholing for existing utility depths and trenching is scheduled to start on 12/9/13.

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

- Completed lead-in activities for the December BoR Meeting including revisions to the agenda and meeting with Chair Cheney to finalize.
- Participated in the Fall 2013 Ring Ceremony in describing the historic nature of Aggie Memorial Tower which is cast into the Aggie class ring.
- Completed midterm review with President.
- Coordinated date for site visit by PCOM.
- Supported visit by Governor and regents for the UNM/NMSU basketball game.
- Contacted Aggie Legend Family members to inform and invite them to the Fall 2013 commencement.

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

#### **Office of the Vice President, Dr. Bernadette Montoya**

- Dr. Bernadette Montoya celebrated the accomplishments of our students at the Lavender Graduation Dinner on December 6. American Indian Program also celebrated Fall Graduating Students on December 5.
- We continue to wait on HED to provide updated information on Lottery percentages for the spring semester. At this time, NMSU remains committed to funding 60% of tuition regardless of HED's final decision. Students on major academic scholarships will remain funded at 100%.
- The Vice President's Office is finalizing the strategic plan. It will be released to the campus community in early January.

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

- Financial Aid staff sent letters to students and families explaining the uncertainty of the Legislative Lottery Scholarship. This letter helps explain to students that the Lottery is funded at the state level, and that NMSU has no influence on the amount of tuition NMSU covers. Feedback from students and families on this communication has been positive.



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

- NMSU's Military and Veterans Programs this week launched a new website ([mvp.nmsu.edu](http://mvp.nmsu.edu)) and recruited at the Fort Bliss Education Fair. They are also gearing up for their first ever Graduation Cord Ceremony for 66 students and are planning for the spring Military and Veterans Welcome and Orientation session with the Student Veteran Association.

### **Student Engagement, Dr. Terry Cook**

- Due to the renovations of Hardman and Jacobs Hall, the Student Success Center and TRIO Student Support Services will temporarily relocate to the Career Services Office, Garcia Annex Room 224 from December 16 through 20. They will move to Corbett Center, Room 148 (Aggie Underground) after December 20 and remain there for the duration of the renovation project.



This year's Student Excellence Award Recipients for Rec Sports.

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

- The 2013 Student Excellence Award Recipients for Rec Sports were: Spencer Diaz (Dr. Jack Welch Excellence in Aquatics); CJ Johnson (Paul LaPorte Excellence in Rec Sports); and Jim Armijo (Vaughn Corley Excellence in Intramurals). These awards are given annually to outstanding students who have contributed to the mission of the department through their work as student employees. A banquet and ceremony was held on November 21 at the NMSU Golf Course.

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

- On November 21 and 22, Jeanelle Chavez, Program Specialist of the Indian Resource Development, attended the New Mexico Indian Education Summit and the State-Tribal Government to Government meeting held at the Institute of American Indian Arts - Center for Lifelong Education in Santa Fe.
- Aileen Cruz has been selected as the NMSU Alumni Association's Outstanding Graduate for the American Indian Program (AIP). Cruz is receiving a Bachelor of Business Administration majoring in management.

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

#### **Las Cruces Startup Weekend Wrap-Up**

- A news release on Las Cruces Startup Weekend was published (please see <http://newscenter.nmsu.edu/9904/las-cruces-startup-weekend-winners-mov>); providing an overview of the event and featuring information on the winning team: Arrowhead Center graduate assistant Mykola Novak and NMSU English Department writing instructor Nancy Hastings. The team's product, Lovely Camera, allows users to customize cameras with personalized designs. Following their success at this event, the team will now move on to competition in Startup Weekend's Global Startup Battle, in which local winners produce a pitch video on which viewers can vote at [http://startupbattle.agorize.com/en/juries/11/votables?votable\\_id=284](http://startupbattle.agorize.com/en/juries/11/votables?votable_id=284).



## **Workshops and Consultations**

- Arrowhead Center/Arrowhead Innovation Network Entrepreneur-in-Residence Susanna Kass presented a workshop entitled “The Thinking that Leads,” which focused on strategic tools to incorporate design thinking into business and entrepreneurial ventures. Susanna is a global product management, business development, and operations professional with over 30 years of experience. Based in California’s Bay Area, she travels to Arrowhead Center frequently to stage workshops and consult on projects.

## **Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer**

- The Office of Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer received notification from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office that Drs. Muhammed Dawood (Electrical and Computer Engineering) and Ana Alejos (former post-doctoral researcher at NMSU) will be awarded a patent (U.S. Patent #8,610,621) for their technology “Extended Optimal Filters for Adaptive Radar Systems Using Binary Codes.” The patent will issue on December 17, 2013.


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

- Vimal Chaitanya attended the NASA EPSCoR state-wide meeting in Santa Fe. In addition to Pat Hynes the meeting was attended by Bernie McNamara, Julio Martinez and David Rockstraw from NMSU. Strategic partnerships within the State and diversity of NASA funding sources were among the topics discussed.
- VPR Office recognized researchers who brought in more than half a million in sponsored funding during the FY 2013 in a dinner event co-hosted by the President's office.
- Peter Lammers (Director, Energy Research Laboratory) visited the city manager of Truth or Consequences, Juan Fuentes, and city commissioner Steve Green for a proposal to secure state funds for building a pilot-scale, energy-positive wastewater treatment system at T or C. If approved the project would provide a blueprint for communities in NM to convert municipal wastewater treatment into a business instead of a taxpayer-supported utility. These include providing new sources of animal protein for ranchers and new, energy positive solutions for water remediation for NM agriculture and oil extraction industries.
- NMSGC hosted their annual Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Partner meeting this week. NMSU, NM Tech, and the University of New Mexico (UNM) were represented at the meeting. The meeting was very productive. Dr. Hynes met with Secretary Jose Garcia to discuss the EPSCoR funding formula, in particular the matching fund need.
- PSL is engaged in diversifying sources of funding. This week, new work for two separate Army customers is being proposed; estimated at about \$4M.
- Office of Grants and Contracts (OGC) worked with International Programs to negotiate and set up an award with the Secretariat of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation of Ecuador.

- Neta Fernandez is invited to speak at the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA) Financial Research Administration workshop in March 2014. She will cover the topic of Cost Share.
- OGC reorganized teams as a first step in creating a service center at the college of Arts and Sciences.
- Office of Research Development as a co-lead participated in the kick-off meeting for the College of Health and Social Services grant club.
- Steve Barks conducted training with the faculty of the Klipsch School for their participation in the online research approvals pilot test.
- Sam Fernald met with the water bank group to discuss the initial assessment of the effort. The University of Arizona water banking expert and consultant, Bonnie Colby, participated in the teleconference.
- This week, about \$375,000 worth of proposals were submitted and about \$2,000,000 worth of awards were received.

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

- The series of Development Officer Training sessions continued this week which included a review of the current giving clubs and an update on prospect ratings.
- Corporate & Foundation Relations Team, Fred Heinrich and Darlene Maguiro, completed several projects last week:
  - Assisted KRWG in securing a \$12,000 grant from ConAlma Foundation for Latino Behavioral Health program.
  - Secured \$10,000 in new funding from the Hatton Sumners Foundation for the Domenici Conference.
  - Submitted a \$10,000 proposal to PNM Resources for a STEM Lunch & Learn program with College of Engineering, to reach out to ABQ high schools.
  - Submitted a scholarship proposal to a prospective donor, for four annual tuition and fees scholarships, and discussed the proposal with the donor/prospect.
  - In conjunction with Dr. Andrea Tawney, pulled together information and prepared a campus-wide proposal for a donor that included 15 separate components, totaling \$276,500.
- Fred Heinrich held two separate meetings with the Director of the Native American Student program and the VP for Student Affairs to explore two different and new ideas for financial support for the campus.
- The NMSU Alumni Association and the Mesilla Valley Alumni Chapter held a Lil Aggies event at Preciado Park on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Light attendance due to the inclement weather. Another Lil Aggies event at the park will be planned in the spring. Charlotte Tallman, Colleen Richardson and Dolores Cardoza supported the event on behalf of the Alumni Association.
- Twenty-nine alumni and friends attended the UTEP/NMSU basketball game in El Paso Nov. 23 where the Aggies were victorious! The NMSU Alumni Association



handled the ticket arrangements for those alumni wanting to participate, contributing to the sea of crimson in the stands. Mallory Driggers and Colleen Richardson supported the event on behalf of the Alumni Association.

- Barbara S. Wise, Director, University Advancement, visited with donors in central Texas including the directors of a trust for the benefit of NMSU. We expect their gift of more than \$100,000 within the next two months.

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

- Athletics had an All-Staff meeting on Monday, Dec. 2. Guest speaker Gerald Nevarez discussed the aspect of Title IX and the process for handling complaints. President Carruthers discussed the Rutgers incident involving their Men's Basketball coach and the issue of the use of profanity amongst coaches. Braun Cartwright discussed the new focus on NCAA Compliance which recognizes that Head Coaches operate within a new NCAA Administrative model holding them accountable for all of their staff.
- NMSU's Equestrian Team was recognized and congratulated for being ranked as the number four (4) ranked Equestrian team in the nation.
- Coach Menzies held his regular scheduled Coaches Luncheon at M Five. Coach talked about the challenge of the upcoming schedule including Top 10 ranked Gonzaga, #2 ranked Arizona and Top 30 University of New Mexico as well as the fact that those games will positively impact our RPI, win or lose.
- I traveled to New York to attend the annually scheduled National Football Foundation Dinner and meetings. The major topic of discussion continues to be the five (5) power conferences and their desire to support the full cost of attendance for student-athletes, which could be from \$2,000 to \$3,000 as well as the implications of this proposal for the remaining Division 1 schools.

### **Athletic Marketing**

- The NM State vs. UNM men's basketball game had an attendance of more than 9,000 including over 2,300 student-athletes.

### **Aggie Athletic Club**

- Aggie Athletic Club Memberships to date are 464 members, Athletic Director Cabinet members are 9. Revenue generated for the scholarship fund is at \$266,646.
- End of year solicitation in process of being mailed. Over 9,000 potential donors will be sent a campaign packet asking for donations to the scholarship fund.
- Our quarterly newsletter is slotted to go out December 9. This piece is sent to current AAC and AD Cabinet members. It is an enhancement to our End of Year campaign asking for end of year contributions, a recognition piece to those that have made contributions and an informative platform to keep members connected.
- Our AAC El Paso Electric Men's Basketball Hospitality Suite had its biggest turn-out to date on Wednesday, December 4, prior to tip-off of the NMSU vs. UNM game. We had over 200 guests attend this event.
- Over 300 invitations mailed for the Men's Basketball Reunion taking place January 30 – February 1, 2014.
- Around 400 solicitation letters are in the process of being sent out for Men's Golf.




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

- For the week of November 25 – December 1, news stories in both local and national media totaled 113 placements. The top story covered by the media this week was the initiative to consider making NMSU tobacco free.
- This week's Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News focuses on a grant received by the College of Engineering and its partners in the Innovation Frontier Southwest. They were awarded a \$457,000 grant from the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce that may lead to the expansion of manufacturing and aerospace business in southern New Mexico and Arizona. The grant will fund a strategic manufacturing plan for the region.
- This week's Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted New Mexico State University's annual Aggie Dash, a 3-mile obstacle course race, organized and overseen by the Kinesiology Club, an NMSU organization dedicated to improving quality of life through physical fitness. Sixty-four people each paid \$25 to participate in the event, which includes powering through a 4,000-gallon mud pit and carrying a 100-pound telephone pole on their shoulders. A portion of the proceeds helps to sponsor a scholarship for after-school programs through the city of Las Cruces Parks and Recreation Department.
- Athletic Media Relations coordinated with a team from Sports Illustrated who were on campus this week to do a four-page layout story on the Bhullar Brothers.
- The NM State Athletic Media Relations staff facilitated a radio appearance for Head Swimming and Diving Coach Rick Pratt this week. Coach Pratt will be on with Ed Carnathan promoting his team's upcoming meet against Northern Arizona.
- Ana Henke, AES/CES Publications Supervisor, is working with Cindy Watkins, NMSU Agriculture Librarian, on a proposal to expand the digitization of Agricultural Experiment Station Press bulletins. We discovered approximately 1,300 press releases in storage this past year and this project will allow us to digitize press releases dated back to the early 1900s, including a release dated Feb. 21, 1905, and authored by Fabian Garcia.
- The portrait photography of Darren Phillips, chief photographer for NMSU's University Communications and Marketing Services, is now featured in an exhibit, "Faces of NMSU," at the William Conroy Honors Center Gallery that opened this week and runs through spring 2014.
- KRWG's Development team worked with the foundation to prepare an abstract for grants to hopefully fund our 2016 Vietnam veterans' interview project. KRWG would like to interview Vietnam veterans about their war experiences as we did in 2007 with Ken Burns, "The War." This would create a local supplement to the PBS national version of "Vietnam."

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

### **State-Related Activities**

- The Office of Government Relations Staff assisted in preparing for a press conference for Governor Martinez. The Governor announced that her budget will



include \$2 million for water related research at the Water Resources Research Institute. Her initiative also includes the \$350,000 requested by NMSU.

- Mr. Rel presented the 2014 legislative initiatives to the Presidential Ambassadors.
- Mr. Rel met with Regent Gonzales and reviewed our legislative initiatives and discussed the upcoming session.
- Representative McMillan toured the facilities for our capital outlay requests.
- President Carruthers hosted a legislative briefing. Legislative attendees were Rep. Bill McCamley, Rep. Doreen Gallegos, Sen. Bill Soules, and Sen. John Arthur Smith. Discussion focused on legislative funding for increased compensation, and NMSU's capital outlay and RPSP priorities.

#### **Upcoming Legislative Events**

December 4: Economic & Rural Development Committee in Santa Fe  
December 9-10: Indian Affairs Committee in Santa Fe  
December 9-13: Legislative Finance Committee in Santa Fe  
Dec 9: 9 am, FY14 & FY15 General Fund Revenue Projections  
Dec 10: Higher Education Institutions- HED  
Dec 13: Capital Outlay- LFC  
December 12-13: Legislative Education Study Committee in Santa Fe  
December 17-18: Revenue Stabilization & Tax Policy Committee in Santa Fe  
December 19-20: Legislative Health & Human Services Committee in Santa Fe

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

- New Mexico Department of Agriculture's website ([www.nmda.nmsu.edu](http://www.nmda.nmsu.edu)) has been updated to include 2014 applications for organic certification and a link to the 2014 New Mexico Organic Farming Conference brochure. The conference will be held February 14–15, 2014 in Albuquerque. The website for the conference is [www.farmtotablenm.org](http://www.farmtotablenm.org).
- Staff participated in the Dona Ana County Local Emergency Planning Committee monthly meeting. A presentation was made regarding the Healthcare Preparedness Program, which is a communication program between healthcare providers in the event of an emergency.
- New Mexico Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Diagnostic Services division hosted a tour for an Albuquerque high school Anatomy class, and has been hosting two externs from Brown Mackie University this past month.
- Staff is working with the New Mexico Pecan Growers Association to help with participation in the New Mexico Bowl game on December 21, 2013. In past years we have supplied pecans to the media and gifts to the visiting teams.
- The Fruit and Vegetable department inspected 23,207,393 pounds of farmer's stock peanuts, of which 11,755,035 pounds were organic. New Mexico farmer's stock peanut season is ninety-nine percent complete.