



# New Mexico State University Weekly Activity Report

July 21 - 25, 2014

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

- The Board of Regents Strategic Planning Retreat was a real success. For the first time in my memory, they spent almost an entire day reviewing and commenting on the Vision 2020 plan. They subsequently approved the plan during their regular Board meeting. Given this guidance, we will continue the work of making sure all units have aligned their strategic plans with Vision 2020. Natalie Kellner is establishing a website where all such plans can be viewed. Budgeting, going forwarded, will also be aligned with Vision 2020.
- The Regents approved the Faculty Senate approved change in NMSU's admission policy, effective for the fall of 2016. Their approval was contingent upon the development of the guaranteed pathway program with our two-year college programs. I think we will call this the Aggie Pathway to a Baccalaureate. I am confident we are going to improve the success rate for all of our students when we have this program up and running.
- The Regents dined with the DACC Advisory Committee (which is stipulated in our MOU – meeting but not dining) to discuss broad educational issues. The DACC Advisory Committee is made up of two members from each of the three public school boards we serve – Anthony, Hatch and Las Cruces. Advisory Committee members are particularly interested in the finalization of articulation arrangements between DACC and NMSU main campus. By the time the snow flies on Christmas Eve of 2014, Greg Fant and his gang are supposed to have this done.
- I visited with George Whitsides of Virgin Galactic regarding the company establishing their local office on the Arrowhead Park. He seemed very interested in doing so and thought it would be very nice if we developed one more Early College High School there which would focus on the aerospace industry. His person is dealing with Wayne Savage of Arrowhead, who manages the real estate at the Park.
- Regent Cheney, Janet Green, Dan Howard, Sharon Jones, and I attended several functions on Thursday and Friday in San Juan County. Regent Cheney arranged a meeting of alums for Thursday evening, which generated substantial interest in developing an Alumni Chapter in the County. It was amazing to find the number of leading citizens and leaders in San Juan County who graduated from the Yale of the Yuccas – NMSU. We also attended the Agriculture Field Day sponsored by our Ag Experiment Station. The station is located on NAPI land, which is on the reservation and the site of a very large irrigation/farm project belonging to the Navajo Nation. The NMSU team there is doing some excellent work on commodities of interest to the region and to NAPI. I should note that these field days are always well attended.
- While in Farmington, we received a commitment of \$250,000 from a local insurance business (which is owned by Aggie alums who are delighted with their most recent NMSU hire) for the insurance program in the College of Education. More on this when the deal is finalized.



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

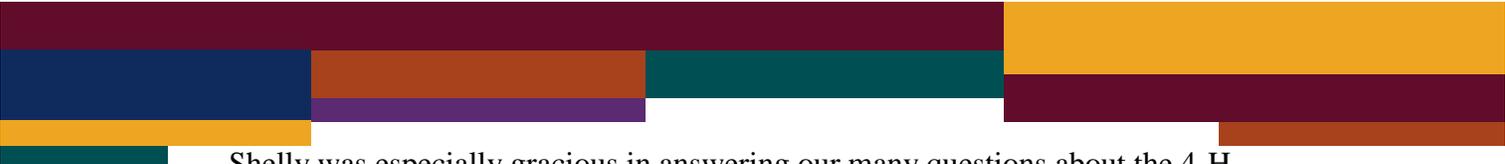
- This was an eventful week with a full day Strategic Planning Session with the Regents and a Regents Meeting the following day. The Strategic Planning Session was designed in such a way as to minimize presentations and allow the voices of the Regents to be heard by the administrative and academic leadership of the university. The dialogue was good and a lot of territory was covered in the seven hours we spent together. I will not try to summarize the conversation here, but I will note the priorities voiced by the Regents and the President at the outset of the meeting

### Regent priorities:

- K-20 pipeline
- Financial independence
- Development of stronger systems that survive presidents and regents
- Focus on, and building on, strengths
- Student retention and graduation
- High quality academic environment
- Access
- Leadership among land grant universities
- Cooperative extension
- Athletics (front porch of university)

### President priorities:

- Compensation
  - Enrollment management
  - Growth in research and research expenditures
  - Creation of new revenues
  - Graduate education
  - Efficiency measures and savings
  - Public-private partnerships
- At the Regents Meeting the next day, the Regents approved changes in the admissions standards for NMSU that will take effect in the fall of 2016. I will not go into detail with regard to the changes, but I will note that a major concern of the Regents is that we provide a well-designed and effective Guaranteed Pathway for students who begin their NMSU journey at a community college. Planning for the implementation of this pathway will be a major focus of my office for the next several months. I will report the results of this planning effort to the Regents at their December 2014 meeting.
  - Along with President Carruthers, Chairman of the Board of Regents Mike Cheney, Chief of Staff Sharon Jones, and Special Advisor to the Board of Regents Janet Green, I visited the Agricultural Science Center at Farmington for its Field Day on July 25. A big crowd from the community visited the station to learn more about its research and teaching programs and to enjoy a marvelous barbecue with authentic Navajo fry bread. Kudos to the staff of the station, especially Superintendent Rick Arnold, for being wonderful hosts and putting together an informative program.
  - The latter part of the day, Sharon Jones and I visited with Senator William Sharer and with staff of the San Juan Cooperative Extension Office. Thanks go to Shelly Hathorn, Pandora Thompson, and Luana Lynch for hosting us at the extension office.



Shelly was especially gracious in answering our many questions about the 4-H program she leads.

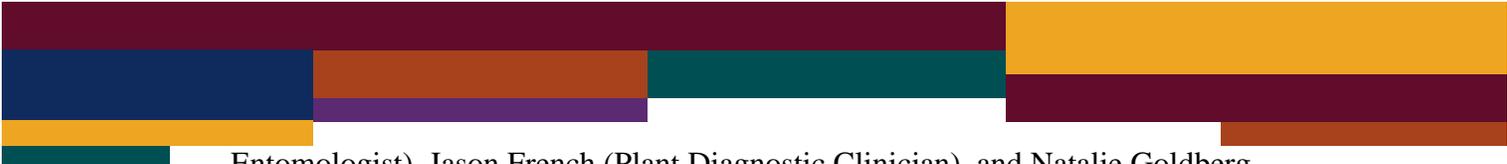
**Dean, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences,  
Dr. Lowell Catlett**

**Cooperative Extension Service**

- Doña Ana County 4-H Livestock Agent, Teresa Dean, hosted a Dairy Heifer Camp at Landmark Mercantile. Eleven 4-H members learned about showmanship, selection of dairy heifers, feeding, clipping, preparation for show and much more. 4-H members got the opportunity to tour the F & A Dairy Products plant as well as the Big Sky Dairy, that allowed them to learn more about the various aspects of the dairy industry. At the end of the camp, 4-H members showed off their skills with a showmanship contest and winners received a \$25 gift certificate to Landmark. Sponsors of this event were: Landmark Mercantile, Dairy Max and Dairy Farmers of America.
- Doña Ana County hosted the 2014 SW District 4-H Horse Show at the Armstrong Equestrian Center. Nineteen 4-H members from Doña Ana, Hidalgo, Grant and Socorro Counties were in attendance. 4-H member vied for the top three High Point Individual placing in each age division. Prior to the Horse Show, Doña Ana County hosted a Horse Show Clinic, where adult volunteer horse project leaders provided instruction on proper showing techniques to prepare the 4-H for the show the following day.
- Doña Ana County 4-H Members did a great job at the National 4-H Shooting Sports Invitational in Grand Island, Nebraska. All our students did well in all competitions.
- Luna County's 2014 National Shooting Sport Invitational. The National Invitational was held this year at Grand Island, Nebraska where our two teams consisted of Compound Archery and .22 Small Bore Rifle. Our 4-H students placed high in these national competitions.

**Extension Plant Sciences**

- The Seventh Annual Squash Derby was held on Saturday, July 19, at the Silver City Farmer's Market. This collaboration between the Farmer's Market and the Cooperative Extension Service began seven years ago when the Grant County Extension Program Director, Judy O'Loughlin, was asked to help create an event that would interest youth in the local Farmer's Market. The Squash Derby invites kids to the market to make derby cars from zucchini, Mexican gray squash, or yellow squash. The tires are made from sliced turnips. The kids construct the headlights, and vehicle accessories out of a wide variety of other vegetables. Many visiting engineers stop by to offer advice and see what's going on. After completion, each derby designer has a turn racing their derby car down a slide ramp racetrack. The distance traveled by each car is marked with their name and the top three finishers win a prize of bubbles or sidewalk chalks. This year over 40 kids participated, with several derby builders returning to see if they could improve on their designs. In conjunction with the Squash Derby, the Extension Plant Sciences Department conducted a "Plant Clinic." Plant Clinics help to educate the community about horticultural practices, pest identification, and pest management through an informal question and answer session. Three Specialists from the department, Carol Sutherland (Extension



Entomologist), Jason French (Plant Diagnostic Clinician), and Natalie Goldberg (Extension Plant Pathologist), were on hand to help people with specific gardening questions and pest identification requests. Insect boxes containing the 100 most common insects in New Mexico, biting and stinging pests, and arthropods that eat weeds were displayed in the booth. The event was a great success with over 490 people stopping by to get their questions answered or to learn about the insects on display.

#### **Media Productions/Ag Communications**

- Dr. Barbara Chamberlin recently presented a live webinar to more than 230 educators. Her recorded presentation “OK to Play: How Tablets, Smartphones, Computers and Other Devices Can Be an Important Part of a Child’s Development” was presented through AWE Digital Learning Solutions ([awelearning.com](http://awelearning.com)). Her presentation is designed to help educators and parents understand how to set their own guidelines for student/learner technology use, giving specific examples of how these tools can be beneficial. The presentation also prompts discussion of where parents and educators should show caution, and help them be better informed about what is “OK to Play”. It was an interactive webinar with live questions from audience members all over the world, including Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Greece, France, Australia, Romania, and India. Many more will watch the recording in the archives. The live recording can be seen at <http://www.instantpresenter.com/edwebnet/EB52D687844B>.

#### **Plant and Environmental Sciences**

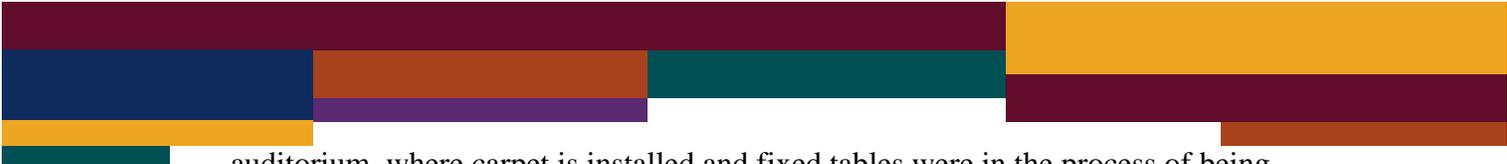
- Sabine Green, Program Specialist, has been recognized by the American Institute of Floral Designers (AIFD) as a recipient of its coveted Certified Floral Designer (CFD) designation. Green was granted this designation after successfully completing the Professional Floral Design Evaluation (PFDE) that took place on July 2 immediately prior to AIFD’s National Symposium “Transition Transformation” in Chicago. Symposium is the floral industry’s leading floral design education event. CFD recognition is granted only after a floral designer has demonstrated their understanding of the concepts of design through education and by subjecting their floral design work to a vigorous peer evaluation conducted by an international panel of design experts. In addition to being honored with the CFD designation, Green’s designs and evaluation marks were considered to be so artistic that she has also been extended an invitation to become an Accredited Member of AIFD. Should she accept the invitation; she would be inducted during elaborate ceremonies as part of AIFD’s 2015 National Symposium taking place June 30-July 4 in Denver, Colo. Members of AIFD lead the floral industry in advancing the art of professional floral design through education. While they are CFDs, they are better recognized by the “AIFD” designation after their names.

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

No Activity to Report

#### **Dean, College of Business, Dr. James Hoffman**

- Kathy Brook, Paul Hamilton, Yvonne Mendoza, Yolanda Sanchez, and Tim Query toured Domenici Hall. They were able to see various classrooms including the



auditorium, where carpet is installed and fixed tables were in the process of being installed. Furniture will begin to arrive in August and we anticipate occupying offices by the beginning of the fall semester. They were glad to see that the satellite dishes between Domenici and Milton are now removed in preparation for the McFie Circle project. This part of campus will soon be nearly unrecognizable.

- Introductory meeting continue for Jim Hoffman who met with Susie Bussman, Director of Instructional Innovation & Quality; Doug Martin, Head Football Coach; and Andrew Pena, Assistant VP for Human Resource Services.
- Jim Hoffman participated in the Board of Regent Retreat on Tuesday.

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

- Planned with our Advancement Officer, Kelley Coffeen a way to enhance the support for the college's fund raising campaign.
- Reviewed a proposal to partner with the Dona Ana Health group consortium that includes La Clinica and Memorial Medical Center in collaboration Molina Health Care.
- Attended and participated in the Board of Regents retreat that discussed the strategic plan and other topics.
- Attended two board meetings in Albuquerque for Cooperative Education Services and New Mexico Administrator Leadership Consortium.

### **James O'Donnell, Associate Dean**

- Attended the COBEC conference representing NMSU's College of Education and Study Abroad.
- Attended the state Education Deans & Directors Meeting.
- Served as Dean's Representative for MA exams in the Department of Educational Leadership & Administration.

### **Michelle Valverde, Director for Alliance and BoCES**

- I prepared for and attended the NM Coalition of Educational Leaders summer conference in Albuquerque.
- Co-presented with Dr. Susan Brown and Dr. Debra Knapp on the Alliance and outreach activities in the College of Education.
- I also continued developing the supporting student success model for K-12 education in NM and met with Karen Trujillo to update her on current and future Alliance activities.

### **Ron Dzwienka, Program Manager for Assessment**

- Began compiling and consolidating AY14 (FA13, SP14 & SU14) data for the upcoming yearly Data Reports, to be given to the four programs (ECED, ELED, SED & SPED). As the CEP Ph. D. Program began using Tk20 this past FA13 semester, a Data Report for that program is also being prepared.
- Completed the folders for the various departments and individuals (Advising, C&I, Alternative Licensure Director, OTCP, Institutional Research, etc.) from which data will be collected for the major yearly reports, in 2015, for AY14 (FA13, SP14 & SU14), and then confirmed this with Associate Dean O'Donnell.

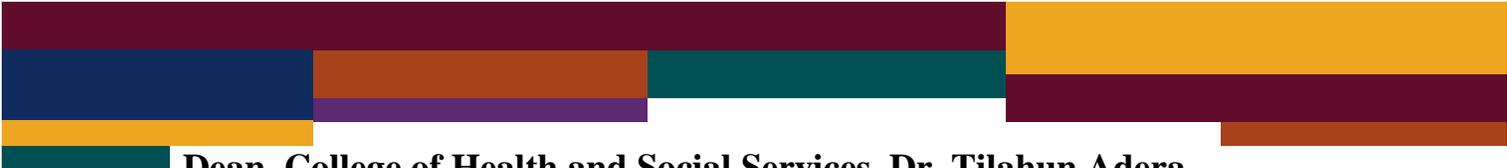
### **Advancement Team**

- Worked on reports and emails from travel to Phoenix for Alumni/Senior Send-Off

- Traveled to Good Samaritans to visit with Mr. Jinks a new 1888 Society member who will give to the SPED CD. A wonderful man who experienced life with a cleft palate wants to help children.
- Worked with the President's Office on the Dean's Dinner at the Bobby Lee Lawrence Academy of Wine, Monday evening.
- Worked with Alumni office, foundation research and foundation to answer questions on fall events and travel thoughts.
- Met with BOA member Kay Brilliant for lunch – we had a good discussion regarding a transition in the boards focus.
- Went to Pioneer Lunch – listened to Cheryl Harrelson speak. Promoted “current use”, 1888 society and endowed opportunities for donors.
- Worked on list for Foundation and met with Elaine Stachera from the Advancement office in developing fundraising strategies.

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

- Engineering New Mexico Resource Network hosted a robotics workshop for 4-H members during the 2014 State 4-H conference. Students from across the state took part in the workshop where they built, programmed, and tested robots to complete a prescribed task. The workshop was led by Ken Ruble, senior engineer and manager of the Aggie Innovation Space in the College of Engineering.
- Peter T Martin, head of civil engineering signed two new exchange program agreements with North China University of Technology (NCUT) on June 26. The agreements enable NMSU and NCUT civil engineering students to study three years in their home country following up with one or two years at the respective partner institution for BS and MS degrees. This agreement supplements the dual Ph.D. agreement which was signed in NMSU in March 2014.
- The observatory at Apache Point, NM employed the College of Engineering Manufacturing Technology and Engineering Center (M-TEC) to design and build a mechanism to limit the rotation of the one-meter telescope. The design, manufacture and installation of the limit system was completed M-TEC. M-TEC Engineer Yu-Ping Tang designed the functionality and geometry of the mechanism and engineering students along with lab manager Charlie Park completed the manufacturing, installation and troubleshooting for the project which was completed in June.
- The NMSU PACE (Partners for the Advancement of Collaborative Engineering Education) team required the help of M-TEC to manufacture student-designed parts to assemble a personal transportation device for a two-year design competition. Weight and size of the assembly were key design elements as part of the international competition. The design specifications of the device called for it to fold in on itself to the size of a briefcase and the assembly was to be less than 35lbs. Some of the students who designed the device will be traveling to Italy for an international competition against rival universities. The PACE project was completed in July.



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

- The School of Social Work was notified today that they received a 3-year Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) grant funded jointly by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). SBIRT is an evidence-based practice used to identify, reduce, and prevent problematic use, abuse, and dependence on alcohol and illicit drugs. The grant will be used to support training of health professionals in substance abuse and integrated health care. Tina Hancock is the PI and will work with the School of Nursing on the integration of this content into the curriculum and specialized training for students.
- Cabinet Secretary Gino Rinaldi of the New Mexico Department of Aging and Long Term Services visited with Interim Dean Donna Wagner at the NMSU campus this week to discuss potential partnership opportunities in the area of aging services.
- On July 21, Tina Hancock, Director of the School of Social Work and Ron Gurley, Executive Director of the Dona Ana County Jail Diversion Program, met with President Carruthers to discuss a proposal for federal funds to develop a “Social Services Entity” to serve the needs of the Central American immigrant mothers and children detained at the Artesia Center.

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

No Activity to Report

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

No Activity to Report

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

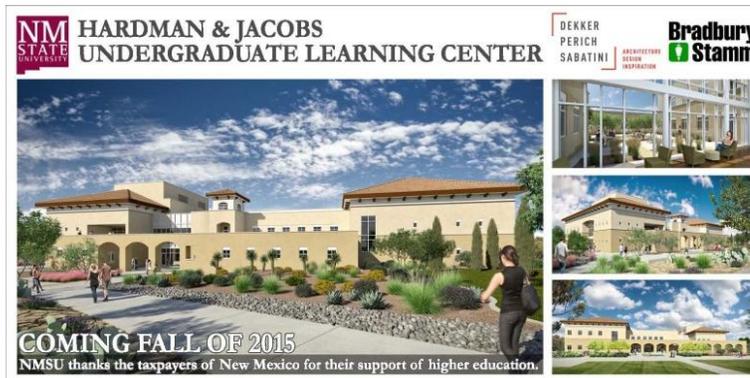
- The Dean and Associate Dean met with Janet Green, Special Advisor to the Board of Regents met. She was briefed on the Board of Regents Minutes/Agendas Digitization Project.
- The Dean attended the Board of Regents Dinner on July 21<sup>st</sup> and the Board of Regents Annual Summer Retreat attended by members of the BOR, President Garrey Carruthers and NMSU’s administrative leadership team.
- Library department heads, the Associate Dean and the Dean of the library met on July 24, 2014 on planning library strategic targets for 2014-2015 and the review the final report on achievements in meeting 2013-2014 library strategic targets.
- Construction work on the creation of group study rooms, a presentation room, and individual graduate student research carrels began in Zuhl Library this week. The project completion date is currently targeted for mid-August.
- The installation of granite benches in the newly created garden area next to Zuhl Library was completed this week. The NMSU community now has a beautiful garden area with places to sit, visit with friends, study, or just have a peaceful place for relaxing.

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

- Cornell H. Menking and Vimal Chaitanya attended a joint meeting of the APLU Commission on International Initiatives (CII) and the Council on Research Policy and Graduate Education (CRPGE) on July 14-17. Both delivered presentations at the conference. A result of the event is a renewed commitment on the part of the VPR's Office and the Office of International and Border Programs to work more closely to advance NMSU's international research agenda.
- Pam Herron, a member of the NMSU Confucius Institute staff, is currently chaperoning students from Cathedral High School in El Paso, TX as part of the Hanban Chinese Bridge program.

## Senior Vice President Administration and Finance, Angela Throneberry

- **Hardman & Jacobs Undergraduate Learning Center** Bradbury Stamm was awarded the construction contract for Hardman & Jacobs Undergraduate Learning Center. The anticipated substantial completion date is July 16th, 2015. Bradbury Stamm will soon begin selective demolition on Hardman Hall.



- **ICT announces Asprey Award Winners.** The Asprey, which recognizes the most outstanding employee of the quarter, was awarded to Laura Padilla-Zepeda and Enrique Cardenas. Laura, who is quick with a welcoming smile, is ICT's graphic design expert who specializes in communication materials, web site design, and graphic element creation. Projects for which she is credited include the layout of the Administration and Finance Strategic Plan and the redesign of ICT's web site. The second quarter recipient, Enrique Cardenas, is valued for his extensive knowledge of the Banner system and Oracle database, a *can do* attitude, and pleasant demeanor. Most recently, he provided his extensive expertise in helping NMSU meet its SaVE Act compliance requirements and his work on the Student Address project.
- **National Vanilla Ice Cream Day** was celebrated this week at the NMSU Barnes & Noble Bookstore on campus. Over 100 children attended from sport camps and the community with their parents and camp counselors. They enjoyed dancing, singing, crafts and games with a well-deserved ice-cream afterwards.

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

No Activity to Report

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

- The Enrollment Strike Force Team planned the content and format for workshops on recruiting and retention that will be offered to the campus community over the upcoming academic year. These workshops will be a partnership with the Teaching Academy and are part of an ongoing effort to spread the message that all Aggies can assist in student recruitment and success.
- All of SAEM is gearing up for the new semester and preparing to welcome families and assist students' in their transition to campus. SAEM offices in the Educational Services Building will be open on Move-in Day – a Sunday – and staff will be on hand to welcome students and families.

### **University Admissions, Ms. Valerie Pickett**

- We are seeing steady walk-in traffic with students applying for the upcoming semester. Recruiters are calling newly admitted students to help them complete the enrollment process.

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

- Student traffic has increased in the Financial Aid Office this week. Phone calls and emails have almost doubled; advisors are seeing an increase in the submission of appeals, and processors are seeing an increase in the submission of FAFSA documentation. The renovated office, completed last spring, is working well. Staff members are able to serve students more privately, and the layout has allowed greater integration between scholarship services and other financial aid functions. Student feedback on the new layout has been positive.

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

- New Student Registration was held on July 25 and had about 200 new students in attendance. Two additional New Student Registration events will be held next week before the new semester starts.
- The Calling Campaign is still in action! As of July 25, there were a total of 785 undergraduate and graduate students to contact about Fall 2014 registration. Students report appreciating the offers from Calling Campaign volunteers to assist with enrollment and lifting holds that prevent registration.



New students get to know each other at the New Student Registration.

### **University Registrar**

- Students entering NMSU with credit from Advanced Placement courses won't be aware of this, but awarding credit to their academic records from these courses got much easier this week. Student Information Management this week finished creating and testing automated record loading, and this week successfully created course equivalencies for 639 students based on the advanced placement scores. The data loads directly into Banner from Advanced Placement. SIM also automated a letter to students notifying them of their credits plus other supporting processes.

### **Staff Highlights**

- The search committee for the new University Registrar has been ongoing and is planning on inviting candidates to campus before the start of the new semester.



Candidate schedules and biographical information will be on the SAEM website as it becomes available.

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

- **Studio G Networking Hour**

Arrowhead hosted its first Studio G Networking Hour last Friday. Networking Hour is designed to bring student entrepreneurs in Studio G together so they can learn from each other, share resources, and build stronger startups. This first event had over 20 participants, including Arrowhead Enterprise advisor, Scott Maloney. The Networking Hour was held at Academic Research building A from 2-3pm, and will take place every week at the same place and same time. These Networking Hour events are open to all, and everyone in the NMSU community is encouraged to attend in order to learn more about Studio G and getting involved with the exciting start-ups in Studio G.

- **Provisional Patent Filed**

This week Arrowhead Center filed a provisional patent application to the US Patent and Trade Mark Office for a new technology created by inventors Carlos Santos, Visiting Professor at the NMSU Business School and former avionics technician; Dr. Debbie Winters, Senior Research Scientist in Aerospace with NMSU's Physical Science Laboratory (PSL); William Graves, Junior Research Scientist with PSL in Aerospace; and Stephen Hottman, Director of PSL. The provisionally patented technology is "Altitude Warning Indicators for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles." This is a system that allows better ground observation and improved flight safety of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, especially when flying at night.

- **Regional Collaboration Discussion**

On Friday, July 25, Arrowhead held discussions with Emma Schwartz, director of the Medical Center of Americas, on collaboration opportunities to build a stronger entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region.

- **Engage Statewide Resources to Spark Business and Community Development**

At its 2014 Annual Luncheon, the Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments recognized Dr. Michael Patrick for initiating and conducting the USDA-funded Stronger Economies Together (SET) program in their region of the State.

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

- The Microscopic Imaging Core Suite participated in the NIH funded RISE Start-up Activities this week. An explanation of capabilities and tour of facilities with hands-demonstrations of the instruments was provided to the RISE students.
- Eleven faculty from New Mexico public and higher education institutions each successfully built a multi-sensor payload to measure altitude, temperature, acceleration, magnetic fields and atmospheric radiation on eleven rockets sent to an altitude of 2,500 feet. The rockets were launched on Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup> from Truth or Consequences, as part of the week-long New Mexico Space Grant Summer of Innovation Summer Institute.
- Luis Vazquez, presented a workshop, "Communications, Aspirations: Negotiating the Healthcare Environment" on July 17, 2014. He presented it to an interdisciplinary group of healthcare providers such as nurses, physicians, pharmacologists, and



psychologists. The workshop was well received and provided opportunities for the interdisciplinary group of attendees to learn and participate across disciplines.

- Luis Vazquez and Michelle Gavin provided training on June 3, 10, and July 17 to the new Institutional Review Board members in, “How to review human subjects protocols and integrating the review process with the MAESTRO electronic online review system.” They also provided training to 16 doctoral students in the College of Education from the Curriculum and Instruction Department on, “Submitting an Electronic Submission Application for Human Subjects.”
- Sam Fernald met with WRRRI’s statewide Water Conference Advisory Committee in Albuquerque. Sam updated the group on its FY15 \$1 million water research initiative to improve water management in New Mexico. The group developed the program for the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual New Mexico Water Conference, *New Mexico’s Water Future: Connecting Stakeholder Needs to Water Information*, to be held in Santa Fe in November.
- NM WRRRI Director Sam Fernald met with New Mexico Secretary for Indian Affairs, Arthur Allison, and others to discuss proposed legislation involving hydrology-related research and windmill assessment to assist tribes and pueblos in the state.

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

- Cheryl finalized a \$25,000/year (minimum of four years) gift and an Estate gift of \$1.2 million with a friend of NMSU in Deming, NM. This gift will be used for Scholarships in Journalism and Mass Communications Department with College of Arts and Sciences. Special “Thank You” to a Foundation Board member for opening this opportunity, also Christa Slaton and Robert Peterson for assisting with this gift.
- President Carruthers and Andrea Tawney finalized a \$250K gift to the College of Business Insurance and Financial Services Center that has been in the works for several years from alums and an insurance agency in Farmington, NM.
- Andrea Tawney Finalized a \$50k planned gift to an established memorial scholarship in the College of Business.
- Received a new endowment to benefit the Dance Program in the College of Education.
- The Accounting Department Faculty, Department Head Kevin Melendrez and Andrea Tawney have completed the second \$100K Mike and Judy Johnson challenge in support of the Lionel D. Haight Endowed Chair. The Chair is just \$205k from completion.
- Cheryl was special guest speaker at the Summer NMSU Pioneers Luncheon held on Thursday, July 24, 2014.

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

- I was pleased to support the Women’s Basketball Meet & Greet cookout. Women’s basketball coaches continue to broaden their outreach with the community and grow fundraising.
- I attended the Sun Belt Conference Football Media Day and AD Summer meeting in New Orleans. The Media Day was well attended by press, Coach Martin, and a



couple of our student-athletes; Valerian Ume-Ezeoke and Travaughn Colwell who represented NMSU well. The focus of the AD meeting was on the new NCAA Division 1 Governance. Discussions were focused on the proposed financial cost of attendance regarding legislation.

**Assoc AD, Development-Fred Heinrich**

- Following up with phone calls and emails (as appropriate) to Victory Club members to keep them connected over the summer and to encourage them to renew their Victory Club season passes for the 2014 Football season.
- Making contacts to attempt to fill the quarter-Suite remaining in the Fulton Athletics Center for the Football season.
- Performing due diligence and developing a strategy to approach a donor with a proposal to make the NM State Strength Training facility the only one in the country to have video/electronic equipment at every weight station, which our Head Strength Coach Don Decker says would be a point of pride that would resonate strongly with our Student-Athletes and also be a big recruiting tool.
- Restructuring the Athletic Director's cabinet in an effort to secure more buy-in and support.
- Developing a new relationship between Aggie Athletic Club and individual sport booster clubs.

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

- This week's Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News featured the work of Social Work Associate Professor Maria Gurrola, who uses a community garden project to eliminate stigmas of mental health in Hispanic communities. Mental health is an important issue that often isn't discussed openly, especially in Hispanic communities. Gurrola partnered with a community organization, Del Cerro Nuevos Horizontes, in Vado to build the garden and research mental health issues in the region.
- This week's Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted a three-month-long mission by NASA's Columbia Scientific Balloon Facility, operated by the New Mexico State University Physical Science Laboratory, at the Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility in Kauai, Hawaii, where they supported the most technically challenging balloon flight in their 50-year history. The purpose of the project was to test the Low Density Supersonic Decelerator, a \$150 million experiment developed to allow spacecraft to decelerate to a safe enough speed to land safely on Mars.
- Our Marketing Services group developed a back-to-school ad featuring Dakota Burrow, an engineering student who received more than \$1M in scholarships from universities across the country. The ad was released this week and will run in the back to school sections of the Las Cruces Sun-News and the Albuquerque Journal.

- Infrastructure enhancements continue on campus to support the new HD production truck. This week power to the Pan American Center was installed and we began testing the unit. Camera cables are also nearly pulled at that site. The KRWG satellite dishes were removed from the Milton Hall area, which now allows for green space in front of the Domenici Institute.
- The KRWG Steve Smith and Hard Road concert at the Rio Grande last weekend drew an enthusiastic crowd! This annual event has become a real bright spot for KRWG and a good way to connect with our audiences.

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

- The HED Formula Steering Committee met on Friday, July 25, 2014. The steering committee adopted the guiding principles and they did incorporate two modifications that NMSU requested: 1) includes a statement that the formula should be simple and understandable and 2) includes a statement that allows for lead time for institutions to prepare and respond. The committee had a general agreement on the following:
  - Use a 3-year average on all data points used for the performance measures (not clear if this included the mission measures).
  - Students at Risk - capture students who are financial at risk over a 4-year period for 4 year institutions and 2-years for 2-year institutions and using an effective family contribution of \$5,000 or less.
  - Use the most recent data available.
- The committee discussed the methodology used to calculate completed student credit hours (SCH) but did not reach a consensus. The formula recommended by the executive for FY15 used the change in the most recent 3-year average compared to the prior 3-year average while the legislative adopted formula used the most recent actual data for the academic year. The steering committee requested that the technical committee calculate the SCH using both methodologies.

### **Upcoming Legislative Events:**

- July 28 – Investments & Pensions Oversight Committee

- Education Trust Board: Management of College Savings Plans Nationally and in the State.
- Feasibility of Implementing a State-Guaranteed Student Loan Program.
- July 29 – Science, Technology, and Telecommunications Committee – Santa Fe.
- Computer Coding Education.
- Cybersecurity and Data Breach.
- Broadband Telecommunications and PARCC Status.
- July 30 – Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee and Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee – Albuquerque.
- July 31 – Tobacco Settlement Revenue Oversight Committee – Albuquerque
- UNM Cancer Center Update.
- August 5-6 – Revenue Stabilization and Tax Policy Committee – Santa Fe.
- State Land Office Annual Status and Revenue Update.
- State Investment Council Annual Update.
- Laboratory Partnership with Small Business Tax Credit Annual Report.
- Sources and Uses of State Capital Funding.
- August 6-7 – Joint Meeting Courts Corrections and Justice Committee and the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee – Albuquerque.
- August 7-8 – Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee – Santa Fe.

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

- This week I attended the annual meeting of the Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture (WASDA). The meeting included policy discussions, agriculture tours and officer elections. I will serve as the president of the association for 2015 and will host the annual meeting in Santa Fe, NM next July. We also conducted the annual meeting of the Western United States Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA). This group is involved in creating global export opportunities for agriculture products. I will serve as treasurer of the association for the next year.
- NMDA staff participated in a Drought Monitoring Working Group conference call, and discussion was on the water situation across New Mexico. The recent weather models continue to indicate El Niño conditions and a favorable outlook for above average precipitation through the winter months.
- NMDA staff also assisted with judging the state 4H competition at New Mexico State University.
- NMDA’s Organic Program staff assisted NMSU students in applying for organic certification for the Student Research and Education Gardens on the NMSU campus, and the application will be submitted by the end of the month.



## **Chief, NMSU Police Department, Stephen Lopez**

- Two police officer recruits started the Basic Police Academy this week. Diana Renteria and Joseph Cortez are attending the academy being put on by the Doña Ana County Sheriff's Department. Officer Cortez has been named as the class commander.
- Four NMSU students started their training this week in the first-ever co-op program in the department. They are being employed as Public Safety Aides, which allows them to have more authority than a security guard, but shy of a full police officer. These positions are being funded by student fees to help improve safety on campus, while providing student jobs and an opportunity to gain real-world experience in their field of study.
- The Police Department received a donation of a new explosive detection dog this week, Roxy. The one year-old Belgian Malinois will replace canine Raven who will be retiring this year due to medical problems (hip dysplasia). The new dog was donated by NMSU Police Sergeant Ryan Beck. Investigator Sakarias Ottersland, a certified dog trainer, is currently training Roxy so she is ready to take over when Raven retires.
- NMSU Police supported a request by the Las Cruces Police Department for assistance in a traffic enforcement operation near the campus on El Paseo Drive. A total of 239 citations were issued, 19 of which were written by NMSU officers.
- On Wednesday, officers responded to the report of an unresponsive subject in a vehicle at Wells and McArthur. The subject was experiencing a diabetic emergency. There was excellent collaboration between everyone on scene. This included the Housing and Residential Life staff member who found the subject and reported the incident, and the fire department staff that provided medical care to the subject. This was the second major medical response this week (the first was at the DACC Central Campus on Monday).
- The NMSU Victim Services Coordinator Amanda Bowen became a certified instructor in Green Dot this past week, and is preparing to roll the program out to all NMSU campuses this fall. Green Dot is a national program that trains students and employees on bystander intervention to help them identify situations where a person is in danger of becoming a victim of violence and intervening in a manner that does not put them in danger.
- The Victim Services Office helped a victim of domestic violence, to include obtaining donations to pay for fuel to get her back home and away from the abuser.
- The Victim Services Office is starting a weekly FaceBook posting on the NMSU Police Department FaceBook page as another way of getting safety information to the community. Earlier this year, the NMSU Police FaceBook page also became a location for receiving emergency notifications whenever the NMSU Emergency Notification System is activated.
- The Police Department joined an initiative by the State of New Mexico Department of Information Technology to deploy the first phase of a planned national public safety broadband wireless communications network. NMSU ICT, Physical Science Laboratory, and College of Engineering have also been brought into the discussion to examine the potential for partnerships and research opportunities related to this project.