



New Mexico State University Weekly Activity Report

May 26 - 30, 2014

President Garrey Carruthers, Ph.D.

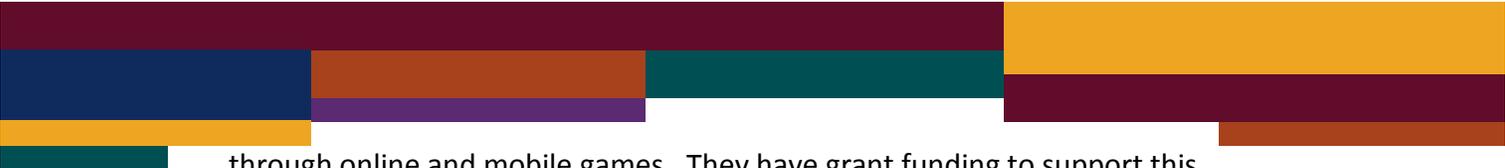
No Report – Out on Annual Leave

Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Dan Howard

- On Friday, May 30, I attended the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) meeting sponsored by the Higher Education Department (HED) of the state of New Mexico. The topic of the meeting was “How Good a Job is Higher Education doing in New Mexico”. As noted at the meeting, we live in an enlightened state in which public higher education is valued and well supported. Indeed, 15% of the state budget goes into higher education, the highest proportion in the country. We can point to many successes of the system that has been established, including three highly regarded research universities, but HED expressed concerns in several areas, among them:
 - The percentage of the New Mexico population with a college degree.
 - Overproduction of some degrees and underproduction of others, especially engineering and nursing.
 - Too many students drowning in the remedial abyss.
 - Students taking too long to graduate due to excess credits.
 - Large variances in the numbers of credits needed to complete the same degree and certificate programs at different institutions.
 - Low retention rates.
- To address these concerns, HED has asked each CAO to set six completion goals for his/her institution of higher education and to have those goals back to HED by August 1. These goals will be integrated into the dashboard of each institution and will allow interested members of the public to compare the goals, and progress toward achieving the goals, among the colleges and universities of the state.

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

- **Esther Devall, department head for Family and Consumer Sciences,** conducted civil rights reviews in Grant, Sandoval, Bernalillo, Sandoval, and Socorro counties to ensure county extension offices reached out to underserved audiences and were in compliance with all federal laws.
- **Media Productions:** This week, The Learning Games Team in Media Productions hosted experts from University of Idaho for a joint Design Summit to design new financial literacy games targeting youth and their parents. U of I's faculty Lyle Hansen and Luke Erickson have years of experience conducting face-to-face workshops on youth financial literacy, but now want to expand their outreach

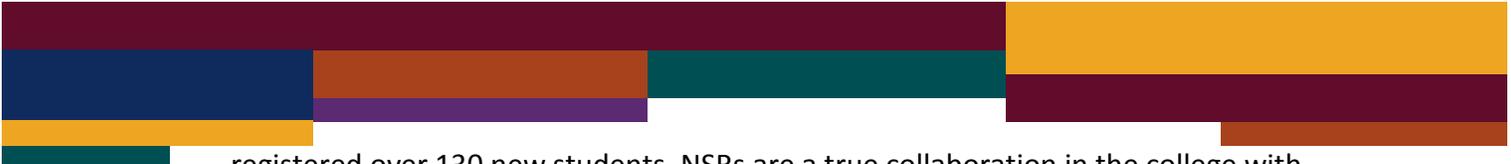


through online and mobile games. They have grant funding to support this collaborative work with NMSU's Media Productions.

- **Dr. Lowell Catlett, Dean**, was invited by McDonalds Corporation to participate in a “Think Tank” conversation in Chicago this week. Sixty high profile individuals (Veterinarians and Animal Science) from around the world attended to discuss and consider safeguarding animal welfare and integrating cultural values such as humane treatment of animals.
- **Dr. David Thompson, Associate Dean and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station**, traveled to China with **Dr. Jinfa Zhang, Plant and Environmental Sciences cotton breeder**, to visit five agricultural universities in an effort to encourage graduate and undergraduate student interest in attending NMSU and to explore shared research interests and the possibility of faculty exchange. The five universities included Hebei Agricultural University in Baoding, Northwest Agricultural and Forestry University in Xi'an, Southwest University in Chongqing, Huazhong Agricultural University in Wuhan, and China Agricultural University in Beijing.
- **The Agricultural Experiment Station (AES)** awarded \$623,000 in research grants using funds that were secured in the state legislature with the help of the New Mexico Chile Association (NMCA). Competitive proposals were submitted to a review team composed of members of the AES and the NMCA. Awards ranging from \$15,000 to \$95,000 were given to 12 NMSU researchers and 1 non-NMSU researcher for FY15.
- **Dr. Terry Crawford, Department Head for Ag Econ and Ag Business**, was the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the Mexican Agricultural Business Society May 25-28, in San Jose, BSC. Dr. Crawford spoke on “Does The Experience with North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Indicate the Future for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TTP) or Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) (US-European Union) Agreements?” Conclusion was that NAFTA has formed the basis for all of the United States Regional Trade agreements since NAFTA, and will also influence both the Pacific, and European Union Trade Agreements.

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

- Associate Dean Lisa Bond-Maupin was selected as Dean of the College of Social Sciences and Communication at the University of Arkansas – Little Rock. It has been a true pleasure to work with Lisa the last four years. Her professionalism, integrity, and commitment to excellence have been tremendous assets to our college and to our university. As she leaves to assume this important position as the founding dean of a new college, she also leaves a lasting legacy of accomplishment on this campus. Her contributions in our college have been enormous. She will be missed, but we wish her the very best in this new and exciting chapter in her life. She will remain on our campus through June 27th. A reception in her honor will be held on the 3rd Floor of Fulton Center June 26th from 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm. All are invited to the reception to bid farewell and best wishes to Lisa.
- The College held a very successful New Student Registration last Thursday and



registered over 130 new students. NSRs are a true collaboration in the college with department heads and faculty working side by side with advisors, records staff, and associate deans to welcome and advise new students and their parents. Kudos to all of them for an excellent job!

- I met with Christina Medina, Director of the Masters in Public Administration Program, to discuss hiring and staffing needs for the recently reaccredited program.
- Associate Dean Beth Pollack and I met with Geography Interim Department Head Carol Campbell and Michaela Buenneman to discuss a possible joint doctoral program with the University of New Mexico. We gave them guidance about the information needed and the commitment needed from their department to build a strong case for support for the program. It remains in the early stages of discussion and planning.
- Jeff Brown, Lisa Bond-Maupin, and I attended the memorial service for Mary Beth Olberding, a valued faculty member in Mathematical Sciences, who passed away last week due to complications related to cancer.
- Lisa Bond-Maupin and I met with J. Paul Taylor, a member of the Dean's Council, to discuss the J. Paul Taylor Social Justice Symposium and other activities in the college.
- NMSU will retain a DOE award after a previous PI left the university. Michael Johnson (Chemistry & Biochemistry) will become the new PI.
- Shelley Lusetti (Chemistry & Biochemistry) received her second year of funding on her NIH R01 award. The award is \$262,800.
- Nicholas Michalowski (Mathematical Sciences) received \$81,639 from NSF for a grant, "Collaborative Research: Branching Markov Chains and Stochastic Analysis Associated with Problems in Fluid Flow."

Interim Dean, College of Business, Dr. Kathleen Brook

- Kathy Brook and Jim Peach attended the grand opening ceremonies for the Union Pacific intermodal ramp at Santa Teresa on May 29. In attendance were Governor Martinez, Senator Udall, Congressman Pearce, and former Senator Domenici.
- The annual AACSB Business School Questionnaire for NMSU has been submitted with considerable assistance from Valerie Stuart at Institutional Analysis and from the department heads.

Dean, College of Education, Dr. Michael Morehead

- Dean Morehead met with several faculty members to discuss future professional opportunities. It seems that this summer we have several individuals leaving for new positions. We wish them well and thank them for their service to NMSU and the College of Education. Dr. Morehead met with Dr. Cahill to discuss a proposal to a potential donor to support an early childhood initiative. The discussion included a possible research project and or a parental education program for parents of young children. They also discussed a position for the early childhood program. Dean Morehead met with Kathy Hanson and Dr. Schwartz to determine next steps for the MOA between NMSU and the College of Education Economic Enterprise. Dr.



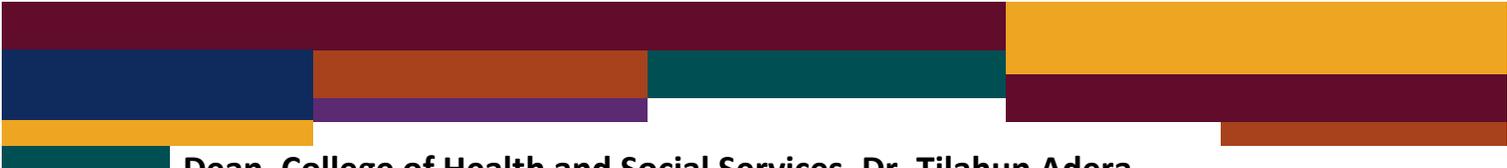
Schwartz and Dean Morehead discussed setting up a meeting with Molina Health Care and Dr. Kevin Boberg to discuss health related activities at NMSU. The psychopharmacology position candidate was selected and an offer was rendered to the individual. Dean Morehead finalized another tuition shared model to be presented to the provost; this one was initiated by CEP and Dr. Arroyos. Dean Morehead chaired the college's Administrative Council meeting and the council discussed high school graduation rates and a process to follow to request additional graduate students and new faculty lines. Dean Morehead chaired the first meeting of the Graduate School Dean Search. At this meeting Cathy Agnew provided the appropriate training required by HR. In addition the job description was modified and the ad for the position was discussed. The committee also determined a timeline for the search and was encouraged to assist in seeking applicants for the position.

Jonathan Schwartz, Associate Dean for Research

- The Associate Dean for Research and Outreach worked on the College of Education Economic Enterprise, and is currently working on the MOA. He met with his RISE mentor to collaborate on her current projects, and attended a meeting with CADRE and Provost Howard. Dr. Schwartz worked on the Psychopharmacology tuition sharing proposal, and met to work on the plan for the new doctoral program in Early Childhood.

Dean, College of Engineering, Dr. Ricardo Jacquez

- Amanda Lara, 2013 Summer Community College Opportunity for Research Experience (SCCORE) participant, presented at Stanford University at the Annual Review Meeting for the NSF ReNUWIt Center. She presented a research poster for two days, and then provided an oral presentation on her research and SCCORE experience. Amanda transferred to NMSU from NMSU-Carlsbad in fall 2013, with a major in Civil Engineering. This year, the SCCORE program, sponsored by New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation (New Mexico AMP), will be held at NMSU from June 2-26, with eleven (11) community college students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) participating from around the state.
- Chemical Engineering Professor Abbas Ghassemi will receive the Provost's Award for Excellence in Academic Advising at the 2014 fall convocation. "Chemical engineering students working with Ghassemi wrote some of the most moving, thoughtful reflections. They were so appreciative of his time in academic, career and life advising," noted Crystal Lay, program specialist in the College of Engineering.
- Jett Hall 264 originally used as a classroom and then as a graveyard for old equipment has been converted into a usable wet lab due to NMSU Renewal and Renovation funds by NMSU. The space is essentially ready to house the research programs of Dr. Brewer (biomass pyrolysis) and Dr. Foudazi (polymers and soft matter). This space represents the template that will be followed when the rest of the labs are renovated pending successful passage of the capital outlay bond issue.



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

- Public Health Sciences' (PHS) Dr. Cynthia Kratzke's abstract "Educating college students about HPV: a unique opportunity using multimedia and a flash mob" has been accepted as a poster presentation at the 2014 International Cancer Education Conference. Additionally, her abstract "Ethnic differences among college women for breast cancer prevention information seeking: are we reaching them?" has been accepted as an oral presentation at the same conference.
- Dr. Joseph Gladstone, PHS, and Dr. Gavin Clarkson, College of Business, acquired a contract with Support Services International to conduct an organization evaluation of the Project K'e suicide prevention program on the Navajo reservation. Project K'e is funded through SAMHSA - Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS).
- Dr. Jill McDonald, Southwest Institute for Health Disparities and PHS was published this week in Maternal and Child Health Journal (MCHJ): McDonald JA, Mojarro O, Sutton PD, Ventura SJ. Adolescent births in the border region: a descriptive analysis based on US Hispanic and Mexican birth. Maternal and Child Health Journal 2014. DOI: 10.1007/s10995-014-1503-2. Retrieved from http://www.borderhealth.org/files/res_2650.pdf. This paper is one of a pair that was made available in Spanish by the US-Mexico Border Health Commission and featured on their website this week: http://www.borderhealth.org/e_border_health.php?newsletter=10736&article=
- Dr. McDonald and PHS' Dr. Anup Amatya met with jurisdictional and state health officials in Ciudad Juarez to discuss a project that, if approved, will link NM birth certificates to Mexican infant death certificates in order to prove a causal link and reduce infant mortality rates in Chihuahua.
- The School of Nursing (SON) submitted a Research and Public Service Projects (RPSP) request for FY16 for their Nurse Expansion and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner programs.
- Personnel from SON met with Engineering's Associate Dean Sonya Cooper to discuss collaboration between the colleges regarding simulation learning.

Dean, Graduate School, Dr. Loui Reyes

No Activity to Report

Dean, Honors College, Dr. William Eamon

- Honors College staff attended the New Student Registration on May 28 and May 29.

Dean, University Library, Dr. Elizabeth Titus

No Activity to Report

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

- On May 27, 2014 in San Diego at the first *100,000 Strong in the Americas* capacity building workshop, the Department of State, Partners of the Americas and NAFSA:

Association of International Educators announced nine new winners of *100,000 Strong in the Americas* innovation grant. Winners included partner universities Universidad de La Salle in Bogotá Columbia and New Mexico State University. The award will help students from both universities work on a joint irrigation project in Colombia. This is a very prestigious and high-profile competition and a key victory for the Office of international and Border Programs.

- Five International and Border Programs staff also attended the largest international education conference in the world, the NAFSA annual meeting, in San Diego California last week. While there, two staff, Kristian Chervenock and Clint Hourigan, won the TEAM NAFSA Fun Charity 5k race and gave New Mexico State Aggies yet one more thing to be proud of!
- Cornell H. Menking is in Turkey and Azerbaijan traveling with four New Mexico State Senators this week. The delegation is working with universities and governments to explore collaborative possibilities for both the state and the University.

Senior Vice President Administration and Finance, Angela Throneberry

- **Training Provides Campus Fire Hydrant Upgrade –** Facilities Operations and the Fire Department have teamed up to repaint the fire hydrants on campus. The Fire Chief and Executive Director agreed on a plan where the Paint shop would provide the materials and field supervision while the student Fire Fighters would perform the painting. Each fire hydrant is being painted red and the tops are being color coded to identify the flow rate at the fire hydrant. This exercise is providing familiarization training for the Fire Fighters and improving the appearance of the campus.
- **Recycling Program Collaborative –** UTEP is looking to advance their recycling program. Facilities Operations Recycling Manager, Art Lucero, met with UTEP's Facilities Management Recycling Representatives, Juan Carlos Amenta and Pedro Diaz, to discuss our recycling operation and some of our lessons learned.
- **ICT Substantially Completes Audit Findings' Remediation –** ICT's Data Security Group, which has overseen the department's Canaudit's audit remediation efforts, is reporting completion of high and critical-level findings. Each remediated vulnerability has been verified by rescanning the devices responsible for the vulnerability. The few remaining vulnerabilities are beyond the department's ability to remediate at this time and do not represent a threat to the university. Thanks to the various departments who have cooperated in ICT's ongoing remediation efforts.
- **Suzanne Montes receives the James L. McDonough We Care Award –** Angela Throneberry, NMSU Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, presented Suzanne Montes, Administrative Assistant-Senior, with the James L. McDonough We C.A.R.E. Award for going above and beyond her assigned job duties. Suzanne was recognized for her abilities to organize, coordinate and execute not only her regular duties, but also additional projects. The "Bags to Benches" project kept 3,229



pounds of plastic out of the landfill, and the “Discover LIFE at Administration and Finance showcase” was attended by over 500 A&F employees. The submitter wrote, “Suzanne is willing to do what it takes to make sure we get the work done”.

- **Goddard Hall Taking Shape** – Facilities Operations Grounds department completed the Xeriscaping project at Goddard Hall. This project entailed removing the Ivy and turf from the North and East sides of the building. The area was Xeriscaped similar to what was done at Jett Hall.



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

- After meeting with City of Las Cruces officials, acting to reissue the RFP to bring western parcel into play. New RFP draft accomplished. Notifications made.
- Held follow up meeting with key players at City of Las Cruces regarding water rights and potential collaborative efforts.
- Met with Aldershot lease holder in attempt to resolve the default. Lease will end Jan’15 if not sooner. Removal of improvements to be accomplished by leaseholder no later than Jan ’16.
- Working on resolution of Albuquerque Center lease.
- Working with State Police to close on demolition of improvement’s on their lease site along University Avenue.

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

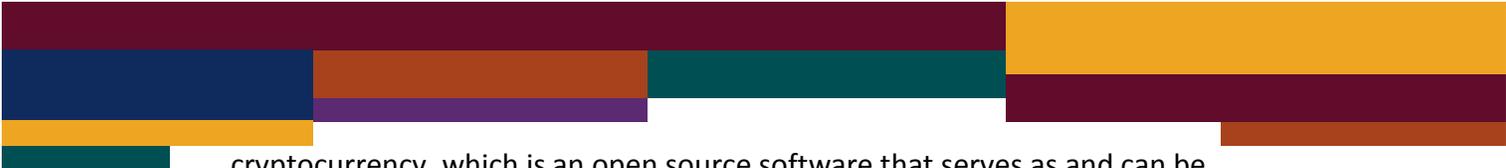
No Activity to Report

Vice President Economic Development, Dr. Kevin Boberg Arrowhead’s American Indian Student Entrepreneurship Initiative

- Funded by a McCune Foundation grant, Arrowhead has initiated an American Indian Student Entrepreneurship Initiative, hiring American Indian undergraduate interns this summer and fall to participate in Arrowhead entrepreneurship mentoring and training programs.

New Mexico Programming Group Meeting

- This month’s meeting of the New Mexico Programming Group (NMPG) focused on the topic of Cryptocurrency and featured guest speakers Michael Harris, Lucas Morales and Evan Salazar. The guest speakers discussed the different aspects of



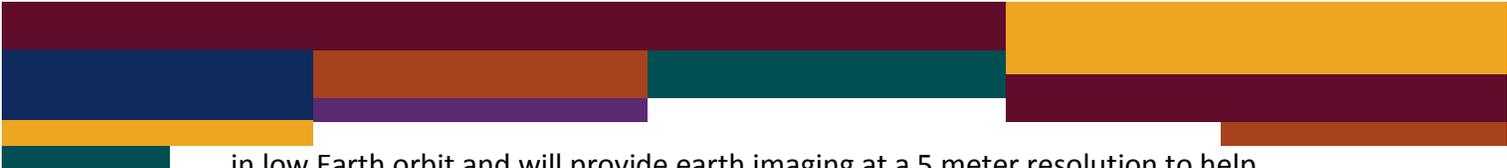
cryptocurrency, which is an open source software that serves as and can be developed into an online peer-to-peer payment system. Many different types of cryptocurrency can be developed and at this NMPG meeting, the 29 attendees were set up to become the newest users of Altcoins.

Arrowhead Speaker Series

- This week Arrowhead Center hosted a Speaker Series workshop with Luke Nogales. Mr. Nogales provided an overview of how to bring ideas and innovations to life through prototyping, with an emphasis on the "Fuzzy Front End" of innovation. Creating prototypes is crucial to the innovation development process. In this workshop Mr. Nogales explained to the aspiring entrepreneurs who attended, when the best time in innovation development process to create a prototype is and how to get started.

Vice President Research, Dr. Vimal Chaitanya

- Vimal Chaitanya attended the 225th meeting of the electrochemical Society. He met with several UCF (University of Central Florida) colleagues to continue existing and foster new research collaborations. He also served on the executive committee of the Governing Board of the Dielectric Science and Technology committee, ECS Education Committee, Chair of the Summer Research Fellowship sub-committee and Co-Chair of General Student Poster session and awards.
- The Microscopic Imaging Core Suite (MICS) hosted students in the NMSU College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) for a hands-on workshop using the high performance microscopes including the laser scanning confocal microscope and scanning electron microscopes in the Core University Research Resources Laboratory (CURRL).
- Students and Faculty affiliated with the Energy Research Laboratory Biofuel attended the NM Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) "All Hands Meeting", May 20th in Albuquerque. Progress reports were presented by the NM EPSCoR project teams to the external advisory board.
- Shuguang Deng (P.I) and N. Khandan, and Peter Lammers (Co-P.I.s) submitted a proposal to the U.S. Department of Energy under the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy "Technology Incubator Program". Tim VerVaecke from Global Alternative Fuels, El Paso, TX is the other Co-P.I. on the project. Global Alternative Fuels (GAF), a subsidiary of Mesilla Valley Transportation, provided half of the required cost share for the project. The GAF team brings decades of refining experience and commercial relevance for the project.
- Pat Hynes, Ou Ma, Steve Stojach and students Taylor Burgett and Gerardo Martinez just returned from a trip to NASA AMES and Planet Labs. Labs visited at Ames included: Health Management Testing; Small Satellite Manufacturing (SpaceShop & CNC); Mechanical Lab (EEL); Multi-Mission Operation Center (MMOC). This trip was supported with NASA EPSCoR funds. One outcome of the meeting will be to work to install a small ground tracking station to track the Planet Labs "flock" of 28 satellites currently on orbit. It will be next to our ground tracking station. These satellites are



in low Earth orbit and will provide earth imaging at a 5 meter resolution to help farmers and land use planners' better plan and use earth resources.

- Pat Hynes and Susan Raitt have returned from attending the National Space Symposium held in Colorado Springs, CO. This Symposium included forums, panels, presentations, engaging programs for teachers and students and exhibition of products from the space industry. In addition to attending the symposium, Pat met with representatives from companies such as American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Tauri, Blue Origin, United Launch Alliance, XCOR Aerospace, Boeing, and several other to promote the International Symposium for Personal and Commercial Spaceflight (ISPCS) and the Student Launch Program.
- PSL received additional funding from Invertix Corporation around 99K.
- PSL received additional funding from Army/Picatinny Arsenal for two (2) new Task Orders totaling about 140K.
- Several individuals from the Columbia Scientific Balloon Facility are continuing to support the Jet propulsion Laboratory at the Pacific Missile Range Facility on the island of Kauai, Hawaii. PSL will have the payload flight ready next Tuesday. Separate PSL staff is at Ft Sumner, NM performing launches of other balloon payloads.
- NMSU signed a subcontract with a NASA prime contractor at Johnson Space Center for potential funding leading up to \$5 Million.
- The RFP for the Target Execution task under the Test Execution Services and Launch Augmentation contract was released today. The expected value to NMSU/PSL is over \$1M for the first year.
- Tanner Schaub submitted a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) whitepaper for \$5.4M support.
- Sudha Murthy attended the annual National Organization for Research Development (NORDP) Conference in Portland, Oregon. Research development as a profession is growing, and this was reflected in the number and types of attendees, who ranged from vice presidents and associate vice presidents for research, associate deans for research, directors of research development offices, and proposal development specialists.
- The NM WRRRI received ten proposals in response to its 2014 NM WRRRI Water Research Program Request for Proposal (RFP), including four proposals from NMSU faculty. The RFP has targeted three priority topic areas for funding: a statewide water assessment, water policy for planning, and water-supply innovation. Selected projects will begin on July 1, 2014.
- WRRRI hosted the annual meeting of the Mesilla Basin Monitoring Program on May 29. Participants included representatives from US Geological Survey, City of Las Cruces, NM Environment Department, Office of the State Engineer, and Bureau of Reclamation.
- VPR office recorded about \$2.2 million in new awards and \$1.6 million in external funding proposals in this reporting period.



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

- Received confirmation of a \$10,000 gift that will be made to the Daniel Perry Endowed Scholarship for Journalism and Mass Communication.
- Barbara Wise, Dir., Major Gifts visited with NMSU alumni in Phoenix, Tucson and Green Valley, AZ. Conversations included possible student internship opportunities and scholarship support.
- On May 28 and 29 Colleen Richardson, Alumni Relations Officer, spread the good news about the Alumni Association at the new student orientation. During the tabled event, she talked with students about programs available prior to and after graduation.

Athletics Director, Dr. McKinley Boston, Jr.

No Activity to Report

Associate Vice President University Communications, Maureen Howard

- This week's Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted an electrical engineering project that aims to improve white cane design. Students in NMSU's Klipsch School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, in partnership with mechanical engineering students, worked throughout the school year to improve the white cane, a device that visually impaired persons use to become more aware of their surroundings.
- This week's Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News focused on the NMSU Grant County Cooperative Extension Service's StrongWomen, Strong Bones program. Judy O'Loughlin, CES program director and home economist, has led this effort, which includes 60 minutes of slow, methodical, weight-bearing exercises to keep women functionally fit and active. Established in 2009, the New Mexico Strong Women, Strong Bones program has evolved to include strength-training programs for both men and women.
- This week Maureen Howard and Judy Bosland presented at the Association for Institutional Research Annual Conference. Along with colleagues from Marquette University, the panel discussion focused on accomplishments forged through collaborations between communications and IR offices.

Assistant Vice President Government Relations, Ricardo Rel

- Patent reform legislation, for which NMSU had expressed concern, was pulled from the Senate Judiciary Committee's calendar due to a lack of sufficient support. NMSU had signed on to a letter that was driven by APLU and AAU, stating that the legislation would have done considerable damage to university technology transfer operations.

Upcoming Legislative Events:

- June 5- Water & Natural Resources Committee, Santa Fe.

- June 6- Mortgage Finance Authority Act Oversight Committee, Alb.
- June 6 – Revenue Stabilization and Tax Policy Committee.
 - 2014 Legislative Session: Budget and Tax Policy Update.
 - Proposal for a Comprehensive Review of the Gross Receipts Tax.
- June 9- Science, Technology & Telecommunications Committee, Santa Fe.
 - WIPP Status Report and Department of Environment (NMED) Update.
- June 10- Radioactive & Hazardous Materials Committee, Santa Fe.
- **June 11 – 13 Legislative Finance Committee meetings, Las Cruces, NM, NMSU Campus:**
 - Status of Lower Rio Grande Litigation, Lower Rio Grande and New Mexico Unit Settlement.
 - New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute Review – Sam Fernald, Director.
- Improving Teacher and School Leadership Preparation – Secretary Designate, Skandera, Dr. Thomas Kane, Walter Gale (Harvard Graduate School of Education); President Carruthers.
- NMSU Vision 2020 – President Carruthers
- Las Cruces Public Schools Performance and Strategic Initiatives
- Optional tour of Early College High School.
 - June 16-18 – Legislative Education Study Committee
 - Common Core State Standards Update
 - Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers
 - University of New Mexico – Excessive Credits and Baccalaureate Degree Program Minimums
 - University of New Mexico – Developing Turnaround Leadership for Low-performing Schools
- June 17- Investments & Pensions Oversight Committee- Santa Fe
 - Status Report on Education Retirement Board Fund and Effects of SB50
- June 18- Tobacco Settlement Revenue Oversight Committee, Santa Fe
- June 20- Economic & Rural Development Committee, Santa Fe

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

- NMDA staff met with a representative from the apiary industry and with a Texas A&M bee geneticist regarding possible changes to New Mexico’s bee statute and changes in pollinator health. Texas has recently revamped their apiary statutes to reflect the increase in hobby beekeeping and interests in promoting pollinator health in their state.
- Staff spoke at the Las Cruces Public Schools Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) conference for teachers and administrators. The topic presented was on Safety in the Science Classroom/Laboratory.
- NMDA staff also participated in a New Mexico Drought Monitoring Work Group meeting. Favorable indicators of El Niño conditions were discussed and staff provided a brief summary of current drought impacts to agriculture.