



New Mexico State University Weekly Activity Report

July 28 – August 1, 2014

President Garrey Carruthers, Ph.D.

- I am pleased to assume direct responsibilities today of the Government Relations Office, Campus Police, and University Communications. With respect to Communications, my interest is to better focus the NMSU message, make sure all are on topic, and to improve and restyle our websites. We have engaged a public relations firm (Del Esparza, one of our graduates) to help us with the message. It will continue to be “all about discovery” with versions of this theme. I envision spending more time, energy, and money telling the story of our great University to ourselves and to New Mexico. NMSU is the “crown jewel” of higher education in New Mexico.
- I visited with Peter McPherson of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU) regarding my service on the APLU Presidents Council. I will be attending a meeting of the Council in November. I look forward to sharing ideas with other University Presidents/Chancellors.
- ASNMSU President Wes Jackson came by with some friends to discuss the ASNMSU contract with Hootie Allen, who is to perform at the welcome back student’s concert on August 28th. They had received some push back from the administration and wanted to set the record straight. Hootie, I am told, is a rapper whose raps are occasionally offensive to women and to the safety of women, according to some. (Remember, I am into old country and western music so I had never heard of Hootie.) With the SAVE Act and Title IX educational programs being developed at NMSU I told Wes it would be wise for the administration to prepare some pamphlets to distribute to all attendees at the concert, establishing our strict attitude about not disrespecting and/or permitting abuse of women. They agreed to distribute them at the concert as another educational opportunity to make the SAVE Act and Title IX points.
- I attended the retirement party for Bill Eamon, who labored for 38 years in the NMSU vineyard. He is not really retiring but interested in spending more time in research and writing. Bill, thanks for your service and for developing and leading the Honors College, a great asset at NMSU.
- Cheryl Harrelson, Andrea Tawney (A.T.), and I met with three members of the Thornburg Foundation who were in town to learn more about NMSU. Their Director is Allan Oliver, who has extensive background in New Mexico State Government. Their grant interest seem to be in all aspects of agriculture but with a focus on helping small farmers and ranchers, early childhood education, and public policy relating to “money in politics”. I am hopeful they find several opportunities to team up with NMSU.



Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Dan Howard

- The agenda of the Academic Deans Council was packed this week. Among the topics discussed were: plans for Active Shooter Training; Aggie Pathway to the Baccalaureate (the new name, suggested by President Carruthers, for the Guaranteed Pathway we are developing with our community colleges); the creation of an Enrollment Management Council; plans for distribution of Enrollment Management Funds; Accreditation 2018, which will be upon us before we know it; the development of a late withdrawal and cancellation of registration policy; and, the formation of a Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee will consider a variety of compensation issues, such as: department head increments, the size of salary increases associated with faculty promotions, how much we pay temporary faculty members to teach courses, and whether to develop a phased retirement system for faculty members. Many of these are long-standing issues that require more careful thought and/or greater consistency across the university.
- I had a long discussion with administrators and faculty members at UNM and NM Tech about a Student Success Summit to be held at UNM that will focus on sharing best practices at all three institutions. Although I am strongly in favor of such a summit, the short lead time for bringing a team from NMSU together (the conference is scheduled for the first week of September) is a concern.
- On Wednesday, I hosted a retirement reception for one of the all-time great Aggies, Dr. William Eamon. Dr. Eamon has served NMSU for 38 years, the past 19 as Director and then Dean of the Honors College. Not only has Dr. Eamon built a wonderful college, he has done so while maintaining an active program of scholarship that has established him as one of the leading historians of science in the world. His research focuses on the Renaissance and the period before the rise of modern science. Dr. Eamon has argued persuasively that Books of Secrets and the practitioners who wrote them set the stage for the rise of modern science by emphasizing an empirical approach to nature and health. In so doing, Dr. Eamon brought new attention to a neglected literature and founded a new sub-discipline within the History of Science. I am very pleased that Dr. Eamon plans to continue teaching, writing, and mentoring students.
- Finally, I had the pleasure of speaking at the summer graduation ceremony for our School of Nursing. Graduation is always a time of celebration, but particularly so for our nursing students, which include a large number of non-traditional students. It was very heartwarming to watch students celebrate with their children, spouses, mothers, and fathers. As I noted in my remarks to the students, I have yet to meet a nurse who regrets his/her choice of a career.

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

Academic Programs

- A group of ACES representatives met with Central New Mexico College and the Laguna Development Corporation (LDC) in Albuquerque to continue to build a long-term strategy for student completion of a Bachelor of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management for current CNM students and current members of LDC's Management Capacity Program. LDC now owns three casinos, two hotels and many restaurants.

They are looking to expand the management expertise of Native Americans who have been identified to have the necessary characteristics to become managers in their operations. The HRTM proposal builds upon continuing to improve and expand the 2+2 agreement with CNM and is expected to allow CNM graduates to complete a baccalaureate degree by distance education.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- The NMSU Family Resource Center (FRC) was the recipient of a \$700 gift from the Aggie DanceSport Club. The club held a fundraiser dance in the spring in support of the FRC's Back-to-School Backpack program. Each July, the FRC offers free backpacks, filled with school supplies, to children of NMSU students. The Aggie DanceSport Club's generous gift covered the cost of 100 of the backpacks that were distributed to families on July 28, 2014.

Media Productions/Ag Communications

- A game produced at NMSU has been named “Best of Show” at the recent International Serious Play Conference. “Gate” was developed by Media Productions’ Learning Games Lab, with partners in the College of Education and College of Arts and Sciences. As part of the *Math Snacks* suite of materials, “Gate” was designed to help students feel more confident in their math learning. The game guides students in lowering intimidation about large numbers and decimals, understanding the meaning of place value and realizing that the same mathematical concepts that apply to the “easy” integers apply to every order of magnitude. The game, along with other games, animations, videos and teaching tools, is available in English and Spanish at mathsnacks.org.



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

- We continued to carry out office moves in Breland Hall to facilitate the establishment of the College of Arts and Sciences Shared Services Center. All associate deans participated in New Student Registrations on July 25 and July 29.
- Four NSF Graduate STEM Fellows in K-12 Education GK-12 graduate fellows will present three papers at the very selective IEEE Frontiers in Education conference in



Madrid, Spain. The graduate students include two from Computer Science, one from Biology, and one from Electrical & Computer Engineering. This is one of the most important international conferences in the field of education in computing.

- Jon Holtzman (Astronomy) will attend a kickoff collaboration for the Sloan Digital Sky Survey-IV project. This phase of SDSS began on July 1 with a significant contribution from NMSU, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Department of Astronomy. The department's Tombaugh Scholar, Young Sun Lee, is participating in an international collaboration that will publish its research in *Science*.
- James Herndon (Chemistry & Biochemistry) received \$109,500 in funding from NIH. Reed Burgette (Geological Sciences) received \$12,500 in funding from the Southern California Earthquake Center. Jason Jackiewicz (Astronomy) has learned that he will receive \$336,000 from NASA in a three-year award.
- Jennifer Hodges, Enrico Pontelli, Jarod Gonzalez and Nancy McMillan attended a meeting with the Udirect team concerning implementation of Udirect for the college.
- The College advised and registered 75 new students on July 25th and on July 29th at the morning and afternoon NSR registered 129 new students.

Dean, College of Business, Dr. James Hoffman

- Associate Deans Steve Elias and Kathy Brook had lunch with College of Business graduate Steven Pietsch who works on educational programs for Bloomberg BusinessWeek. The publication has a number of new features to assist students and instructors in tying articles in the publication with common business learning objectives and with industries and regions of the world.
- Matt Holt, Winnie Lee, and Kathy Brook served as oral exam committee members for the 13 students finishing the MBA program at Sandia National Lab this summer. Health and Social Services made its Mondopad available so that faculty members could participate from Las Cruces while the students and course instructor participated from the Albuquerque Center.

Dean, College of Education, Dr. Michael Morehead

- Conducted discussions with the advancement staff to outline possible visits and contacts with alumni in Phoenix. This involved identifying individuals who potentially could make a contribution to our scholarship program.
- Reviewed and selected the faculty who will receive the College of Education's Deans Excellence Award at opening programs.
- Introduced the Thornburg Foundation visitors to our early childhood students and faculty. This event involved the exploration of a possible partnership in the future.
- Discussed with Dr. Wood his new responsibilities as the college's interim research associate dean, we determined that his primary focus for the new year will be to increase external funding. Dr. Wood will continue as Department Head for Human Performance and Dance and Dr. Joe Berning will assist as the Associate Department Head of HPDR during the upcoming year.
- Coordinated a meeting with Ben Woods, Stan Rounds and others to discuss the MOU between the College and Las Cruces Public Schools for the use of space at the Arrowhead Park Early College Medical Academy. A lot of legal questions continue to arise as we move forward with this partnership.

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- Had lunch with Mrs. Willey and Tim and Jan Pettibone to thank them for their support of the Darrel Willey scholarship. This scholarship was started by students of Dr. Willey in his honor and to recognize him for his contributions to NMSU.
 - Discussed with Dr.s O'Donnell and Haynes Writer the possibility of two master degree programs, one delivered in Artesia and another online in Spanish. This was an exploratory conversation to determine interest and resource capabilities. We also discussed future position allocations to the department.

James O'Donnell, Associate Dean

- Finalized and submitted NM PREP Grant Proposal to the Public Education Department.
- Met with Elementary Teacher Education Program Director and Assistant Director to discuss changes in the onsite field-based teacher education programs.
- Reviewed PEDS State of the State report.

Michelle Valverde, Director for Alliance and BoCES

- I met with the principal and counselors at Camino Real Middle School to begin planning the BoCES Closing the Opportunity Gap (GOG) Project for this coming year.
- I also met with Bob Wood, the incoming interim Associate Dean of Research and Outreach, for an overview/orientation.
- Followed up on several outreach projects with the Lions Crane Reading Program, CYFD, and Ngage NM.

Advancement Team

- Kelley met with two board members in Albuquerque, Natasha Jackson and Charles White. They discussed the possible changes for the board and new partnerships and ideas for fundraising.
- Met with the staff from Dickerson's Catering about creating a possible partnership with the College of Education. They have agreed to sponsor two of our events for the upcoming school year.
- Along with Dean, the Advancement team hosted the Educational Leadership and Administration reception where we welcomed current students, alumni and faculty from the department. We also recognized emeritus professor Dr. Ramon Dominguez, and rose over \$3,000 for the scholarship that will be in honor of him.
- We facilitated the Thornburg Foundation visit along with the Dean and Dr. Betsy Cahill.

Dean, College of Engineering, Dr. Ricardo Jacquez

- The Partners for the Advancement of Collaborative Engineering Education (PACE) student team traveled to Turin, Italy where they will participate in an international competition to design and build a personal mobility prototype. The team, led by Assistant Dean Patricia Sullivan (PACE Integrator) and Dr. Delia Valles (faculty adviser), included students Brendan Sullivan, Colt Capurro, Marisol Montoya, Mauricio Garcia, Ember Krech and Oscar Torres. In addition to participation in the prototype competition, the team presented three technical papers during the Annual Forum. Assistant Dean Sullivan participated in a panel discussion on expanding diversity within the engineering workforce.

- The Engineering New Mexico Resource Network hosted the final two of a series of nine statewide robotics camps this week. The last two camps were held in Albuquerque in partnership with APS. Students spent two-and-a-half days designing, building and programming robots to perform a prescribed task. More than 125 students participated in the statewide camps.
- The Engineering New Mexico Resource Network participated in the annual New Mexico Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement, Inc. (NM MESA) Teacher Conference in Albuquerque. Staff presented information on various STEM outreach programs and identified opportunities to expand school participation.
- A research group under the direction of Chemical Engineering Professor Shuguang Deng will be issued a United States patent entitled, “Direct Conversion of Algal Biomass to Biofuel.” Inventors of the method are Shuguang Deng, Prafulla Patil (former Ph.D. student) and John Gude (post-doctoral research associate). The invention was developed for direct conversion of wet algae to crude biodiesel under supercritical methanol conditions. This invention was developed with funding support from the U.S. Department of Energy National Alliance for Advanced Biofuels and Bioproducts Synopsis (NAABB) program and The U. S. Department of Defense Air Force Research Laboratory. Several biofuel companies in the North America have expressed interest in the technology associated with this intellectual property.
- Chemical Engineering Associate Professor Hongmei Luo has been co-funded \$150,000 by the National Science Foundation Ceramics Program and Electronics/Photonic Materials for a study entitled “*Novel Rare Earth Metal Oxysulfate (RE₂O₂SO₄) for Upconversion.*” This project focuses on an inorganic material system, oxysulfate (RE₂O₂SO₄) doped with metal elements, in the form of nanometer spheres and explores its potential for converting low-frequency light to higher-frequency light (upconversion). Upconversion is used in various photonic applications including biological imaging. The project offers students the opportunity to acquire skills in nanoparticle synthesis, functionalization, structural characterizations, and optical property measurements.



- Senator Martin Heinrich, D-N.M., is seen trying his hand on the controls of the nanomanipulator at the Center for Integrated Nanotechnologies (CINT) Core Facility during a recent tour, coached by Assistant Professor of Chemical and Materials Engineering Julio Martinez of New Mexico State University. Martinez is the principle investigator of a user project at CINT, a

DOE Office of Science national user facility jointly managed by Sandia and Los Alamos national laboratories. CINT provides universities and businesses access to world-class capabilities for nanoscience research. More than 120 employees of the two labs along with 450 visitors annually work in the CINT Core Facility at Sandia and Gateway Facility in Los Alamos. During his tour, Heinrich advocated for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education and for expanded technology employment opportunities.

Interim Dean, College of Health and Social Services, Dr. Donna Wagner

- The college is pleased to announce that Dr. Donna Wagner was named interim dean. She will focus on three areas: community engagement and outreach, increase graduation and retention rates and, increasing our international collaborative work with a particular focus on the border region. Wagner came to NMSU from Towson University in Towson, Maryland, where she was a tenured professor of gerontology and health science. She was the founding director of the university's gerontology program. She received her Ph.D. in urban affairs from Portland State University. As interim dean, Wagner said her priorities would be to help the college meet the needs of the community and improve the quality of life in New Mexico.



- Dr. Teresa Keller will serve as the interim associate dean for academic affairs. Dr. Keller currently serves as the School of Nursing's (SON) Associate Director and has been instrumental in developing a statewide standard curriculum for nursing schools.
- SON's Recognition Ceremony was held on August 1 at the Atkinson Music Hall. Provost Dan Howard and Interim Dean Donna Wagner attended the event that recognized graduating students.
- SON's Dr. Schultz, Dr. Reinhardt, Evangelina Ramirez, and Teresa León traveled to NMSU-Grants to meet with campus president Dr. Felicia Casados and CAA. The purpose was to network and discuss NMSU Las Cruces' nursing program activities on that campus.
- Teresa León, SON Distance Coordinator, traveled to Santa Fe Community College to coordinate distance education activities with SFCC faculty and staff, since NMSU offers

Dean, Graduate School, Dr. Loui Reyes

No Activity to Report

Dean, Honors College, Dr. Miriam Chaiken

No Activity to Report

Dean, University Library, Dr. Elizabeth Titus

- Met with the Associate Dean and all library department heads to develop the library's strategic targets for 2014-2015 and to complete the final report on library strategic targets for 2013-2014. Vision 2020 Objectives/Goals are linked to library strategic targets as appropriate.
- Met with the University Library's Budget Advisory Committee and shared with them the library's end of year final budget reports. Discussed budget trends and issues

which may impact FY15 library budgets and activities associated with the library GO Bond which will be on the November election ballot.

- Attended an appreciation luncheon at Stan Fulton Center where participants will be being briefed on the future of BCOM based upon the affiliation agreement.

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

- The date for the annual Rotary International Student Picnic has been set for Sunday, September 28, 4-6 pm, at Preciado Park. The event is designed to allow area Rotarians to help make international students and their families feel welcome to the area.

Confucius Institute

- Welcomed the first (of four) new Chinese language and culture teachers and immediately put her to work at Alma d'Arte Charter High School (which began classes 30 July) teaching 2 sections of Chinese 1 and 1 section of Chinese 3.
- Planning continues for Confucius Day celebrations during the week of Sept. 22nd. Mark your calendars!

Center for English Language Programs

- The Graduate Dean from New Mexico Tech met with Associate Provost Menking, Dean Reyes, and Colin Large, Director of NMSU's Center for English Language Programs (CELP), to finalize an agreement for NMSU to provide intensive English training for NM Tech applicants that need supplemental English training.

Senior Vice President Administration and Finance, Angela Throneberry

- **State Records Training** – NMSU Records Liaison Officers, Diane Madrid and Carl Baca of Administration & Finance – FSA Records Management and Retention Office (RMR), attended State required Records Liaison Officer training in Santa Fe at the Garrey Carruthers Building. The training was informative and provided information on changes to the New Mexico Administrative Codes. Training was conducted by Ms. Jennifer Camp, an NMSU alumnus (Class of 2010), Senior Management Analyst. Representatives from the New Mexico State Records Center & Archives will be visiting NMSU in the future to conduct a Records Survey to ensure NMSU records are appropriately scheduled and Records Management processes and procedures are in place.
- **NMSU Receives Recognition in Journal Article** – The Association of College & University Auditors (ACUA) has published in the latest edition of *College and University Auditor* an article on NMSU's management of information technology compliance risk. The article entitled, "Managing Information Technology Compliance Risk", details NMSU's development of an Information Technology (IT) Compliance Office as part of its goal of ensuring compliance with the various laws and regulations related to IT at the institution. The article can be accessed at



Special Advisor to the President, Ben Woods

No Activity to Report

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

- The search committee for University Registrar announced finalists this week, candidate résumés and interview schedules are available at <http://studentaffairs.nmsu.edu/registrar-search/>.

Student Engagement, Dr. Terry Cook

- New Student Registration events on July 28 and 29 welcomed 240 new students and many family members to campus. This was the last regularly scheduled NSR, but an extra event was added on August 15 for additional applicants. We are also sending invitations to our incoming transfer students and students from out of state to complete an online orientation.
- Two members of the Military and Veteran Program staff, Jacobo Varela and Candice Gilbert, attended the annual Western Association of Veteran Educational Specialists conference in Dallas. This was a fantastic opportunity to meet other university officials who work with student veterans, as well as an opportunity to learn about federal policy changes, Senate bills, and program changes that will affect our jobs.



Pistol Pete, at a recent New Student Registration Event

University Admissions, Ms. Valerie Pickett

- Judy Weicherding, Dual Credit Coordinator, held a training with our community colleges on the changes to state dual credit policies and procedures. These changes were in response to SB 158, which gives students enrolled in home school programs or private schools the option of enrolling in dual credit programs in New Mexico colleges and universities.
- Campus visits of high school juniors continue to be brisk, with over 30 families on campus last week. The family that traveled the farthest to visit came all the way from North Carolina.
- The Admissions Advisors will hit the road on August 25 to start the 2015 recruitment season. In support of institutional recruitment efforts, University Admissions and University Communications are putting the final touches on the Undergraduate Viewbook and other recruitment materials, a digital marketing campaign, billboards, and recruitment communications. To increase our prospect pool, we purchased 13,000 names of students who took the national ACT test in June.

Staff Highlights

- The office of Military and Veterans Programs is pleased to welcome the newest member of their team, Candice Gilbert. Ms. Gilbert is an 8-year Army Veteran and



comes to us with variety of programming experience with military, veterans and their families. Candice is excited to assist with the expansion of programming and services offered to our MVP students.

Vice President Economic Development, Dr. Kevin Boberg

New Mexico Programming Group

- This week Arrowhead Center hosted the monthly meeting of the New Mexico Programming Group (NMPG). This month's featured speaker was Las Cruces, 8th grader, Mustafa Muhyi, who invented an app that encourages healthy eating and exercise practices for children by making the process fun and interactive. Mustafa began his design for this app in the 5th grade, and his app has won several local and regional science fairs. In July Mustafa traveled to Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), as one of the youngest invitees ever, to showcase and compete in MIT App Inventor Summit, at which he took first place for the entire summit. At the NMPG meeting, Mustafa showcased his app, and discussed its development process, as well as shared his experience at the MIT summit.

Speaker Series – Venture Capital 101 with Dr. Beto Pallares

- Arrowhead Center hosted Dr. Beto Pallares this week as a featured speaker in Arrowhead's speaker series. Dr. Pallares currently serves as one of Arrowhead Center's Enterprise Advisors, and is a local entrepreneur. The topic of Dr. Pallares's discussion was Venture Capital 101: how funds work and where the entrepreneur fits in. Dr. Pallares shared with more than 20 participants, a basic breakdown of venture capital investments, how it can be beneficial to start-ups, and advice about how start-ups can utilize venture capital, what types of start-ups can receive funding and how much funding to ask for.

Facilitate Economic Development and Opportunity

- Stefan Zollner represented NMSU in a focus group discussion organized by the New Mexico Economic Development Department to explore opportunities in Photonics and Optics. The outcomes of the discussion will serve as one of the keystones for New Mexico's Technology Economic Development Plan (the others being water, energy, and bioscience), already fostered specific actions to enhance economic development in this market, and are requisite for EPSCOR operations in the State.

Vice President Research, Dr. Vimal Chaitanya

No Activity to Report

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

- \$10,000 from Lockheed Martin-Sandia for support of STEM programming in the College of Engineering.
- \$10,000 from Intel for support of 2014 Domenici Public Policy Conference.
- \$5,000 from Walter Hightower Foundation for support of the Therapeutic Riding Program.



Athletics Director, Dr. McKinley Boston, Jr.

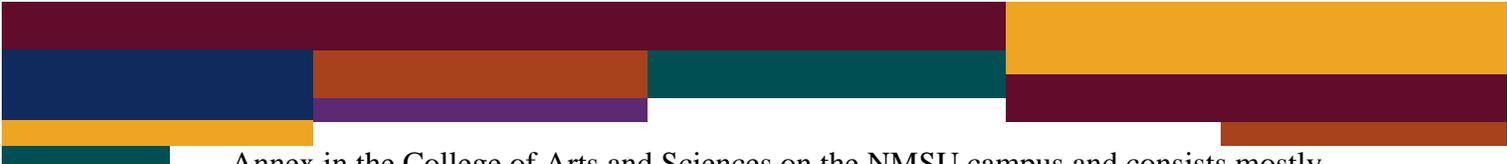
- A Press Conference was held on Thursday, July 31 to announce the hiring of Brian Green as the new NMSU Aggie Head Baseball Coach. I am very pleased that Brian accepted the position. Brian is an alumnus of NMSU and played baseball for Coach Avent. He has a clear vision for how he will build our program into a top 50 program in the next 3-5 years.
- I met with President Carruthers to discuss a very exciting proposal with Fox Sports (FS) Arizona. Athletics has developed a quality working relationship with FS Arizona. The relationship has extended into one in which they will not only televise and produce games but will assist NMSU into branding itself across their viewing market.
- Met with Maureen Howard to discuss the new digital television that the WAC Conference will be rolling out this fall. The new digital television platform will extend coverage to all of our sports programs in the new digital format.
- I attended the 6th Man Club, men's basketball booster club, Dunks and Dining event held at IHop held on Wednesday, July 30 on University Avenue. Wil, the owner, hosted members of the club to dinner and dessert and provided a great venue to celebrate fellowship in support of Aggie Men's Basketball.

Assoc AD, Development-Fred Heinrich

- Associate AD Fred Heinrich secured a signed contract for the Press Box Suite with a long-term donor;
- Heinrich met with the Goal Line Club leadership, a football booster club, to discuss logistics and provide support for the coming football season;
- Heinrich met with Coach Menzies and 6th Man Club leadership regarding the Club's tip-off dinner and to strategically coordinate fund-raising activities;
- Heinrich met with the Team Captains of the 2014-15 Aggie Athletic Club Membership Drive to announce the final results (\$12,850 raised, with 34 new members) and award Kevin Merhege with the Crimson Aggie Award for raising the most support during the membership drive;
- Heinrich called all of last year's unrenewed Winner's Circle members, to see if they would be getting Victory Club season passes;
- The Development Team is planning for the coming football season, including reunions and Homecoming;
- The Development Team is ensuring that all donors are getting their fulfillment benefits, according to their level of giving.

Associate Vice President University Communications, Maureen Howard

- This week's Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News focused on two researchers at New Mexico State University's Agricultural Science Center at Los Lunas who have been working together on the New Mexico Pollinator Project, which aims to test native and non-native plants for their ability to attract and retain pollinators at a time when some pollinator populations are under threat.
- This week's Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted NMSU's herbarium. The university is home to the oldest herbarium in the state, with a cache of more than 73,000 pressed plants dating back to the late 1800s, many of which were first described by NMSU researchers. The collection is housed inside the Biology



Annex in the College of Arts and Sciences on the NMSU campus and consists mostly of specimens from southern New Mexico, but also contains specimens from other states. The herbarium is open to the public by appointment.

- The New Mexico State Athletic Media Relations staff hosted their annual football media day on Thursday. About 10 media members attended, speaking to about 15 players and coaches.
- KRWG operations and engineering staff had their hands full this week keeping all the translators running in the aftermath of lightning strikes.
- KRWG – FM took another step into the digital media world by launching the radio signal on an iTunes channel.

Assistant Vice President Government Relations, Ricardo Rel

No Activity to Report

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

- This week NMDA staff and I attended the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts' Regional meetings. Some of the items covered included remarks from a variety of federal and state natural resources agencies, endangered species, The Rio Grande Fund, and ideas for future partnership opportunities. There were also some grant and assistance programs currently available for the Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) that were discussed, along with a new Youth Conservation Core (YCC) program. The YCC program allows SWCDs to bring in college students who are interested in conservation/environment issues and work for the SWCD. These students are paid by the YCC program.
- Staff attended the North American Agricultural Marketing Officials conference on July 27-30. They gathered many new ideas and will discuss future implementation plans in the near future with the NMDA divisions.
- NMDA's Veterinarian Diagnostic Services (VDS) hosted a session for the International Conference of the Wildlife Disease Association meeting this week, presentations were given pertaining to the multiple aspects of VDS services.
- Staff attended and helped with Ag in the Classroom's two-day workshop in Clovis for approximately twenty teachers from across the state. Staff offered statistics to help paint picture of New Mexico agriculture and its diversity and toured Southwest Cheese, Mid-Frisian Dairy and its yogurt plant, and Clovis Livestock Auction, among other agricultural locations in Clovis/Portales area.

Chief, NMSU Police, Stephen Lopez

No Activity to Report