



New Mexico State University Weekly Activity Report

June 30 – July 4, 2014

President Garrey Carruthers, Ph.D.

- It has occurred to me, after one year on the job, that as a result of structure, administrators may be spending more time in committee meetings than we should and that some of these committees seem to be redundant. As a consequence, I am eliminating the University Executive Committee (UEC), which has been around for some time. This committee was composed of the President, VPs, Athletic Director, some directors and the Provost. They essentially pondered the same issues that the Presidents Academic Council (PAC) would but the PAC has, in addition to the UEC members, the Deans of the Colleges and the Library. A bigger committee but it includes more of our academic leadership. So, by this elimination, we will use the PAC for policy and program recommendations and, per current policy, use the University Administrative Council as the approving body. It is my intention to have more individual meetings with folks who report to me so that we don't let things slide. Time savings for each UEC member is between 3 and 5 hours per month.
- Jim Libbin, Jim Peach, Kathy Hansen and I responded to a request from Senator Carlos Cisneros to visit Questa for a listening session with Molycorp officials, local leaders and UNM representatives regarding the closing of the Molycorp mine. We committed to help them in any way possible to assist the community to recover from this economic setback. Mining has been the principal industry in Questa for about 100 years.
- I visited with Laurie Musgrove, a capital campaign consultant, whose company is assisting the Foundation in crafting our next comprehensive campaign. According to the Foundation Board, we will raise \$125,000,000 cash American over the next five years. Laurie or her associates will be interviewing lots of NMSU and community folks as they design a game plan. This is a project for all. I have been advised that we have a lot of wealth capacity in our data base which has yet to be contacted to help our great University.
- Dustin Chavez, Editor of the Roundup, dropped by to visit about "what I would like to see in next year's Roundup". I asked him to focus on the accomplishments of our faculty and staff and to constantly encourage our students to participate in the wide variety of activities which they currently pay fees for but do not often or regularly participate. Nice young man. He is a business major now with an interest in journalism.
- I have received a few complaints about a Pistol Pete commercial where he points his pistol into the camera. Complainants thought the violence on campuses suggests we should tone it down a bit. I visited with the very nice Cheer Coach, Jessica Covington, who manages Pistol Pete, and asked that he not brandish his weapons so much, particularly in a threatening fashion.



Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Dan Howard

- My June trip to China with Dr. Ken Hammond, Dr. Richard Pratt, Dr. Ken Carroll, and Dr. Pei Xu continues to pay dividends as Hebei Normal University has contacted me to inquire about the possibility of sending 15 Chinese teachers of English to New Mexico State University in August for a four week intensive course in English language teaching and research methods. At the same time, Dr. Sam Fernald has been in contact with China Agricultural University to continue discussions of the creation of a joint Water Research Center, and Agricultural University of Hebei continues to work with us on developing joint degree programs. An interesting aspect of Chinese universities is the rapid speed with which they respond to opportunities.
- At the final meeting of the SAVE Act Committee, a decision was made to set up a Title IX Committee, to be chaired by Jerry Nevarez, that will meet regularly to ensure that NMSU is in compliance with all Title IX requirements, including those associated with the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).
- The first Shared Service Center at NMSU is scheduled to open later this year in the College of Arts and Sciences. The purpose of the center is to simplify access to university administrative functions for faculty members, particularly those who are engaged in funded research. Although good progress has been made in planning the center, (thanks Angela Throneberry, D'Anne Stuart, Norma Noel, Vimal Chaitanya, Alisha Giron, Christa Slaton, and Jeff Brown), details of organizational structure are still being worked out. At a meeting last week, we discussed some of the organizational issues, many of which centered on reporting structure. There is no doubt that the reporting structure presents challenges with some staff reporting both to the college and back to their central offices. However, these challenges can be overcome with good communication, flexibility, and a shared sense of mission.

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

Family and Consumer Sciences

- Dr. Kari Bachman was selected to receive the Mid-Career Professional Achievement Award by the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB). The award is presented to recognize an SNEB member in “mid-career” regarding his/her professional accomplishments in the field of nutrition education and for significant contribution to the mission of SNEB.
- Esther Devall, Department Head of Family and Consumer Sciences, and Jon Schwartz, Associate Dean of Research in the College of Education, were featured on a special segment on KRWG related to mental illness. They spoke about the creation of the NMSU Community Mental Health and Wellness Center and how the university is trying to help meet the behavioral health needs of the region. Their interview can be viewed at KRWG News Fronteras 417:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3dReOpVPN20&list=UUOcGqEoruZ0xKIqu7D3bKYA>.



Plant and Environmental Sciences

- April Ulery was an invited panelist at the recent 2014 Associated Public and Land Grant University (APLU) National Academic Programs Summit held in Bozeman, MT on June 22-24. She discussed “Grantsmanship – Best Practices in Securing Funding for Educational Projects” The APLU theme this year was “Creating Change: Community, Culture, and Contributions of Teaching Excellence”.
- Dr. Ulery was also invited to the North American Colleges and Teachers conference at Montana State University later that week, to present the work of her co-authors Barbara Chamberlin, Jeanne Gleason and Sheila Cassidy: “Innovative Media to Support Instruction and Retain Students in Soil and Environmental Sciences.”

Rodeo Team

- New Mexico State University’s rodeo team competed at the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming, June 15-21, bringing home a national victory. NMSU did great! For a full list of the 2014 CNFR results visit the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association website at <http://www.collegerodeo.com/CNFR/CNFRResults.asp?Year=2014>

Cooperative Extension Service


- Grant County Extension Office, Judy O’Loughlin is cooking over the summer at the local Farmer’s Market in collaboration with the Grant County Health Council. The purpose is to show the communities how to cook healthy with local produce.

Plant and Environmental Sciences

- Dr. Kulbhushan Grover’s research on evaluation of guar as a potential alternative crop in New Mexico was visited by Carlos G. Gomez, President, Universidade de La Salle, Columbia, during his visit to the NMSU campus. Guar, is a drought-tolerant bean crop that is grown for its protein rich pods for human consumption, green foliage for livestock feed and for harvesting seeds for guar gum, which is used in many food, cosmetic, explosives and oil drilling products. President Gomez was very interested in learning about guar and took information to explore possibilities of growing guar back in Columbia and develop a potential collaboration with Dr. Grover’s program.
- Dr. Grover was recently awarded with the “Top Teaching Tip Award” at the 60th annual NACTA conference, June 2014 at Montana State University, Bozeman, MT for one of his teaching notes “Student-Centered Teaching through Experiential Learning and its Assessment” co-authored with Dr. Shelly Stovall and published in the NACTA journal.

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

- Jeff Brown and I attended a meeting with the provost and others who oversee the units to be involved in the Arts and Sciences Shared Services Center. We are finalizing the plans to make the center operational during the Fall semester.
- Dean Reyes met with me to discuss issues in the Graduate School and to solicit my input on policies and decisions he is making.
- I met with Wanda Mattiace, Chair of the Dean’s Council to discuss plans within the college and projects for the coming academic year.
- The College learned that the NASA-EPSCoR proposal submitted by the New Mexico Space Grant will be funded for \$750,000. Key co-principal investigators include



Jason Jackiewicz (Astronomy) and David Voegl (Engineering). Cost share contributions will come from the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Astronomy, the College of Engineering, and the Vice President for Research.

- James Kroger (Psychology) is a co-principal investigator on an NSF award researching how the brain processes audiovisual stimuli that has received fourth year funding.
- Ken Van Winkle met with department heads from Computer Science, Geological Sciences, and Anthropology to develop procedure and help facilitate the College of Arts and Sciences Academic Program Review process for 2014/15; attended the Common Core Communication Committee to determine how the new state common core standards will be shared with the College and to understand to what degree that information will be important for planning; and attended the Digital Measures Steering Committee meeting to request minor changes in Digital Measures addressing issues that will align the measures with the academic calendar year cycle.

Dean, College of Business, Dr. Jim Hoffman

- My family, our three big dogs, and I arrived in Las Cruces on Monday, June 16. On Tuesday, June 17 I drove to Albuquerque and attended an NMSU alumni event at the home of Jim and Bren Wetherbe. On Wednesday, I met with Doug Brown who is the outgoing dean of the Anderson School of Management at the University of New Mexico. Later in the day I attended an alumni event in Santa Fe. It was great to meet several alums at both events.
- On Friday, June 20 my family and I attended a corporate sponsor recognition event at Coach Menzies' home. It was a very enjoyable event and an excellent opportunity to meet several members of the Las Cruces business community.
- My first full day at NMSU was on Tuesday, July 1. Much of my time the first week on campus was spent meeting with faculty (groups of three faculty at a time) and learning about the Indian Resource Development program along with other college programs.

Dean, College of Education, Dr. Michael Morehead

- Dean Morehead met with several Deans this week to discuss the graduate dean search, this included conversations about the skills and experiences needed to fulfill the responsibilities.
- Met with several faculty to discuss the New Mexico Lead Proposal and the possibilities of joining with LCPS to write a new proposal.
- Participated in a lunch with several faculty to welcome Javza, who is from Mongolia, into our doctoral program.
- Talked with Michael Weinberg from the Thornburg Foundation about our Early Childhood proposal, followed up with Dr. Cahill and Andrea Tawney.
- Presented to the New Mexico Leadership Institute in Albuquerque and congratulated the scholars on their transition from high school to college.

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- Met with Frank Leto to introduce Kelley Coffeen who is our new Advancement Officer, Frank suggested we develop a plan with his paper so they can assist with sponsorships during the year.

James O'Donnell, Associate Dean

- Completed the review of the NM Prep Proposal.
- Met with members of the university's Common Core Committee.
- Review reports on Standard 4 for national accreditation with CAEP.

Advancement Team

- **Myrna's children's village** – We met with Dr. Cahill and Sarah. We discussed the needs of the Glass Family Library – 1. Work study or student employee, this would help in many areas, including allowing parents to check out books. 2. Large Books (30 @\$15 each), 3. Professional Development Books & Videos. We also discussed technology so children could learn to navigate on a computer pad or screen. Renate sent us the cost of an employee.
- **Coordinated with Dr. Prentice and Pam Wood regarding the ELA Alumni event and Dr. Dominguez scholarship**
 - We discussed how the chapter can become self-sufficient.
 - The Alumni event itself.
 - Dr. Dominguez's scholarship name – Raymon Dominguez Social Justice Scholarship..., Criteria – First Gen.

Dean, College of Engineering, Dr. Ricardo Jacquez

- A recent peer-reviewed journal article authored by Chemical Engineering Assistant Professor Tom Manz and doctoral student Bo Yang and published in the *Royal Society of Chemistry Advances* has been noted in *Chemical and Engineering News*. The article used computational chemistry to predict catalyst structures for oxidizing propene to propylene oxide using molecular oxygen as the oxidant. Propylene oxide is widely used in producing polyurethanes and other chemical products.

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

- A Mountain West Research Consortium proposal from Nursing's John Scarbrough and Associate Dean Joseph Tomaka was selected for funding. Initial steps include recruiting a Research Assistant and Intervention Consultant (Kourtney Vaillancourt, Family and Consumer Sciences), and developing an action plan for project implementation.

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

No Activity to Report

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

No Activity to Report

Senior Vice President Administration and Finance, Angela Throneberry

- **ICT upgrades network capacity to Grants Community College** - The community college's network capacity has been upgraded to 100Mbs, more than doubling the network transmission capacity to the campus.
- **NMSU Historic Preservation** - Greg Walke, FS University Architect, made a presentation about heritage preservation at NMSU to the Association of University Architects. He highlighted historic campus features such as the various structures, objects and memorials with a focus on the history of Memorial Tower and covered some of the unique cultural and historic landscapes of our campus, including the agricultural lands, the ditch irrigation system and the pilgrimage path along the Tortugas Arroyo.

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

No Activity to Report

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

Office of the Vice President, Dr. Bernadette Montoya

- Dr. Montoya attended the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Council on Student Affairs summer meeting in San Diego on June 29 through July 1. This group deals with many issues that are critical to student success in college, and Dr. Montoya is currently the Co-Chair Elect for 2015.

Student Engagement, Dr. Terry Cook



- The Aggie Welcome and New Student Registration Team held a Debriefing Session for the June 27–28 Registration Event. College academic advisors and representatives from Admissions, Aggie Welcome, Athletics Academic Program, Cross Campus Advising, Financial Aid, Housing & Campus Life, ICT, Student Information Systems (SIM), and Student Engagement meet after every registration session to discuss continuous improvement of the experience for students and families.
- Due to demand, an additional New Student Orientation (NSR) session was added on July 29 as a one-day program; 24 participants signed up within two days. Throughout the summer, staff in the NSR Office have called students five days in advance of their scheduled NSR to answer questions students and their families have about the event.

- Student Information Systems (SIM), in collaboration with the New Student Registration (NSR) team, created the programming that has managed twelve registration events for incoming first-year and transfer students. The system SIM created allows students to sign up for an NSR online and select their major of interest. The system then populates the NSR dates that are available for a students to meet with an adviser from the appropriate college and major. The student later receives a confirmation email with the details about the events.



Alicia, Michelle, and Teresa, sisters and Aggie Alums, brought Alicia's daughter Cristina to New Student Registration.

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

- On Monday, June 30 and Tuesday, July 1, Justin McHorse and Michael Ray conducted recruitment and outreach with the Pueblos of Acoma, Laguna, and Zuni. They met with tribal leaders and tribal education and higher education departments to build on current relationships that foster rising college student referrals as well as supporting in-coming and current students attending NMSU.
- On Tuesday, July 1, Justin McHorse and Michael Ray gave a presentation on “How to Prepare for College” to 21 high school students participating in NMSU – Grants’ Computer Science Academy.

**Vice President Economic Development, Dr. Kevin Boberg
Arrowhead Park**

- Arrowhead Park Executive Director Wayne Savage m participated in a recruitment conference call with VMC (a Shaw company) for potential 2014 occupancy.

Studio G

- Studio G has had five new applicants in the last month coming from student entrepreneurs with a wide range of majors – Economics, Computer Science, Digital Media, Electrical Engineering, and Mechanic Engineering. The ideas cover a broad spectrum of fields as well. The new applicants are piloting the new Disciplined Entrepreneurship curriculum developed by Arrowhead and are already making great progress. Students looking to start businesses are encouraged to apply at: studiog.nmsu.edu.

Visit from New Mexico Department of Indian Affairs

- Cabinet Secretary Arthur Allison and Jerry Sandoval, Economic Development and Tourism Director, New Mexico Department of Indian Affairs, received an overview presentation on Arrowhead Center and participated in collaboration discussions with Arrowhead team members.

Vice President Research, Dr. Vimal Chaitanya

No Activity to Report



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

- The Office of University Advancement launched their newly redesigned web site which incorporates the NMSU brand throughout. Please visit us from the "Alumni, Donors and Friends" link on the NMSU home page or use the direct link of <http://support.nmsu.edu>.
- An NMSUF Board member has joined the 1888 Society, for benefit of the NMSUF "Fund for New Initiatives".
- Congratulations to the following Distinguished Alumni and James F. Cole recipients:
 - **College of ACES**
Kevin Cobble, '78
 - **College of Arts and Sciences, Fine Arts/Humanities**
George Mendoza, '78
 - **College of Arts and Sciences, Sciences**
Dr. Mary Hockaday, '83, '86
 - **College of Arts and Sciences, Social Sciences**
John E. Kramer, '88
 - **College of Business**
Robert 'Bobby' Lutz, '73
 - **College of Education**
Barbara Hubbard, '70
 - **College of Engineering**
Gregory Fulfer, '83, '84
 - **College of Health and Social Services**
Dr. Christopher Ledingham
 - **James F. Cole Memorial Award for Service**
Lou, '55, '56, and Mary Henson
 - **James F. Cole Memorial Award for Service**
Carol Smallwood, '83

Athletics Director, Dr. McKinley Boston, Jr.

No Activity to Report

Associate Vice President University Communications, Maureen Howard

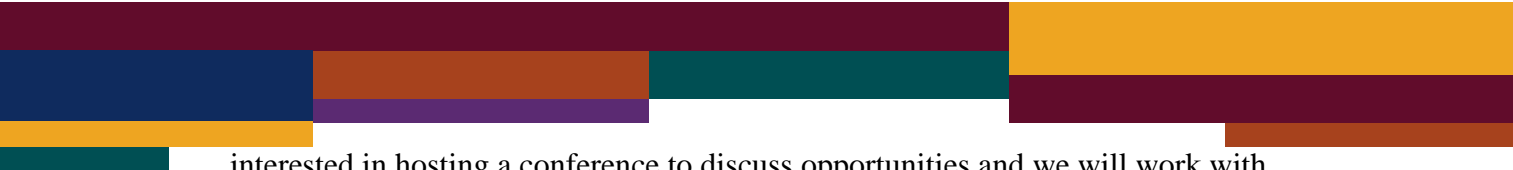
No Activity to Report

Assistant Vice President Government Relations, Ricardo Rel

No Activity to Report

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

- This week NMDA marketing staff and I met with Laguna Pueblo Governor Luarkie to discuss future agriculture projects with in the pueblo. The governor is very interested in expanding farming operations and may include a variety of crops. He is



interested in hosting a conference to discuss opportunities and we will work with NMSU Cooperative Extension to explore this possibility.

- NMDA staff and I met with Secretary Monique Jacobson from the Tourism department to discuss opportunities for joint promotion. Tourism is interested in expanding opportunities in agrotourism promotion across the nation.
- Anthony Parra and I met with the staff at the Veterinary Diagnostics Lab in Albuquerque to congratulate them on their success in expanding their submission counts from veterinarians. This lab has submitted their application for accreditation review by the National Animal Health Laboratory Network.
- NMDA staff monitored active wildfires in the state and produced maps of fire perimeters in relation to impacted livestock grazing allotments and other infrastructure. Information was provided to emergency managers and industry partners during conference calls as needed.