



# New Mexico State University

## Activity Report

September 30 – October 4, 2013

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

- I attended a meeting of the UNM and NMSU Regents, Provosts, and Presidents prior to the UNM/NMSU football game. The ultimate in tail gating as we discussed at some length the proposed Mission Specific Performance Funding model developed by NMSU for the Council of University Presidents. It appears that the Regents have differing views on the model – most being complimentary regarding the thought and work that had gone into moving to a performance based model emphasizing degree generation, research, graduating STEMH and at risk students, and student credit hour production but others saying not so fast because it does not have a 5% risk carve out from our current base of funding. More on this as it develops.
- Andrea Tawney and I are in conversation with a generous donor who wishes to contribute sufficient funds to build a nondenominational chapel on the campus of NMSU. UNM (and many Universities) has such a Chapel which is heavily utilized.
- I had a conversation with Commissioner Karl Benson of the Sun Belt Conference regarding our membership in same. I will be traveling to Denver next week for a Western Athletic Conference Presidents meeting and then on to New Orleans for a similar meeting with the Sun Belt Presidents. Athletics and Conference memberships are occupy a fair amount of my time now but hopefully we will find our niche soon and it will be “all quiet on the Western Front”.
- I had a marvelous time with alums at a Sandia Corporation gathering. It was a nice turn out. There are nearly 600 NMSU graduates working for Sandia. I also visited with Dr. Paul Hommert, the Director of Sandia Laboratories, who reiterated the strong interdependencies of the Laboratory and NMSU. We have over \$1,000,000 of cooperative research going on as well as a number of economic development projects and internships. Once again I heard from alums who told me that often repeated story – “I am here working at this very large organization and I have found that my NMSU education stacks up with and/or caused me to be as well or better prepared than any of my colleagues who graduated at other institutions.” Makes one very proud to be part of the Aggie Nation! Also in attendance McKinley Boston, Athletics Director; Patricia Sullivan, College of Engineering; Andrea Tawney, College of Business; Kristina Martinez, NMSU Foundation; Fred Heinrich, NMSU Foundation; and NMSU Alumni representatives Tammie Campos and Mallory Driggers supported this event.
- Mr. Rolando Pablos, the President of the Borderplex Alliance, spoke to the Economic Forum. The Alliance is attempting to establish a more regional approach to economic development through this business driven collaboration of Juarez, El Paso, and Las Cruces leaders. While in an infant stage, the concept has appeal. Much of the collaboration may come from higher education institutions, including both two



and four year programs. Juarez has a couple of very good four year Universities. One major objective is to improve the quality of the labor force in the region, i.e., to have an internationally competitive work force which will attract investments from around the world.

- Thanks to an invitation from Dr. Dennis Clason, I had an opportunity to visit with the Faculty Senate regarding the Mission Specific Performance Funding model and other issues. I am always pleased to visit with the Senate as needed. I did ask that they reconsider the policy on Promotion and Tenure to better specify how folks can be promoted in part using credit gained from outstanding leadership in their profession or in administration. In some colleges, it seems one has to qualify for promotion under the more traditional (before Boyer) standards and leadership was just an add on.
- Thanks to Vimal Chaitanya and Kevin Boberg, we had our initial meeting of the National Academy of Inventors and inducted a number of our faculty into this organization. I am eager to see more patents and patents applications emerging from our research and creative efforts.

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

- Interim Graduate School Dean Loui Reyes and I discussed graduate student enrollment and degree completion. Dr. Reyes believes that graduate student enrollment could be increased by a significant amount in a single year by incentivizing existing graduate online programs that have waitlists.
- I visited the 4-H Youth Development Program of the Cooperative Extension Service. The statewide reach of this program and its steady popularity helps to make NMSU a true lifelong learning partner for the people of New Mexico.
- I met with the Tribal Voice Working Group at the American Indian Student Center. Among the issues we discussed were minority recruitment, the mural in Hadley Hall, and Native American representation on important search committees.
- At a meeting with the Family and Consumer Sciences Department, faculty members expressed concern about Canvas and the need to link the program with Banner and increase the storage space devoted to individual courses.
- At the second meeting of the Research Processes Task Force, members embraced the idea of opening four Shared Service Centers over the course of the next 18 months, one in ACES, one in Engineering (that will also serve Education, HSS, and Business), one in Arts and Sciences, and one in PSL. These Service Centers will be staffed with current staff from OGC, SPA, and HR who will have signature authority for grant proposals.
- I attended the New Mexico AMP Conference, where Michele Nishiguchi and Howie Morales gave memorable presentations, and the students did a marvelous job of presenting their research through posters and oral presentations. Kudos to Dean



Ricardo Jacquez for the marvelous job he has done leading this program for 20 years.

- The Convocation of the College of Health and Social Services provided me with an opportunity to learn more about one of the newer colleges at NMSU. Among the accomplishments touted by Dean Tilay Adera were: the large number of degrees awarded per tenure track faculty member; the accreditation of all the programs in the college; and, a Nursing Program with highest NCLEX pass rate in the state.

## **SVP Administration and Finance – Angela Throneberry**

### **Auxiliary Services**

- NMSU Transportation & Parking Services (TPS) is announcing the completion of a reconstruction project at parking lot 40 (west of the baseball field) on Locust St. Parking lot 40 is classified as an “All Permits” parking lot and contains 185 parking spaces. The project cost of \$258,000 is funded entirely by the TPS Repair & Renewal account which is in turn funded primarily by NMSU parking permit sales.
- Barnes & Noble Bookstore at NMSU has arranged a link for the Alumni Office to send out offering members special discounts. Alumni apparel will also be on display in the Bookstore.
- Rascal Flatts performed a great concert on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at the NMSU Pan American Center. Over 6,600 attendees also enjoyed The Band Perry and Cassadee Pope.

### **Information Communication Technologies**

- Norma Grijalva and Piyasat Nilkeaw travelled to Socorro to discuss the future network needs for research in New Mexico. They met with UNM’s CIO and NM TECH’s Information Services Director as well other technical staff. The discussion centered on Internet 2, National Lambda Rail and other high speed connections. These meetings are intended to provide collaborative solutions for New Mexico research and the ever growing need for more bandwidth. NMSU, UNM and NMT have been collaborating for many years to provide high quality bandwidth to all New Mexico researchers.
- ICT takes the information security of NMSU and the NMSU community very seriously. October is cyber security awareness month. ICT hosted a booth at Corbett Center on October 3 to raise cyber security awareness. The IT Security team manned the booth and talked to over 150 people. More information is available at the NMSU Security webpage at [infosec.nmsu.edu](http://infosec.nmsu.edu) on how to safeguard NMSU and personal information as well as links to all of the month's activities and resources. Through education about our privacy and security policies, practicing cyber self-defense, using available security tools, being alert to potential danger signs and reporting unusual behaviors, we can keep our campus network an open, accessible system.

## Facilities and Services

- Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire tragedy of 1871 which killed 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. That fire was believed to be started by a cow that kicked over a lamp inside a barn.



- Did you know that more fires start in the kitchen than in any other part of the home? FEMA reports that 88% of university housing fires are cooking fires. This year's theme is "Prevent Kitchen Fires." For more information on Fire Safety or to schedule a fire station tour, call our non-emergency number at 646-2519.
- FS Firefighters will be handing out pink bracelets throughout the month of October in support of cancer awareness. There is a limited supply. Stop by the Fire Station on 1510 Wells Street if you would like one.
- Since our first **Bottle Filling Station** was installed a year ago, we have kept a total of **127,200 bottles** from the landfill in our seven stations around campus. This reduces our landfill tipping fees, educates students on the importance of not buying bottled water, and helps the planet at the same time. There are Hydration Stations at Hadley Hall, Zuhl Library, Milton Hall, Gerald Thomas and three in the Activity Center.
- **Presley Askew Field Improvements:** Facilities and Services has been working with the Athletics Department on improving the Presley Askew Baseball field. The baseball field improvements are to include expanding the bleachers, installing chair backs on the bleachers seats, and the installation of a sun shade structure, which will cover the bleachers. Facilities and Services with the support of Central Purchasing has elected to procure both the design and construction services using a Design Build contract. The Presley Askew Field Improvements will be the first project completed using the Design Build process. We are currently in the first phase of the selection of the Design Build team.





Proposed Elevation w/ Canopy Examples

- Facilities Operations shop personnel are trimming the vegetation around the “A” on A-Mountain. This is being done in response to a call that only ½ of the “A” was lit and we discovered overgrown vegetation due to the heavy September rains. This is also in preparation for lighting the “A” Pink for Tough Enough to Wear Pink Week.

#### **SVP External Relations / Chief of Staff – Ben Woods**

- Completed posting and agenda for Special BoR meeting in Albuquerque.
- Completed DACC operating agreement with DACC Advisory Board ready for submission to BoR.
- Completed planning for Leadership Las Cruces class on campus experience Oct 18, 2013.
- Participated in a coordinated strategic planning meeting for the division.
- Contacted and finalized membership for the Labor Relations Board for submission to BoR.
- Compiled historical documentation for Regent Cheney.

#### **VP Student Affairs/Enrollment Services – Dr. Bernadette Montoya**

- Dr. Montoya represented NMSU at the 3rd Biennial Policy Summit on Latino Higher Education in Albuquerque, presented by The Sereno Alliance for Higher Education and the University of New Mexico. The goal of the summit was to bring together Hispanic/Latino leaders, educators, elected officials, and others from around the country to discuss the challenges facing Latinos in higher education.
- Dr. Montoya reviewed presentations and poster proposals for the 2014 conference for NASPA (National Association of Student Personnel Administrators). NASPA is a leader for the administration, policy, and practice of student affairs nationwide.
- Melody Munson-McGee, Planning Officer, was elected co-chair of the NMSU OAC-CAO (the Outcomes Assessment Committee for Co-curriculum, Administration and Operations) along with Teresa Burgin, Director of the Center for Learning and Professional Development. The OAC-CAO mission is to support different areas in their assessments of enhancing students’ life-learning experiences.



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

- Recruiters attended undergraduate college fairs in Albuquerque, eastern New Mexico, western Arizona, and southern Colorado this week plus graduate college programs at UNM, NMSU, UTEP, and at the Society for the Advancement of Hispanic/Chicanos and Native Americans in Science national conference.
- Over 150 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders from Socorro Independent School District in El Paso were on campus for a group visit. In addition to touring the campus, students heard presentations from University Admissions and Financial Aid.

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

- Valeria Olsson, with the Financial Aid Fiscal Team, submitted NMSU's FISAP (Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate) to the Department of Education before the October 1 deadline. The FISAP is the annual institutional application that allows NMSU to provide federal financial aid.
- NMSU Financial Aid Fiscal Team also submitted the DEAR (Data Editing and Reporting) file to New Mexico's HED. This file reconciles funds students receive from grants, loans, scholarships, and work-study and requires collaboration with Institutional Analysis, University Accounts Receivable, Athletics, Sponsored Projects Accounting, and Accounting and Financial Reporting.
- The Scholar Dollar\$ System opens on October 15, 2013 for scholarship applications for the 2014–15 academic year. In preparation, the NMSU Foundation is organizing scholarship selection committees for the President's Associates, Regents Success, High Achievers, and Honors Excel scholarships, which are all decided according to merit. The application closes on March 3, 2014 for most scholarships but on December 3, 2013 for the previously named scholarships. Approximately 8,900 students used the system for the 2013–14 application cycles.
- The Financial Aid Office, Student Information Management and student loan consultant Inceptia are collaborating on student data for the most recently released student-loan default rate. This data will be validated before it is mined for information on students who default on loans.

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

- At this week's Graduate & Professional School Fair, 64 representatives from graduate and professional schools showcased programs to about 500 students. The event was a collaboration between Career Services and the Graduate School.

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

- Amanda Gallivan, health education specialist, collaborated with Sue Forster-Cox and Susan Wilson from the NMSU Department of Public Health Sciences on a poster for the annual URC Research & Creative Fair. The poster, titled “Depression, Anxiety, Stress & Academic Achievement at NMSU” was derived from a needs assessment by the Campus Health Center and Department of Public Health Sciences in fall 2011.



Aggie Fit is now offering Insanity, the newest fitness craze. Insanity is max interval training, keeping the body working to maximum capacity through the entire workout. The class (above) meets M,W,F from 6:30-7:30 pm.



On October 1, Justin McHorse met with Rep. Sharon Clahchischillige and gave her a tour of the American Indian Student Center.

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

- On September 28, Michael Ray represented the American Indian Program at Albuquerque Public Schools’ Indian Education Department Third Annual College Connection Day for Native American Students.
- Hispanic Heritage Month concluded with a workshop by Dr. Jennie Luna, Assistant Professor in Women’s Studies on October 2, titled “Spirituality and Resistance through Danza Azteca.” This presentation outlined the history of Danza Azteca.



## **Interim VP Economic Development – Dr. Kevin Boberg**

### **Trainings and Workshops**

- Arrowhead Innovation Network Enterprise Advisor Estela Hartley presented a workshop entitled “Design Thinking: More In-Depth.” The workshop covered design thinking principles of user empathy, the beginner’s mindset, and user observation. Hartley is the principal Innovation Strategist at E. Hartley Consulting and an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Public Health Sciences at NMSU.
- Brian Meese (CEO and cofounder of RocketHub) and Andy Krafsur (CEO, Spira Footwear) presented a workshop on crowdfunding. RocketHub, one of the most popular crowdfunding platforms, has hosted over 20,000 funding campaigns.

### **Upcoming Workshop**

- Arrowhead Innovation Network Enterprise Advisor Scott Maloney (VP of Strategy and Operations for @Pay) will present a workshop entitled “User Acquisition: More Than Just Shouting from the Roof” on October 9, 2013, from 2:00-3:00 PM. The workshop will focus on customer engagement tactics in user validation work. More information on the event is available at [arrowheadcenter.nmsu.edu/events](http://arrowheadcenter.nmsu.edu/events).

## **VP Research – Dr. Vimal Chaitanya**

- Vimal Chaitanya attended the World’s largest Algal Biomass (ABO) conference in Orlando to meet with researchers, policy makers, Government funding officials and private industry stakeholders to support the algal biofuels researchers of NMSU.
- Vimal Chaitanya met with Mr. Vinod Phillip recently named and promoted as Manager of the Generators division of Siemens (World-wide) to discuss funding opportunities for NMSU. The areas of Smart Grids and Wind Energy would be of interest to Siemens.
- Pete Lammers and Cara Meghan Downes presented three outstanding talks at the ABO conference in Orlando, Florida.
- The VPR office in collaboration with VPED office held the induction reception for NMSU’s patent holders along with launching of the NMSU chapter of National Academy of Inventors.
- The VPR office held 13<sup>th</sup> annual research and creative activities fair of the University Research Council in conjunction with the New Mexico student research conference.
- Luis Vazquez attended the 11th APA Education Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., for research ethics and training, which included visits to “The Hill” to advocate on behalf of the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act. This Act reauthorizes and maintains important suicide prevention programs for States, Tribes, and college and university counseling centers. Luis Vazquez met with Senators Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich and their legislative staff on Tuesday, October 2, 2013 to advocate on behalf of increased programming for suicide prevention that affects colleges, universities, tribes and states.

- Steve Hottman is in San Antonio, Texas for the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) Conference to present a scientific paper.
- Neta Fernandez is dealing with the impact on NMSU grants and contracts due to the federal government shutdown.
- The VPR office distributed \$991,000 of funding this week for 38 faculty startup packages to the Colleges of ACES, Engineering, A&S, and HSS.
- Sam Fernald planned testimony for three upcoming legislative committee sessions – 1) “Agricultural Water Conservation Hydrology” for the Drought Subcommittee Oct 14<sup>th</sup>; 2) “Alamogordo Desalination” for the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee Oct 17<sup>th</sup>; and 3) “Agriculture Technology Advances/Technology Improvements in Agricultural Water Use” also for S&T Committee on Oct 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The WRRRI-led Statewide Water Budget workshop will be held in Albuquerque on November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. WRRRI has confirmed attendance by experts from the western U.S., the region, and the state including state agencies and multiple stakeholders: acequias, pueblos, river valley irrigators, and deep groundwater extractors.
- The Drought Subcommittee Legislative Reception will be held Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> and will be hosted by WRRRI. WRRRI has arranged event details and prepared exhibits that highlight WRRRI water research value to State of New Mexico.
- The VPR office received 20 new awards in excess of \$ 6 Million total this week.

### **Interim VP University Advancement – Dr. Tina Byford**

- I had several donor visits this week regarding upcoming Homecoming events. I also held a stewardship meeting with a local donor. There were several items for follow up.
- The NMSU Foundation Executive Committee met on Tuesday, October 1. The agenda included updates from standing committees: Audit, Finance, Development Communications and Marketing, Real Estate Committee, Investment Committee and Governance Committee. The NMSU Foundation Executive Committee took action on the transfer of athletic fundraising to the Athletics Dept. Action items also included revised wording on the Endowment Agreement Template. Tina Byford, president of NMSU Foundation presented the Comparative Fundraising Report, Cash, GIK and Pledges by College, an update on the status of hiring the VPUA and the re-organization of the development function at the university. The Executive Committee’s actions will be presented to the full board for approval at their annual meeting to be held in October.
- Provost Howard and I met regarding the services provided by VP University Advancement to the deans and development officers such as metrics/fundraising reports, and trainings.

- The NMSU Alumni Association sponsored a Crimson Central Alumni Chapter and NMSU Alumni Association Tailgate before the Aggies @ UNM game on October 5. Crimson Central Chapter Co-Presidents JR Tellez '84 '91 and Scott Sponseller '96 '98 and NMSU Alumni representatives Tammie Campos and Mallory Driggers supported this event. Sixty guests attended. Two hundred two alumni invitations went out for the Chicago watch party for the NMSU vs. UNM football game. The Albuquerque Young Alumni Aggie Hour invitation went out to nearly 1500 alumni.
- An Alumni Association building renovation was completed on Oct. 1. The added enclosure provides a meeting space for staff, alumni, and student delegates.
- Elaine A. Stachera, Regional Advancement Officer, identified three potential NMSU Foundation Board members through her cultivation visits. These candidates will be confirmed at the Fall NMSU Foundation Board meeting.

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

- Commissioner Karl Benson hosted a Sun Belt Conference call with the focus being on the Commissioner Association and their response to the issue of funding the full cost of attendance for student-athletes (Pay to Play). Commissioner as a group supported on the pending permissive legislation to pay. While legislation may be permissive, it is believed there may be a conference push to support the other BCS Conferences who are on record to support. The legislation could be a \$500K budget issue.
- The Aggies hosted our 3<sup>rd</sup> outreach Athletics Happy Hour event at Sunset Grill at Sonoma Ranch and had an outstanding turnout of over 100 fans and supporters who mingled with coaches and got answers to lots of questions.
- Very appreciative of the Alumni and Spirit Squad for hosting a pep rally in the team hotel in Albuquerque. We had a number of fans and staff who attended. Coach Martin addressed the group. All who attended the pep rally had a good time.

### **Associate VP University Communications – Maureen Howard**

- For the week of September 23 - 29, news stories in both local and national media totaled 185 placements. The top story covered by the media this week was the athletics promotion to encourage student attendance.
- This week's Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted the work being done by NMSU at the Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility in Alamogordo, where researchers are exploring various technologies to find the most effective method of making brackish water safe for human consumption.
- The Sunday feature this week in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted a recent project by geography researchers in the Spatial Applications and Research Center at NMSU. The study showed that relocating the recycle bins on campus could lead to increased recycling.
- UCOMM, Office of Government Relations and the SRVP for External Relations hosted a follow-up session on the "Golden Circle" and invited Sarita Loehr to campus to



present the concept. Sarita worked with Larry Lujan on the “Why” concept, which led to our theme “All About Discovery”.

- This week KRWG FM received confirmation that the FCC renewed their license through the year 2021. Credit goes to the entire team at KRWG for successfully gaining license renewal.
- The campaign for “Don’t wash your chicken” with video and animation created by our media productions team, which is led by Dr. Jeanne Gleason, reached more than 350,000 hits on the website. News coverage has included stories on NPR, NBC Nightly News, NBC Today Show and more.

## **Assistant VP Government Relations – Ricardo Rel**

### **State-Related Activities**

- OGR staff worked with the NMFA Legislative Oversight Committee who was on campus on September 30- Oct. 1, 2013. Provost Howard welcomed the committee.
- OGR staff organized and implemented a campus tour and briefing for David Abbey with the Legislative Finance Committee. Greg Walke and Alton Looney assisted with the tour that included the engineering complex, ongoing construction projects and the Center for the Arts. Mr. Abbey also visited the Early College High School and was joined by Stan Rounds and President Carruthers.
- OGR staff facilitated a tour of NMSU’s American Indian Student Center for Representative Sharon Clahchischilliage.

### **Director/Secretary, NMDA - Jeff M. Witte**

- NMDA along with Southwest Dairy Farmers will conduct a dairy and nuts promotion this weekend (Saturday, October 5, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.) in the ice cream parlor at the Eastern New Mexico State Fairgrounds in Roswell. This promotion is the first of its kind at this fair.
- The 2013 Produce Marketing Association Fresh Summit (tradeshow) will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana. NMDA along with nine producers and produce related companies will exhibit within the New Mexico Pavilion (Pavilion). Staff will coordinate the Pavilion on behalf of these nine companies.
- Staff attended a mass care meeting in Santa Fe at the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. It involved Emergency Support Functions 6, 8, and 11; discussing and developing protocol for New Mexico to provide for mass care of those needing it as well as including their companion animals and service animals in the temporary facilities.