




New Mexico State University

Weekly Activity Report

March 31 – April 4, 2014

President Garrey Carruthers, Ph.D.

- I thought it was a very good week for NMSU. The Convocation turnout was outstanding, giving the Provost and me the opportunity to discuss the Vision 2020 plan and our proposals to the Regents regarding a new tuition model as well as the Sources and Uses of \$8.1 million new dollars. The Regents approved the proposals on Thursday. Over one half of the new money will be dedicated to salaries of faculty and staff members. We will move quickly to establish how the faculty market equity money will be allocated to those below the established market and how the 1.5% increase in additional funding will be distributed to faculty and exempt employees on a merit basis. Another major investment will be \$1 million in new college and tenure track lines. The market equity investment is the second of a three year plan to bring tenure track faculty members into market and the second of a four year plan to do the same for college track faculty. Thanks to the legislature, Governor, Regents, and the students for their support of our requests.
- I attended the College of Arts and Sciences Service Awards gathering. The strength of NMSU remains the tenure and loyalty of faculty and staff. Bernie McNamara was especially recognized for having 35 years of service, well beyond retirement requirements. Way to go Bernie!
- The Provost and I entertained the Regents Professors at the Prez Rez, something that will become an event each semester. We appreciate our more senior and highly acclaimed faculty members sharing their views on how NMSU can become even more successful.
- Thanks to my spin doctor colleague Justin Bannister, I was able to do 4 radio programs in one hour, going door to door in a multi radio station premise. The community radio stations seem to have an interest in catching up on the goings on at NMSU on a monthly basis.
- I have asked local attorney Bill Lutz to assist Interim General Counsel Lisa Warren with some projects requiring background in business law. Bill also serves as the attorney for the Foundation. One of the projects is to establish Aggie Development Corporation as the focal point of our non-Arrowhead Center projects, such as development of the land east of the Interstate beginning with the property once the home of the golf clubhouse and the State Police Station. I will also expect Aggie Development to be involved in how we prove up and manage our 1890 water rights.
- I attended the Crimson and White Banquet sponsored by El Paso Electric and directed to honoring all of our student athletes who have a 3.5 grade point average or better. This is a very special accomplishment for athletes who can excel both on and off the field, particularly given their practice requirements. El Paso Electric continues to be a great corporate partner for NMSU.
- I met with Herb Zuhl and friends who are lobbying NMSU to expand the exhibit area for the Zuhl collection and to do a better job of publicizing how and where to enjoy this amazing collection of petrified wood and stones. The majority of the collection is housed at the Museum shared with the Alumni Association and at the Zuhl library. Only one half of the collection is on display.
- The Council of University Presidents met by telephone to plot our summer retreat and to discuss dues. UNM was unable to get their requested tuition increase so they wanted to cut back on their contributions. The summer retreat will include further conversations on the funding



formula with the development of how to work best with HED and the Martinez Administration on developing a simple performance based formula acceptable to them and to higher education.

- I made some introductory remarks at the opening reception for the J. Paul Taylor Symposium on Justice for Native Americans. J. Paul is a special Aggie. The College of Arts and Sciences exemplifies a “caring community transforming lives through discovery” by sponsoring this annual event, with each symposium featuring a key social justice issue.

Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Dan Howard


- The Executive Council of Ngage New Mexico, of which I am a member, met to discuss educational initiatives in southern New Mexico and the formation of action groups to ensure that council members do more than talk about issues; they become agents of change.
- The University Convocation was an uplifting affair with about 300 faculty and staff attendees. A big high five to the wonderful crew in the Provost’s office—Yoli Baca, Carmen Kottong, and Kim Altamirano—for organizing the convocation. At the convocation, I encouraged attendees to become familiar with the current draft of Vision 2020 and suggest revisions that improve the document. I also explained the new linearized tuition model to the assembled multitudes, explaining how it serves our most financially challenged students, while at the same time continuing to incentivize students to take 15 credits or more each semester. The President described the new monies that would be generated for the university by the new tuition model, as well as by the new formula funding model and pay increase approved by the legislature. He also described how the new funds would be utilized by the university to increase compensation for faculty and staff, increase TA funding, pay for new faculty lines, and better support the library.
- I gave welcoming remarks to the TRIO Upward Bound Conference held at the Hotel Encanto. The Upward Bound Program works with lower income high school students with the potential to become the first generation of their family to go to college. The program provides students with counseling, advice on college programs, and the resources necessary to successfully apply for college and university admission. It is an effective program that changes lives, led at NMSU by Dr. Rene Guillaume.

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

This week FOX-TV aired a news story about Media Productions' work on a national, multi-institution grant research project on norovirus.

<http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=b95f042e-9471-4934-8cfa-52ca20089307>.

- Media Productions works on this USDA-funded grant with 13 major research universities, 4 federal agencies, 2 medical research facilities and industry leaders from the food, cruise ship, produce and shellfish industries (<http://norocore.ncsu.edu/>).
- Dr. John Mexal, and Mick O’Neill (Plant and Environmental sciences), Sue Forster-Cox (Public Health) met to give an overview of Peace Corps programs that facilitate graduate student recruitment and retention. The Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program works with more than 50 American universities that offer financial assistance to returned Peace Corps Volunteers. Any returned Peace Corps Volunteer who satisfactorily completed service has lifetime eligibility to



become a Coverdell Fellow. The Peace Corps Master's International program offers the unique opportunity to pair graduate studies at one of more than 80 U.S. academic institutions with Volunteer service abroad. These programs have proved themselves in the College of Health and Social Services and in the college of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to a degree where we may consider expanding them into the other colleges on campus. Georgia Elhers (University of Arizona) and Blair Orr (Michigan Tech) will give detailed information about the Peace Corps Coverdell and Master's International programs to the Deans and Department Heads for the Graduate School and all six graduate degree granting colleges/departments on April 16.

- NMSU Extension Service will be hosting some wildfire preparedness workshops in Rio Arriba County in the coming week. Rio Arriba County residents have watched as other areas in New Mexico experienced the life-changing effects of disastrous wildland fires. To help residents protect their homes and livestock from disaster, NMSU Rio Arriba County Cooperative Extension Service office is hosting these workshops on emergency preparedness for inside and outside of the home in order to decrease risks, and have plans for evacuation of their livestock and themselves. This workshop will give them many techniques and tips on how to be prepared and will take place in Abiquiu, Tierra Amarilla, and Dulce.

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

- It was a very busy week in the College of Arts and Sciences with several major programs and events throughout the week.
- The college held its Service Awards ceremony honoring recipients of 5-year service awards. The longest serving recipient was Dr. Bernie McNamara in Astronomy. President Carruthers and Provost Howard spoke at the awards ceremony.
- Lisa Bond-Maupin and I met with Dr. Enrico Pontelli to discuss a proposed distance education program for a master's degree in Computer Science.
- I met with new Music professor Ingrid Larragoity to discuss his first year at NMSU and to receive her input on a wide-range of issues in the college and university.
- I met with Provost Howard to review College of Arts and Sciences tenure and promotion dossiers.
- Ammu Devasthali worked with me to select furniture and fixtures for an enlarged conference room that could accommodate all department heads and staff in the college so that everyone has a seat at the table.
- I met with Theatre Department faculty and staff to discuss their preferences for a new department head.
- Lisa Bond-Maupin, Chair of the J. Paul Taylor Social Justice Symposium, opened the symposium Thursday evening at a reception sponsored by President Carruthers, who welcomed attendees and acknowledged the contributions of J. Paul Taylor. The keynote address by Luis Rodriguez was an inspiring message that called for an emphasis on restorative justice. The symposium was planned in collaboration with Justin McHorse, Director of the American Indian Center, and focused on Justice for Native People. The speakers, films, and discussions were enlightening and energizing. The collaboration between the College of Arts and Sciences and the American Indian Center has been strengthened through this symposium and the activities to come afterwards.

- Ken Van Winkle planned the college's Three Minute Thesis competition, which was held last Saturday. Twenty-one masters and doctoral students competed for \$1,000, \$500, and \$250 awards.
- Jeff Brown chaired meetings to plan for the Shared Service Center.


Interim Dean, College of Business, Dr. Kathleen Brook

- The business plan submitted by Gavin Clarkson (Finance and Business Law) and the officers of the Native American Business Students Association (NABSA) was selected as the 1st Runner-Up in the Twenty-Grand Business Plan Competition at the National Reservation Economic Summit on March 20, 2014. NABSA was the only student team and also submitted the only business plan selected as a finalist that was a startup (all other finalists were established businesses).
- Richard Oliver (information Systems), students in the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP), and the College of Business Ambassadors recently hosted the New Mexico Regional Botball 2014 Tournament. Fifteen teams with students from Albuquerque, Los Lunas, Deming, Moriarty, San Felipe Pueblo, and Taos in New Mexico, and Marfa, Texas, gathered to compete using assistive robotics to accomplish a set of tasks in the Mars Sample Return Mission. More information, including photos can be found at <http://botball.org>.
- Jennifer Kreie (Information Systems) announced that 24 students were awarded SAP Recognition Certificates based on approved coursework completed as of January 2014. SAP is the leading software vendor of enterprise resource planning software and offers this certificate in conjunction with the college when students complete three approved courses with sufficient use of SAP to fulfill the certificate requirement.
- In a market that is very challenging for NMSU to compete, the Accounting and Information Systems Department succeeded in hiring a second accounting faculty member for next year. This brings to five the number of new faculty members anticipated next fall.
- Chris Erickson (Economics) recently was a morning guest on KOBE's *Speak Up Las Cruces* radio show. The topic was the minimum wage.
- Ken Martin and Hari Sankaran of the Finance Department visited the United Arab Emirates to present a workshop and to discuss possible collaborations with representatives from the American University in the Emirates and the American University in Dubai.
- Representatives of the College joined the celebration of Herb Wimberly's 80th birthday.
- Kathy Brook met with Cornell Menking and two representatives of the Omani Embassy's Cultural Division to discuss possible faculty and student exchanges. She also attended the Crimson and White Society Banquet honoring student athletes with a GPA of at least 3.5.

Dean, College of Education, Dr. Michael Morehead

Michael A. Morehead, Dean

- Dean Morehead met with Patty Kehoe from Molina Health Care to discuss the ongoing partnership with Molina that is developing an integrated health care model that includes a behavioral health component. The discussion involved the future plans for the project and potential next steps. The college sponsored a reception for Dr. Mongolkhatan from Mongolia and participated in a discussion about Mongolian education. Dr. Morehead met with Herb Wimberly to discuss a future endowment in memory of his wife that would be given to a student in the Master's program in Counseling. Dr. Carl Eichstaedt also met with staff and Dr. Morehead to



discuss a scholarship in dance in his wife's memory. Dr. Morehead participated in several meetings with the provost, and others to discuss a future medical enterprise on the NMSU campus. Dan Burrell visited the college again to continue the discussion of the NMLI program and to confirm his ongoing support. This discussion included planning for first and second year activities for the students in that program. Staff from the office of International Programs discussed developing a future certificate for English and TESOL program collaboration with international communities. Dean Morehead discussed with an editor from Esquire magazine research on boys in schools and shared data about how boys perform in school. The college sponsored a meeting with the nine regional directors of the RECs in NM, this meeting was to discuss future collaboration and partnerships. Much of the discussion focused on building the infrastructure in NM to support children in schools and using an integration model of collaboration to achieve that goal.

Jim O'Donnell, Associate Dean

- This week Dr. O'Donnell met with Shelly Stovall to discuss the WEAVE program. He also met with personnel to discuss their performance evaluation, and completed performance evaluations. Dr. O'Donnell met with the Program Manager for Assessment to discuss the upcoming reports due in April, and discussed plans for the update to TK20 and assistance to faculty for end of the semester services. Dr. O'Donnell met with OTCP to discuss the new testing changes proposed by the PED, and also with A&S advisors to discuss the transfer of the BAS ECED degree to the College of Education.

Jonathan Schwartz, Associate Dean for Research


- The Associate Dean for Research met with the Provost regarding the Research Service Centers, and also assisted with and facilitated a meeting of the Regional Educational Cooperatives in the Southern half of the State. Dr. Schwartz attended an integrated health grant meeting, and worked with the College Council Research Committee. He also attended the TRIO NM Conference, and met with a representative of the Paso Del Norte Foundation. Dr. Schwartz served on a search committee for a new Psychopharmacological position.

Gladys De Necochea, Assistant Dean for Budget & Planning

- Dr. De Necochea continues to provide assistance to Academic Department Heads in the development of data templates and annual reporting tools to summarize year-end evidence in support of the goals and objectives outlined in the College of Education Strategic Plan as well as the Vision 2020 Plan. In addition, Dr. De Necochea is coordinating the call for nominations for the CoEd Green Award to recognize faculty and/or staff who have demonstrated best practices in sustainability. She is guiding the CoEd Sustainability Committee to finalize the process to be implemented to evaluate Green Award nominees and present the Green Award honoree during the CoEd Earth Day event scheduled on April 22nd.

Ron Dziwenka, Program Manager for Assessment

- Dr. Dziwenka worked with the Tk20 team to get the Cooperating Teacher/Mentor Surveys ready to be sent out on Monday. He continued working on collecting data for the 2014 Title II Reports, & 2014 CAEP EPP report, and the 2014 PEDS Data Collection Parts A & B (all these yearly reports are due in April), and scheduled upcoming appointments with others to collect data for these reports. He met with Siiri Rogers in the Registrar's office in order to have her input in compiling portions of the data for the above reports, and to plan the takeover of the NMTA Title II Report this summer from Deborah Gouldsmith in Advising. He gathered data in order to receive two "special reports" from OSU on faculty salary comparisons, for Dean Morehead. He worked with



various faculty and GAs to assist them in their usage of Tk20, and sent out in Tk20 the EDUC 481 Student Teacher Program Evaluation and the EDUC 509 Student Teacher Program Evaluation assignments for courses and sections.

Ashley Jurado, Student Program Coordinator

- This week's efforts went to finalizing all the scholarship applications for the College of Education. The committee will be reviewing nearly 50 scholarships on April 8th, and will nominate their top three students for awarding. Ashley had to work with Student Information Management and the Foundation Office in order to correct, update and confirm all the criteria was correct for each scholarship in the college before running all the apps. She also sent out over 100 applications to the various departments and programs so they could select their departmental scholarships. Ashley was also in contact with four donors this week to discuss possible changes that are needed to get better results for their scholarships.

Adelina Rodriguez, Student Program Coordinator


- This week Adelina Rodriguez assisted with the recruiter's registration table at the Educator's Job Fair. The MOU with Mongolian State University of Education was finalized and submitted to both the President's Office and Provost Office for signatures. The College of Education welcomed Mongolkhatan Gansen visiting Scholar from Mongolia's Ministry of Education on Wednesday with a reception. Adelina also collaborated with Michelle Valverde this week to review the questionnaire to inventory the outreach that is occurring with community based organization. She contacted our undergraduate students who are the recipients of the Dean's Academic Award. An email invitation was also sent out to our doctoral students for the Dean's Doctoral Tea. We have 18 students completing their doctorate. In the area of recruitment, Adelina met with a prospective student and had her also meet with our Director of Secondary Education, Jamie Baker.

Michelle Valverde, Director for Alliance & BoCES

- Major activities this week included a meeting with the Directors from the Regional Educational Cooperatives from throughout New Mexico. Several faculty members, Dr. Schwartz, Dr. O'Donnell, and Jim Barentine also participated. It was a lively conversation about statewide needs in the preK-12 arena as well as specific needs related to Special Education, the teacher shortage, administrative challenges in the rural areas of the state, using data to inform teaching and learning. The group would like to continue the conversation about how NMSU can collaborate even more closely with the RECs in the future. We also held our monthly Alliance Internal Advisory Committee meeting on Wednesday and the paperwork for the collaboration between the Curriculum Team and REC#8 was finalized. Planning was initiated to conduct a survey throughout the College of Education on outreach and inreach occurring with community based organizations, governmental entities, and businesses. Final preparations were made for the upcoming monthly BoCES Advisory Committee meeting.

Dean, College of Engineering, Dr. Ricardo Jacquez

- The Arrowhead Park Early College High School (APECHS) in conjunction with the College of Engineering convened their first Car Show. The event served as a fundraiser for the APECHS senior class and was sponsored by PepBoys and Miguel's Restaurant. Over 50 antique cars, classic rods, and sporty cars registered and displayed at the event. The event recognized the "People's



Choice Award” car, raffled various prizes and in the process raised over \$1,500. It was a fun and highly successful event!

- The ASME Student group competed in the regional ASME competition in Lubbock this past weekend. The students won 3rd place in the region and are alternates for the International Competition. This is the first time in seven years that NMSU has participated in the ASME competition. The goal of the competition was to build a UAV that could put out a fire. The NMSU Engineering team placed 3rd place out of 30 universities from our region (Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, and New Mexico) and was voted best in show, best pilot, and people's choice.
- Stefan Zollner (Physics department head) visited three universities in India (IIT Indore, IIT Bhubaneswar, IISER Pune) over spring break to inform them about NMSU degree and research programs in physics, engineering physics, materials science, and nanotechnology.
- CJ Barberan has been awarded both NSF Graduate Research Fellowship and the GEM Fellowship. He received his BSEE in May 2013 and has been working as a post-graduate degree with Dr. Laura Boucheron and the Digital Signal Processing (DSP) group while finishing his Math major. He will serve as an intern at MIT Lincoln Labs this summer for the GEM Fellowship and is attending Rice University in Fall 2014. He plans to pursue his PhD in DSP and Machine Learning.
- Candice Benally, former Undergraduate Research Assistant (URA) in the New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation (New Mexico AMP) program, was named a 2014 fellow of the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP). Candice graduated in Spring 2012 with a B.S. degree in Chemistry. She is currently attending graduate school at Northern Arizona University (NAU). The GRFP award is NSF’s highest level achievement for a graduate student.
- Daniel Franco, Civil Engineering major who is a research assistant in the New Mexico AMP URA program, participated as Co-Captain of his team at the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Concrete Canoe competition in Fort Collins, Colorado. The team won second place in the Overall Competition and first place in the Racing Competition.

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

- New Mexico State Representative Doreen Gallegos (D-Doña Ana-52) received the "Distinguished Social Work Alumna of the Year" Award from New Mexico State University. The New Mexico State University School of Social Work recognized Rep. Gallegos for her dedicated service and efforts in the field of social work. Gallegos received her Bachelor’s degree and her Master's degree in Social Work from NMSU.
- Public Health Sciences Drs. Sue Forster-Cox and Satya Rao were elected co-Presidents for the New Mexico Public Health Association (NMPHA).
- Dr. Satya Rao was given a Public Health Advocate Award for her work around New Mexico. This award is based on nominations from community members throughout the state.
- PHS’ Dr. Anup Amatya’s article, “Likelihood-based Random Effect Meta-analysis of Binary Events” has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Biopharmaceutical Statistics*.
- New Mexico State University was one of 33 programs named by Best Online Colleges as 2014 Best Online Masters in Public Health Degree Programs.
- Dr. Jill McDonald attended the “National Health Disparities Joint Conference” of the NM Public Health Association and the NM CARES Health Disparities Center in Albuquerque on April 1-2; she

made a presentation on NMSU's Southwest Institute of Health Disparities Research and met with NM stakeholders.

- NMSU, along with WNMU hosted a New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium (NMNEC) Conference at Las Cruces Farm and Ranch Museum on April 4, regarding the implementation of the new statewide Nursing curriculum.


Dean, Graduate School, Dr. Loui Reyes

- Graduate Dean ad interim and Graduate Student Advisor attended the Western Association of Graduate Schools March 31 – April 2, in Fargo, North Dakota. Pictures are of the Plenary Session on Graduate Education: A View from Business Leaders held at the Microsoft Campus.



Dean, Honors College, Dr. William Eamon

- Dean Eamon attended the BBF History Graduate Seminar.
- Dean Eamon attended Regents Professor Reception.
- Dr. Andersen facilitated the ACES Curriculum committee meeting.
- Dean Eamon met with the Honors College mentors to discuss monthly activities.
- Dean Eamon and Valerie Torres met with Amanda Bradford University Communications to discuss upcoming Speaker Series and URCAS. Amanda video interviewed Dean Eamon for the Undergraduate and Creative Arts Symposium (URCAS).
- Dean Eamon and Dr. Timothy Ketelaar met to discuss the logistics for upcoming events with Speaker Series featuring Dr. Steven Pinker on April 7.
- Dean Eamon spoke to Dr. Miriam Chaiken's class on fellowship opportunities.
- Dean Eamon, Dr. Andersen and several members of the Circle for Excellence committee interviewed six Honors College Scholarship finalists to determine the winner of the \$5000 Honors



Scholarship. The winner is Upile Chisala to interview women in Malawi for research on child birth experiences for a memoir.

- Dean Eamon and Valerie Torres finalized the design files to be submitted to the print portal for printing of the URCAS program and poster.
- Valerie Torres met with the design team and vendors to finalize the URCAS design for the logo to be used for the URCAS program, poster, t-shirt and tote.

Dean, University Library, Dr. Elizabeth Titus

- Held an Organizational Restructuring Task Force Forum for all library staff.
- Attended the 2014 Special Convocation program held at the Las Cruces Convention Center.
- In my role as Chair of the Honor's College Dean's Search Committee, I had a briefing meeting with Kim Rumford and her staff on support they provide for administrative searches. Also, attended a search committee orientation session.
- Had a stewardship luncheon meeting with a major library donor.
- Attended as an ex-officio member, the April meeting of the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate unanimously passed Proposition 10-13/14: A Proposal for a Mechanism to Enhance the Long Term Sustainability of the Library's Base Materials Budget.
- NMSU Library received this week 2012 GO Bond Funds totaling over \$375,000. All these funds were used for FY14 library materials expenditures.
- At the April 3rd meeting of the Board of Regents two budget recommendations supporting NMSU Library were approved. \$200,000 in recurring funds will be added to the library materials I & G base budget and a new student library fee of \$400,000 was approved. A library student advisory committee is being created and will advise the Library Dean on how these funds should be expended. As a result of this funding, starting in Fall 2014 evening library hours will be extended from 12 midnight to 2:00 a.m.

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

- 15 undergraduates arrived as part of the Brazil Scientific Mobility Program. Participants will study English through the summer and then enroll as visiting students in STEM courses for the 2014-15 academic year. Such cohorts of students will continue into the future as part of the program to send 100,000 Brazilians to the US.
- IBP hosted two officials from the Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman/Cultural Division. They met with Deans Jacquez, Brook and Reyes, as well as Julie Weber from housing. They were extremely pleased with the experience their first students have had this semester in the Center for English Language Programs and expect to begin sending significant numbers of Business and Engineering undergraduate students next year.

Senior Vice President Administration and Finance, Angela Throneberry

- **STudent Audit Requirement system (STARs) V.4.0 upgrade is complete** – Working closely with the Registrar's Office, ICT has completed its upgrade of STARs. With STARs, NMSU students are not only able to audit their degree progress online, but can now save those audits to Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) formatted files for later review. STARs V4.0 has other benefits as well: it is Web 2.0 friendly, runs on the latest server technology, and allows ICT to retire older, less efficient computers.




- **Autism Awareness Month** – Facilities and Services teamed up with Alpha Xi Delta sorority to celebrate National Autism Awareness month. The A will be illuminated in blue every night during the month of April from 7:30 PM until 11:00 PM. This is a community service project for AXD and we are in our second year of supporting the student organization.

- **NMSU Regents approve new, linearized tuition model, budget guidelines and rates for FY 2015** – The New Mexico State University Board of Regents approved a new, linearized tuition model for NMSU’s Las Cruces campus students as well as budget guidelines for the 2015 fiscal year. The new tuition model will provide a financial benefit for students to take at least 15 credits per semester. In addition, the Regents approved housing, meal plan and parking rates for the same period. For additional information, go to <http://www.nmsu.edu/~budget/reports.html>.
- **AggieGuest wireless access now available on the Las Cruces campus** – ICT introduced “AggieGuest”, wireless internet access service offered to guests of the NMSU’s main campus. AggieGuest users can browse the Internet without needing to complete the network registration process for their internet-connected devices. This service is provided free of charge and limited to Internet web browsing in one-hour increments. NMSU students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use “AggieAir”, NMSU’s unrestricted full service wireless network. For more information, email ICT’s Network Operations group at noc@nmsu.edu.
- **NMSU scores an “A” for its Domain Name Systems (DNS) setup and configuration** – NMSU Office of Audit Services performed an informal audit of NMSU’s DNS servers using a web-based audit tool that checks an organization’s DNS setup and configuration. Audit Services determined that NMSU rates at an “A” scoring a 497 out of 500 possible points in its DNS operations that translate website names, such as www.nmsu.edu, to their respective numeric Internet Protocol addresses. The rating reflects the proactive measures taken by ICT’s networking department to minimize risk and exposure of NMSU data by redesigning and re-implementing the way DNS services are delivered across the NMSU system.
- **NM Best Building 2014 Award** – The Arts Complex Phase I or Center for the Arts has received one of the prestigious AGC (Associated General Contractors) NM Best Buildings 2014 Awards for “Best Construction Management-at-Risk” category. Orasa Vaught and Jon Padilla, FS – PD&E Project Managers represented NMSU and received this award on March 29, 2014 in Albuquerque.
- **ICT server upgrade complete** – ICT’s Systems Administration group completed its upgrade of nine primary physical servers that are host to 215 virtual servers. The virtual servers support systems critical to NMSU’s mission, such as Banner SelfServe, Microsoft Exchange, SharePoint, Wordpress, and Cognos. The upgrade was completed without downtime or impact to any system or service.



- **Safety comes first** – FS Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) conducted an onsite inspection at Taos for the Room Rodeo Kick-off. EH&S checked the electric cords, cushion surrounding the activity, liability waiver, insurance certificate, and someone



had to test the mechanical bull for safe operations. Assistant EH&S Director, David Shearer, stayed on the bull for a short time, had fun and landed safely. This modernized Aggie tradition includes an activity review and inspection. There are approximately 90 safety reviews each year of Campus Activities that involve various types of events.

- **Improved ISO Rating for NMSU Fire Department** – FS FIRE received notification from the Insurance Services Office (ISO) on the results of our Public [Protection Classification \(PPC\)](#) survey, which was completed in 2013. The results from this report are generally regarded as the report card for a Fire Department. As part of the report, ISO grades the Fire Department, Emergency Reporting (Dispatch) and our water supply. This is **GREAT news for the NMSU community!** Our new rating rewards our efforts in risk reduction and continued efforts in making our community safer for students, faculty, staff and visitors.

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

- Assisted in hosting site visit and meeting where President received initial offer document from third party for potential development on NMSU campus.
- Aldershot review team meeting to occur April 8. At stake is future of the on campus greenhouses located in area of Arrowhead Research Park.
- Joined with Glen Haubold and others in traveling to Santa Fe to meet with representatives from DFA and Governor's office concerning the recent SBF action regarding the energy service contract and bond sale. The item has now been placed on April 15 SBF agenda for reconsideration.
- Action underway to assemble team to review potential gift of property to NMSU. First meeting to occur April 10.
- **Supporting upcoming Board of regents meetings now scheduled for:**
 - April 3
 - April 16 (Special)
 - May 9
 - July 22/23

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

- Dr. Bernadette Montoya and Valerie Pickett attended the Balfour Ring Workshop hosted by the Alumni Office. They learned about proactive measures to focus on why students come to NMSU and how we can support their affinity toward the institution. We look forward to our continued partnership with Alumni.
- Dr. Montoya also attended the Crimson and White Banquet. It was a wonderful celebration of the academic accomplishments of student athletes in this past year. It was a pleasure to visit with students about their dreams and plans and their passion for NMSU.
- SAEM offices, including the Dean of Students, Student Engagement, the Vice President's office, and the Counseling Center, are working toward the April implementation of the Campus SaVE Act for undergraduate and graduate students.

University Admissions, Ms. Valerie Pickett

- Admission Advisors conducted campus visits at local high schools, including Canutillo, Chaparral, Las Cruces, Oñate, and Santa Teresa. Dual Credit admissions and advising sessions were held at Oñate High School.
- Staff attended college fairs at UNM – Los Alamos, Clovis Community College, El Paso Community College, Gallup-McKinley Interagency Education, and Lynn Middle School. Staff attended the Graduate College Fair during the National Undergraduate Research Conference at the University of Kentucky.
- University Admissions hosted a Counselor’s Luncheon for high school counselors from Albuquerque. This annual luncheon gives the university an opportunity to thank counselors for their support and for encouraging students to consider NMSU.
- Group visits were conducted for the students in the AVID program at Manzano High School (Albuquerque) and in the CAMP program at Hatch High School.



Advisor
NMSU Outdoor Leadership Program
Students on Cumberland Island National Seashore.

University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services, Ms. Janie Merchant

- On March 21, Financial Aid and Scholarship Services held its annual Spring Training at the Las Cruces campus. Financial aid staff system-wide learned about on federal, state, and institutional changes for the upcoming academic and aid year. Dr. Montoya spoke on how best to adapt to change, and she won over the crowd with her soulful singing and guitar music.
- Financial Aid and Scholarship Services recently sent 3,457 emails to recipients of the New Mexico Legislative Lottery Scholarship, informing them of the changes to the program. The remaining funding for this year’s for Lottery Scholarship was posted to student accounts in March. Students with no University Accounts Receivable balance were credited with a refund; the funding was applied toward the balance for students who owed money.

Student Engagement, Dr. Terry Cook

- The 40th Annual Educators Job Fair was March 30–April 1 with participation by 110 candidates and approximately 50 school districts from 10 states.
- Dr. Anthony Marin, Director of Student Affairs, participated in the Inceptia Committee of Schools meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska. Members provided insight on how to help students persist and schools to improve retention and graduation rates.
- Dr. Marin and Brenda McCafferty, Strategic Director, and Mike Lubben, Vice President of Business Development from Inceptia, presented “Financial Stress: the Overwhelming Impact on Students” at New Mexico Association Financial Aid Administrators on March 26 in Santa Fe. Inceptia provides support and resources for higher education in federal compliance, financial aid management, repayment solutions, and financial education.
- Staff participated in the New Mexico/West Texas Association of Student Assistance Programs State Conference in Las Cruces at the Hotel Encanto.

Health and Wellness, Ms. Lori McKee

- NMSU Outdoor Leadership Program students traveled to Cumberland Island National Seashore off the coast of Georgia on March 21–28. The students learned skills in leadership,

communication, expedition behavior, and backpacking technical skills in addition to land management issues the island faces.

Student Life, Dr. Michael Jasek

- After three months of work, Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, and Multi-Greek Council introduced a new risk management plan to the chapters this week. This moves our Greek Community in closer alignment with national standards regarding their role and responsibilities to the greater campus community. The new plan requires Greek chapters to register all parties, mixers, and formals with Greek Affairs. As part of this plan, the chapters will follow the Fraternal Information & Programming Group guidelines on (BYOB), which limits the distribution, type, and amount of alcohol at a function.



Staff and students at the Festival of Colors during GLBTQ Awareness Week.

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

- Black Programs and the College of Engineering sponsored six African American students to attend the national conference for the National Society of Black Engineers in Nashville, Tennessee last month. The students networked and interviewed for jobs.
- On March 28 – 29, The American Indian Program, Indian Resource Development Program, and Office of Student Diversity sponsored "Border(ing) Indigeneity: Tortugas Pueblo, Genízaro, and Mexica Cultural Expressions," a symposium on Indo-Hispano culture and dance traditions. The symposium examined contemporary Indigenous experiences, realities, and ceremonial traditions in the Southwest. About 200 people attended the dances at Tortugas Pueblo.
- The Sexual & Gender Diversity Resource Center (SGDRC) held its Fifth Annual GLBTQ Awareness Week from March 31 to April 4, sponsored by ASNMSU, Stonewall QSA, Sodexo, and WAVE. Over 200 people attended the Festival of Colors on the first day of the week. Events included a film screening of "Hate! An American Love Story," a Drag Show, and the first-ever Queer Slam Poetry Competition.

Staff Highlights

- University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services is proud to announce that Michelle Fitzpatrick has been hired as Compliance Officer. Boasting 16 years of experience with NMSU Financial Aid, Fitzpatrick brings extensive knowledge of Title IV accounting, policies, and procedures to this position. One of her new responsibilities is to bring NMSU's federally required consumer information disclosures up to date.


Vice President Economic Development, Dr. Kevin Boberg

Arrowhead Research Park

- This week Arrowhead Research Park Executive Director Wayne Savage hosted Kim Murphy, recently retired from Lobo Development, for discussions on park development and financing. Mr. Savage held future tenancy discussions with three local companies and one from Albuquerque, two of which are pursuing Letters of Intent.

Intellectual Property Advisory Committee Meeting

- Arrowhead Center, Inc. recently held the first Intellectual Property Advisory Committee (IPAC) meeting for 2014. The mission of the IPAC is to evaluate and make recommendations concerning



NMSU Intellectual Property (IP) protection, to provide direction and guidance on IP disputes and ownership, to advise changes to IP policy and budget, and to actively promote the IP office. At the meeting, members of the committee reviewed the mission, goals, roles, scope of responsibilities, proposed meeting topics, member guidelines and presentation procedures. They also received updates on the intellectual property and commercialization metrics for the CY 2014. A NMSU faculty member presented a new technology to the committee for advisement and recommendation. The committee recommended provisional application filing for the technology. Since the meeting, Arrowhead Center, Inc. has followed through with the committee's recommendation and is in the process of preparing a provisional patent application for this technology. Arrowhead Center, Inc. has also prepared two new technologies and their inventors for presentation at the next IPAC meeting, to be held in May.

New Mexico Economic Development Summit

- April 1st through 3rd marked this year's New Mexico Economic Development Summit, hosted in Hobbs, NM by New Mexico IDEA and the Rural Alliance. The three day summit featured keynote speeches from Secretary Jon Barela (Economic Development Department) and Secretary Monique Jacobson (Tourism Department), as well as panel and roundtable discussions on statewide economic development issues. The event was attended by Arrowhead Center representatives, Zetdi Sloan and Jorge Ramos. This event offered training for community leaders and economic development professionals, the presentation of ideas to make economic development programs more effective, and many networking opportunities.

Vice President Research, Dr. Vimal Chaitanya

- Vimal Chaitanya met with candidates for the position of Director of OGC and named Alisha Giron, currently Assistant Director of OGC to be the next Director to replace retiring Neta Fernandez. Search committee consisted of Jeff Arterburn, Steve Stochaj, Sam Fernald, Sudha Murthy and Steve Hottman (Chair).
- Jason Jackiewicz from Astronomy Department was recognized at the research rally for his NSF early career award grant entitled, "New Constraints on the Solar Dynamo using Helioseismology."
- Pete Lammers presented a public lecture at the Las Cruces Museum of Science and Nature on March 27th. The talk was entitled, "Large-Scale Ecosystem Engineering with Algae" and covered new technology development for municipal wastewater treatment being developed by Lammers and the NMSU Professors Shuguang Deng and Nagamany Nirmalakhandan (College of Engineering), Professors Omar Holguin, Tanner Schaub and Wiebke Boing (College of Agriculture) and Wayne Van Voorhies (Molecular Biology).
- On March 31st, Shuguang Deng (P.I.), Nagamany Nirmalakhandan and Pete Lammers (Co-P.I.s) submitted a Concept Paper through College of Engineering for a DOE-EERE Financial Opportunity Announcement 0000974 Bioenergy Technologies Incubator.
- PSL received an additional \$10.8 million on the Colombia Scientific Balloon Facility contract.
- OGC finalized Teaming Agreement with University of Arizona.
- OGC is reviewing draft contract from the New Mexico Department of Transportation for David Jauregui.
- A new version of the Institutional Review Board application, *Maestro vivace (1.3)*, was released yesterday. As the release name implies, changes made will enhance application performance and speed.

- Sam Fernald met Jon Boren of Cooperative Extension Service (CES), Jeff Witte from the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA), and Vicente Vargas from the Office of Government Relations (OGR), and had conference calls with the Department of Finance Administration (DFA) regarding Acequia Education fund and possible NMSU involvement.
- Sam Fernald attended a NM WRRRI Program Development Review Board (PDRB) meeting to present update on legislative funding, expenditure plan, request for proposal (RFP) guidelines, and conference goals. PDRB attendees were from NMSU, UNM, NM Tech, Office of the State Engineer, NM Environment Department, and US Geological Survey.
- Sam Fernald had a conference call with Wayne Savage and Kathy Hansen regarding Arrowhead involvement in New Mexico Water X Prize.
- The VPR office recorded nearly 1,000,000 million dollars' worth of external research funding requests and \$372,000 in new awards for this week.

Interim Vice President University Advancement / Foundation Executive Director, Dr. Tina Byford

- NMSU Sports Enterprises, Inc. held a meeting to discuss the progress on the transfer to NMSU Athletics and review the February 28 financial reports and sponsorships.
- NMSU Foundation Audit Committee held a special conference call to review the IRS tax form 990s for NMSU Foundation and NMSU Sports Enterprises.
- I visited our Aggie Pride Call Center this week. Our callers are NMSU students from across campus. The Aggie Pride Call Center's goal is to connect our alumni, parents, and friends with current NMSU students and to help raise financial support for the university.
<http://foundation.nmsu.edu/s/422/giving-interior.aspx?sid=422&gid=1&pgid=2491>
- The historic, inaugural *2014 NMSUF Estate Planning Conference for Women* in Albuquerque presented week three of the four series conference. This special program is offered as a community service for area women with support from the NMSU Foundation, Kenneth C. Leach & Associates, and the NMSU Albuquerque Center.
- The NMSU Alumni Front Range Chapter (Denver) welcomed President Carruthers and 60 alumni and friends to a reception last Thursday. Gary Poling, '81, served as the chapter representative and emcee. A large contingent of young alumni in the Denver area attended and future chapter events are being coordinated for the Front Range Alumni Chapter under the leadership of Bill Meyers. Dr. Tammie Campos, Elaine Stachera, Dr. Andrea Tawney, and Dr. Steve Elias traveled to support this program.
- The NMSU Alumni Association, in partnership with Balfour, hosted an informational workshop on the Official NMSU Ring on Tuesday, April 1st which I attended. The purpose of the workshop was to exchange information to build a long-lasting NMSU Ring tradition. The workshop also provided information about best practice models for building student and alumni traditions. Campus partners involved included the NMSU Alumni Association, Dean of Students, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Admissions, Housing and Campus Life, ASNMSU, Auxiliary Services, Barnes and Noble, Corbett Center Student Union Programs, University Advancement, College of HSS, College of Business, and Athletics.



Vice President University Advancement / Foundation Executive Director, Ms. Cheryl Harrelson (Start date May 1)

Athletics Director, Dr. McKinley Boston, Jr.

- The annual signature academic celebration event for the department of athletics, the 25th Annual El Paso Electric Crimson & White Society Banquet, was held Tuesday, April 1st where 116 student-athletes; 25 percent of the student-athlete population, were honored for maintaining at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average. These student-athletes continue to exemplify what it means to be a student-athlete at NMSU as they press forward in becoming proud NMSU Alumni next month or in the very near future as well as continue their athletic endeavors in winning individual and or team conference championships.

Associate Vice President University Communications, Maureen Howard

- This week's Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted fruit specialist Shengrui Yao and her work to study 30 Chinese varieties of jujube fruit. Late frosts in northern New Mexico have a significant financial impact for fruit growers in the area. Fruit specialists at NMSU's Sustainable Agriculture Science Center at Alcalde have explored alternative crops that will thrive in the shorter growing season. One possibility is the jujube or Chinese date, which blooms later in the spring, thus missing the last dip in the thermometer for the season.
- This week's Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News focused the use of unmanned aircraft for research at the USDA Jornada Experimental Range; including the recent launch of a Bat 4 unmanned aircraft on a mission, flying through both military restricted airspace and the National Airspace System. This specific flight is one of a series that will monitor plant growth cycles for a USDA scientist studying vegetation response to climate. The scientist selects the flight dates in conjunction with satellite over-flights to compare the images.
- Larry Hincker, Associate VP for University Relations at Virginia Tech, visited with our team this week to discuss crisis communication. Hincker has served as the head of University Relations for Virginia Tech since 1989. Hincker was there in 2007 when mass murder occurred at Virginia Tech. Our colleagues from Dona Ana Community College, Las Cruces Public Schools and University of Texas El Paso joined us for the discussions with Larry Hincker.
- UCOMM Marketing Services team partnered with the Office of Admissions on a Spring Recruitment effort encouraging high school students in Deming to visit NMSU during spring break. Materials featured students from Deming who are currently enrolled at NMSU. Below is a sample poster.

Discover New Mexico State University Deming Days April 14-18

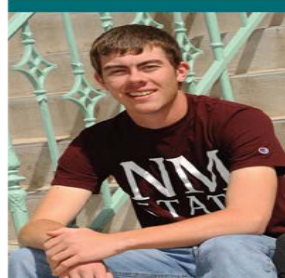
Your complete college experience is only an hour away! NMSU's beautiful campus is home to outstanding academic programs, supportive professors and great students.

SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR TODAY!

- Find out about admission and financial aid
- Meet with faculty and talk with current students
- Tour dorm rooms, dining and recreational facilities
- See classrooms and visit cutting-edge labs
- Set up a personal tour and meet faculty in your major

**APPLY DURING YOUR VISIT AND WE'LL
WAIVE THE APPLICATION FEE!**

Call 575-646-3123 or 800-662-6678. Email us at admissions@nmsu.edu or go to prospective.nmsu.edu for more information.



It's a great deal! NMSU

offers a quality education in a welcoming environment.

Plus, we're close to home.

**Tel Pickett
2013 Deming High School Graduate
NMSU Mechanical Engineering Major**


- Sports Information arranged a spring schedule for coaches to visit Radio of Las Cruces on a weekly basis. Head baseball coach Rocky Ward was the first to be interviewed. Various coaches will visit the radio station in the coming weeks.
- This week KRWG TV filmed several community members, including President Carruthers, reciting the Gettysburg Address. This will be used in conjunction with the airing later this month of Ken Burns documentary "The Address", which tells the story of a tiny school in Vermont where the students are encouraged to practice, memorize and recite the Gettysburg Address. In this effort, the students study the importance of President Lincoln's powerful address.
- KRWG staff went to Deming this week for a "coffee visit" with viewers and listeners. Many supporters came out to meet with our staff and discuss service to the area.

Assistant Vice President Government Relations, Ricardo Rel

No Activity to Report

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

- I attended the reception celebrating the 30th anniversary of St Clair Vineyards. NMDA works closely with St Clair and other wineries promoting a unique aspect of New Mexico Agriculture. It was a great turnout for a great New Mexico company.
- Staff attended the Western Plant Board annual conference. State Plant Regulatory Officials from nine western states and approximately 40 federal plant-pest related program managers participated in discussions and presentations that: impact funding of western plant pest survey and eradication programs; update status of economic invasive pests in western states; and updates on agricultural international and domestic trade issues. Of importance to New Mexico was the federal funding for the State Plant Pest Survey Coordinator's position within New Mexico Department of Agriculture. This position is secure for several years. Also discussed was the federal



plant-pest funding for specialty crops continue be transferred from Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey agreements to Farm Bill Based agreements, possible elimination of European corn borer quarantines, and reports from each state representative on how their state will address emerald ash borer once it is established in their state.

- NMDA staff attended an American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) gasoline training course that covers specifications, testing and technology. Participants will learn how gasoline and compositional variables affect engine performance, how to interpret test data to determine if gasoline meets required specifications and regulations and how quality is maintained throughout the distribution system. This course also covers octane blending equations, gasohol and other ethanol mixtures in gasoline and reformulated gasoline.
- Staff attended the Rural Government Work Session on the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act. Several presenters gave information to a diverse audience of landowners and county officials on the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act. The conversation concluded with a discussion of strategy for better engagement by counties in the process.
- Registration is now open for the much anticipated “AgriFuture” conference which will be held in Albuquerque May 12-14. There are already many people registered for this event and we anticipate a large attendance. This conference is targeting 18-40 year old individuals who are interested in a career in production agriculture.