



# New Mexico State University

## Weekly Activity Report

May 5 - 9, 2014

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

- Dean Morehead and gang visited regarding their efforts to become entrepreneurial by developing services in audiology and counseling in the new Arrowhead Park Medical Academy set to open in August of this year. I very much encourage Colleges and Departments to consider enterprises in which they meet a need in our community and/or state and offers our students some directed learning experiences while minimizing direct competition with the private sector.
- This is always a “happy” time of the year in that we celebrate the successes of our faculty, staff and students. I attended the reception for those who were tenured and/or promoted and once again admired the talent we have on this campus. Later in the week, I attended the Outstanding Graduating Student recognition luncheon where I am always amazed at the academic and service records of our graduates. Then, of course, there were the two graduation ceremonies with the most energy I have seen and felt since my returning to NMSU is 2003. These students and their families were revved up!
- I visited the Dr. Ma’s Gravity Lab to see a demonstration of a machine that can “leave you weightless”. It was particularly interesting that the briefing was given by a number of students who are working on the project. Gabby, a young woman from Juarez, was the spokesperson and also demonstrated the operation of the machine. This device is patented and will be further developed to be used for physical therapy for those who have been bed ridden and or injured and are just “getting back on their feet”. Spectacular! What a great learning experience for those students.
- The leadership of the Employee Council dropped by for a briefing on their activities. They are now committed to helping out with next year’s Founders Day. We also discussed the annual Employee Picnic and the recent Service Awards Ceremony which was interrupted twice by fire alarms but turned out to be a very good event. The Council will also continue to offer their forums on budget, legislative activity, and other issues of interest to all faculty and staff members.
- The Board of Regents meeting included briefings and approval of the adjusted budget for NMSU, the five year plan for capital outlay, as well as an excellent report by Vice President Kevin Boberg regarding the progress at Arrowhead Center, with a focus on innovation and the involvement of faculty and students in the incubation process.

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

Out on Annual Leave



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

- **An informational event to highlight NMSU's Graduate Programs with Peace Corps :** "Why Recruiting Peace Corps Volunteers Makes Dollars & Cents" was kicked off in April with a meeting of the coordinating committee made up of Drs. Mick O'Neill and John Mexal (Plant and Environmental Sciences) and Dr. Sue Forster-Cox (Public Health Sciences), invited speakers, and Peace Corps administrators with Dean Loui Reyes (Graduate School), Associate Provost Cornell Menking (International and Border Programs), and Provost Daniel Howard. Three sessions were held during the day to discuss the Peace Corps Paul D. Coverdell Fellows program and the Master's International (MI) program at NMSU in order to generate interest for their expansion across the whole campus. There was enthusiastic participation with a total of 47 participants from university administration, all colleges, Returning Peace Corp Volunteer faculty, PC Fellows and MIs, University Communications, and even administrators from the University of Texas at El Paso. The committee was successful in informing the Provost, Deans, Associate Deans, and Department Heads of the two Peace Corps programs. The committee was charged by the Provost to develop a proposal for an expanded Peace Corps program across all NMSU colleges. A link to the University Communications write-up of the day's activities can be found at: <http://newscenter.nmsu.edu/Articles/view/10290/nmsu-looks-to-expand-peace-corps-graduate-programs>
- **Animal and Range Sciences:** The 31st Annual NMSU Bull and Horse Sale was Saturday, April 26, at the NMSU Horse Farm. Twenty-seven bulls (Angus and Brangus) raised on the NMSU Ranches sold (average =\$3500 each) and 18 horses (average \$2100 each) sold on a very windy day. This was the highest average recorded for the bull sale. Attendees complimented the department on the professionalism of our students working the sale and also the quality of animals offered for sale. Students enrolled in at least 4 (more than 100 students) different courses participated in various elements of the sale, which provided excellent hands-on experience and also exposure to the beef and equine industries. We had buyers from Oregon to Chihuahua and Arizona to Texas.
- **ACES and the Department of Animal and Range Sciences** co-sponsored the Mutt Show. This was the premier Animal Services Center of Mesilla Valley adoption activity. Events included a variety of fun-filled dog shows open to the public. This is the first time this event has been held on the NMSU campus.
- **Dr. Tim Ross and Alejandra Lerma (pre-vet student)** attended the Las Cruces Mesilla Valley Rotary Club to talk about the Faculty-Led international Program (FLiP) course titled "Wildlife Medicine and Conservation in the Tropics: Belize". Kristi Drexler, FLiP Coordinator, made the course possible.
- **Dr. Stuart Munson-McGee** (Family and Consumer Sciences) was elected Chair of the Faculty Senate for 2014-2015. He served as Vice Chair in 2013-2014, and Chair in 2012-2013.

- **ACES eight academic departments** held their own receptions for graduating seniors and graduate students and their families on Thursday evening or Friday afternoon, May 8 and 9.
- **ACES inducted 120 of its graduates into the Sam Steel Society** at its 43<sup>rd</sup> Induction Ceremony on Friday afternoon May 9. The Sam Steel Society was formed in 1992 to bond our College “family” more closely. The Sam Steel Ceremony honors each graduating class from the College of ACES in anticipation of the contributions they will make to society. It also recognizes family members who have supported them in their journey to and through our college. The Society is named for an outstanding young man who, except for a sudden tragedy, would have been the first college graduate in the New Mexico Territory. He is also recognized by Sam Steel Way, the road along the southern edge of campus

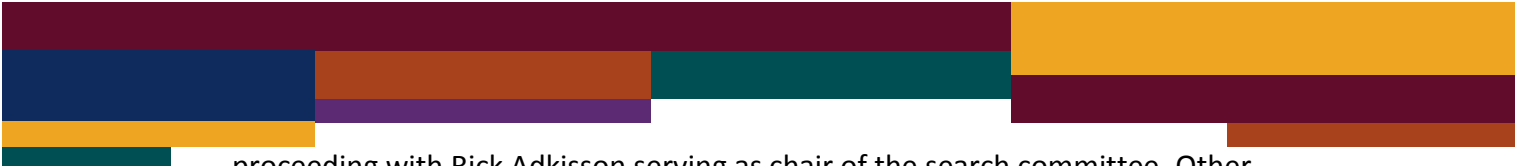
### **Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Christa Slaton**

Out on Annual Leave

### **Interim Dean, College of Business, Dr. Kathleen Brook**

Congratulations to:

- Paul Hamilton, College of Business staff member, on winning the Regents Above and Beyond Award, presented at the Regents meeting on May 9. Paul does a great job keeping the technology in the college updated and running smoothly.
- Mike Hyman (Marketing) on being recognized by the University Research Council Distinguished Career Award.
- Bruce Huhmann (Marketing) and Linda and O.C. Ferrell of UNM on a terrific workshop on Teaching Business Ethics. Weather conditions prevented several speakers from arriving in Santa Fe, including Linda Childears, the director of the Daniels Fund, but there was good participation by NMSU and the program was quite interesting with presentationa by Weston Smith, formerly of HealthSouth, Dan LeClair, COO of AACSB International, and Ann Nobles, retired ethics officer at Eli Lilly among others.
- Michael Hallock (Information Systems), outstanding graduating senior from the College of Business, honored by the Alumni Association. Thanks to Liz Ellis for attending in my place while I was in Santa Fe.
- Caitlin Tharinger (Marketing), the College of Business graduate earning highest honors.
- Katie Salas, Business Living Learning Community peer advisor, on being recognized as outstanding LLC staff member.
- All faculty and staff in the college on completion of another successful academic year.
- In consultation with the provost and in accordance with the college’s process for filling department head vacancies, I met with the Finance Department to discuss the vacancy created by Liz Ellis’ move to the University General Counsel position. The department indicated a preference for an internal search and that search is now



proceeding with Rick Adkisson serving as chair of the search committee. Other searches to be completed soon are for a development officer (filling Courtney Lopez's position) and an accountant (filling Kathy Crawford's position).


- The college hosted a reception honoring Dennis Clason (Applied Statistics) on his retirement – along with Kathy Crawford (Dean's Office) and Pookie Sautter (Marketing) in absentia.
- Assistant Dean Anthony Casaus recently attended the HRTM 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary wine and dinner event at the Bobby Lee Lawrence Academy of Wine and Café West 100 as well as the meeting of the HRTM advisory board.
- Students in Michelle Jasso's promotional marketing class (MKTG 449) were tasked in January with creating recruitment videos promoting NMSU's All About Discovery theme. View all of the student teams' videos on the College of Business YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/nmsubusinesscollege>.

### **Dean, College of Education, Dr. Michael Morehead**

- This is a wonderful week for the college and university because we have the privilege of celebrating the accomplishments of our students as they graduate and move on to the next phase of their lives. Dean Morehead did the welcoming and closing remarks for the Deans Academic Awards, which recognizes the top two graduates in each of the college's undergraduate programs. This year we recognized twelve individuals and the outstanding senior at that reception. In addition Dr. Morehead welcomed and did the closing remarks for the college's Dean's Doctoral Tea which has been a tradition for over 12 years. At this reception we recognize the individuals receiving a doctoral degree, this year we recognized 16 doctoral candidates who attended the reception. Each graduate is introduced by their dissertation chair and then the graduates say a few words about their experience. The week also included a meeting with the president, provost and Arrowhead staff to discuss the College of Education Economic Enterprise. At this meeting the college received the go ahead from the president to continue. Legal council will assist in getting additional information for this endeavor. The dean's in the college met to discuss the Mercer allocations which again this year and determined to add some additional college dollars to the distribution. Dean Morehead also met with four candidates for the ELA department position and is expecting feedback next week on the potential candidates. Dean Morehead then presented at the Foundation Board in Santa Fe about the college, at that meeting Dean Morehead met with several donors to discuss future plans.

### **Jonathan Schwartz, Associate Dean for Research**

- The Associate Dean for Research and Outreach attended meetings regarding market salary adjustments. He also interviewed candidates for an Educational Leadership faculty position, and organized a meeting in Albuquerque regarding a collaboration with UNM faculty. Dr. Schwartz also attended multiple meetings regarding the College of Education Economic Enterprise, and was the guest speaker at the Upward Bound/Student Success Services joint graduation celebration. He then ended the



week by facilitating the Alliance internal meeting, and attended the Associate Deans of Research Committee meeting and chaired a dissertation defense.

**Gladys De Necochea, Assistant Dean for Budget & Planning**

- On Friday, May 9 the College of Education held a reception to recognize undergraduate degree recipients of the Outstanding Senior and Dean's Academic Awards. Dr. Gladys De Necochea presented the 12 honorees to including the highest honors student and the Outstanding Senior/Denise Briggs Award.

**Michelle Valverde, Director for Alliance & BoCES**

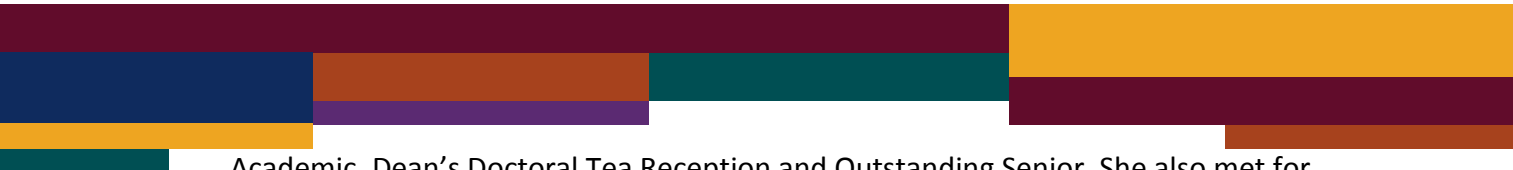
- This week we held the monthly Internal Advisory Committee meeting for the Alliance and she started working on the required paperwork for the RPSP FY16 request. Michelle also met with Dean Morehead and Dr. Schwartz to discuss the funding request for next year and preliminary findings from the needs assessment with the Alliance superintendents. She then facilitated a meeting between a doctoral student in C&I and CEP and two non-profit agency directors in preparation for the youth leadership conference scheduled for June 27 & 28. Plans were finalized for a meeting on May 15 with the Associate Superintendent of the Cobre Consolidated School District, progress was achieved toward completing the annual Alliance needs assessment, and preparations were made for the monthly BoCES advisory committee meeting.

**Ashley Jurado, Student Program Coordinator**

- Ashley is continuing to finalize all paperwork for the Aggie Cornerstone Award. She submitted all Foundation Vouchers to pay all the vendors who provided a service to the dinner. Ashley also processed the SPED/CD grants for graduate students for their summer and fall awards. She met with Julie Hughes on Tuesday, May 6 for their monthly meeting regarding upcoming stories, projects and events that UCOMM will be covering for the college. Ashley also coordinated the Student Ambassador end of the year BBQ, where she and Adelina recognized their seniors who will be graduating next year. The college will have four student ambassadors graduating, and we thanked them for their service with a lapel pin and a graduation cord to wear with their regalia. This week Ashley also posted all the recent photos from various events from the college's departments on the website and on social media. She ended the week with setting up, greeting guests and coordinating all the guest speakers and presenters for our end of the semester events for the College of Education. Ashley and Kimberly both hosted the Dean's Academic Award where we recognize the top undergraduate students who are graduating. These students are recognized individually, and are presented with a personalized glass plaque by the Dean. That afternoon, Ashley and Kimberly also hosted the Dean's Doctoral Tea where the Dean recognized 16 doctoral students who are graduating this semester. These students are recognized with a personalized "Lamp of Knowledge" medallion and are presented to them by their dissertation chair and the Dean.

**Adelina Rodriguez, Student Program Coordinator**

- Adelina finalized the details for both Dean's Academic and Dean's Doctoral Tea Reception. Letters with award were sent to students who will not be participating at the events. She updated the website with Spring 2014 recipient names for Dean's

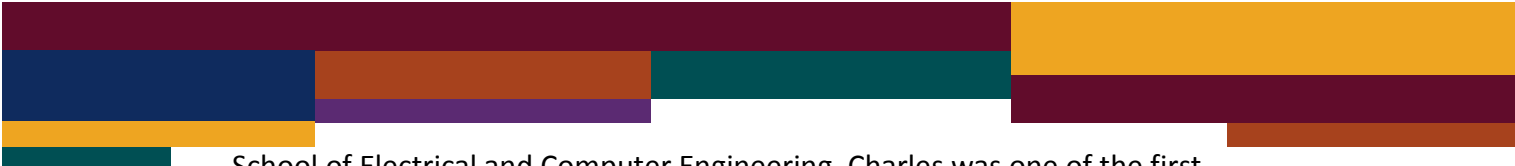


Academic, Dean's Doctoral Tea Reception and Outstanding Senior. She also met for the last time this semester with Education Council. All positions are filled for the 2014-15 academic year for the Executive Board except for Treasurer. Identified one of the recipients of the NMCEL scholarship as a prospective student and sent her a letter with some College of Education novelty items. Adelina also drafted an appreciation letter for our CEP 199 mentors.

### **Dean, College of Engineering, Dr. Ricardo Jacquez**

- Mechanical Engineering Technology students presented their 2014 spring capstone projects. The projects were the result of a collaboration with industry partners and the NMSU Arrowhead Center to bring real-world projects into the engineering capstone curriculum. Led by faculty members, Anthony Hyde and Luke Nogales student teams spent the semester developing prototypes and process mechanization/automation solutions to a series of industry challenges. One project helped a local entrepreneur enhance a prototype design for a drought ring that will reduce water requirements during early stages of plant growth. Another worked with a new company incubated within Arrowhead Center, 35 Solar, to create a dip-coater for applying thin film coatings from a proprietary process that was licensed from LANL. A desalination prototype design concept was also validated for a local entrepreneur by developing the actual prototype and tested using low-cost heat sources. Lastly, a group of students worked with Albuquerque-based Bueno Foods to identify a proprietary process that will enable the company to further improve the quality of a signature product which will be implemented this summer with assistance of NMSU engineering interns.
- The Engineering New Mexico Resource Network in collaboration with Arrowhead Center has finalized a Licensing Agreement for an educational outreach curriculum developed by engineering professor, Thomas Jenkins, and piloted in partnership with the NMSU Cooperative Extension Service and the Corona Range and Livestock Research Center. The Solar Water Pumping Design Specifications Spreadsheet and all associated user manuals and materials has been licensed to Montana State University and the University of Wyoming for dissemination to agricultural producers across the country under the E<sup>3</sup>A (Exploring Energy Efficiency and Alternatives) curriculum. The E<sup>3</sup>A curriculum is an extension teaching resource for non-biased, research-based information on energy efficiency and small renewable energy technologies for home, farm and ranch. Offered locally by the NMSU Cooperative Extension Service, E<sup>3</sup>A is a self-guided, self-contained toolkit of resources designed to be a teaching tool for natural resource professionals.
- The College of Engineering celebrated a new graduate student endowment with a gift in the amount of \$25,000 from alumnus, William Charles and his wife Patricia by hosting the couple to a tour of the college and visits with faculty and students. The new endowment will be augmented by future gifts that will bring the endowment to \$50,000 in three years. The gift will support a graduate fellowship for students participating in the Electric Utility Management Program (EUMP) in the Klipsch





School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Charles was one of the first graduates of the EUMP program in the late 1960s. He retired from Shell Oil where he oversaw the company's internal electric generation and distribution system.

- Program Coordinator Tracey O'Neil attended the three-day RoboRAVE in Albuquerque as a representative from New Mexico State University. RoboRAVE consisted of several different competitions for students in elementary school through college. The event boasted over 300 teams from all over the world with more than 1,000 students in attendance. While there, O'Neil met with several parents, teachers, school administrators and students who had expressed interest in getting involved in other robotics competitions in New Mexico. O'Neil also made contact with the RoboRAVE audience along with the RoboRAVE steering committee on further development of robotics and STEM initiatives in New Mexico.

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

- The College held its Spring Assembly on May 2. Associate Provost Greg Fant provided a musical interlude. The following received awards: Research, Dr. Rebecca Palacios, Public Health, Teaching, Dr. Maria Gurrola, Social Work, Faculty Service, Chuck Kozel, Public Health, and Staff Service, Kim Hill, Nursing.
- School of Nursing's faculty Teresa Leon, June Vermillion, and John Scarbrough along with 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> semester students attended an education and screening session, Memorial Medical Center's Cardiovascular Event held on April 25.
- Students from Nursing were recognized recently in the Las Cruces Sun News for their work in local public schools.
- Nursing held its Recognition Ceremony honoring graduating students and outstanding faculty on Friday, May 9. Dr. Anita Reinhardt received the Hancock Excellence in Teaching Award.
- Sigma Theta Tau, Nursing's student chapter, celebrated its newly inducted in a ceremony held on May 8.
- Public Health's Dr. Jill McDonald and JA, Mojarro O, Sutton PD, Ventura SJ had a paper published this week in Maternal and Child Health Journal (MCHJ), *Cesarean Birth in the Border Region: A Descriptive Analysis Based on US Hispanic and Mexican Birth Certificates*, available at: <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10995-014-1501-4>
- Dr. Joe Tomaka, Associate Dean for Research organized a meeting with Dr. Joe Sharkey, Dr. Rebecca Palacios, Bea Favela, Southern Area Health Education Center, and Dr. Maria Gurrola from the Department of Health Promotion and Community Health Sciences at Texas A&M Health Science Center. Sharkey is interested in collaborating with NMSU on a multisite grant submission under the USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program. Sharkey also gave a colloquium as part of his visit.



### **Dean, Graduate School, Dr. Loui Reyes**

- The Graduate School held its Graduate Honors Ceremony, Wednesday, May 7, 2014. The event recognized doctoral and masters students' academic milestone of a cumulative grade point average of 4.0. Participating in the honors program were 57 graduate students. Dean *ad interim* Reyes keynote speech included the following words: "This evening the graduate students that we will honor, have already honored us with their love of learning. Graduate Honorees, you have impressed us since submitting your admission application to New Mexico State University; and you continued to amaze us with your academic progress and accomplishment." "Before we start to recognize our honor graduates, I would like to dare each one of them echoing the words of Tom Brokaw. Graduates, "You are educated. Your certification is in your degree. You may think of it as the ticket to the good life. Let me ask you to think of an alternative. Think of it as your ticket to change the world." "Congratulations again on your impressive academic achievements, and all you do to strengthen our university."

### **Dean, Honors College, Dr. William Eamon**

- Dean Eamon and Valerie Torres met with Amanda Bradford to discuss upcoming events.
- The Honors College staff planned and hosted the Graduation Recognition ceremony and reception on May 8.
- Dean Eamon attending the A&S student awards ceremony.
- Dean Eamon represented the Honors College at the Spring graduation ceremony.

### **Dean, University Library, Dr. Elizabeth Titus**

- NMSU Library received notification this week that it has received an award of \$5000 from the United States Agriculture Information Network (USAIN) Project Ceres for a proposal to digitize NMSU's Agricultural Extension Service's special reports, extension leaflets, and selected serials. Cindy Watkins, Associate Professor at NMSU Library will be the principle investigator on this project.
- Interviews with three candidates for filling two faculty positions (assessment and data management librarian and special collections librarian) were done this week.
- The Dean and Associate Dean met with the project manager for a BRR funded Specialized Study Spaces (group study rooms, presentation room, and individualized research study carrels) project that is in progress.
- The Dean attended a reception to honor newly promoted and tenured faculty at Stan Fulton Center and introduced a member of NMSU Library faculty who was tenured and promoted this year.
- The Dean was a member of the 2014 platform party for both the morning and afternoon NMSU graduation ceremonies held at the Pan Am Center.

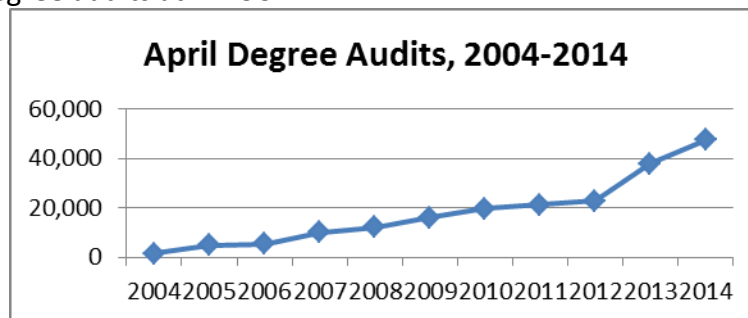


### Associate Provost, International and Border Program, Dr. Cornell Menking

- The Office of Education Abroad hosted a consultant from St. Olaf College, Helene McCallum, to review NMSU’s risk management policies and procedures as they relate to education abroad. The visit was extremely productive with many concrete ideas for improvement.
- Cornell H. Menking travelled to Mexico City to participate in the Foro Bilateral Sobre Educación Superior, Innovación e Investigación (FOBESSI) held at UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico) Tlatelolco. The themes of this gathering were Language Acquisition and academic mobility. This was the fourth in a series of forums to foster deeper collaboration between Mexico and the U.S. in order to achieve the goals set by Presidents Obama and Nieto to attract 100,000 Mexicans into U.S. universities, and send 50,000 U.S. students to Mexico. Currently only 14,000 Mexicans study in the U.S. – 9% of which study at UTEP alone.

### Senior Vice President Administration and Finance, Angela Throneberry

- **Number of Degree Audits Hits All-time High** – Using the STudent Audit Requirement system (STARs), NMSU students completed 47,455 degree audits in April, exceeding the previous April total by over 10,000 audits and setting an all-time record for monthly degree audits at NMSU.



- **Golf Course** – The irrigation project is in its final stages and will finish this week. The project will now move to the practice putting greens and the golf team practice area adjacent to hole #1. The maintenance crew will now start repairing the greens and in so doing will be cutting sod from the football stadium starting next week. The lake on hole #6 has been reshaped which we feel will make it more attractive and a little more user friendly.
- **Microsoft’s Windows Campus Tour a Success** – Windows Campus Tour was once again in Las Cruces for its annual visit to NMSU. The Tour landed in Corbett Center where Tour representatives talked with students about products, such as the new Windows 8-Intel tablets in 4G and LTE versions, their suite of services, and student discounts. Students who stopped by participated in demos and received gift bags with t-shirts and sunglasses. Microsoft topped off its visit by giving away a tablet computer and a gift card to a couple of lucky Aggies. Thank you, Microsoft, for your support of NMSU students!
- **NMSU Operating Budgets for FY2014-2015 Approved** – The Operating Budgets for all NMSU Campuses are required to be submitted to the NM Higher Education

Department each year by May 1 along with the Final Budget Adjustment Requests for the current fiscal year. Both items were submitted on May 1 to the NMHED and were approved by the Board of Regents on Friday, May 9 at their regular scheduled meeting.

- **Jacobs Hall Project Update** – The asbestos abatement has been completed at Jacobs Hall and the Demolition work has begun. The Demolition Contract was awarded to



Southwest Hazard Control. The interior demolition began on 4/21/2014 and the major structural demolition is to begin Friday May 9, 2014. The building is scheduled to be completely gone by June 5, 2014. The contractor will limit debris removal to the weekends to minimize traffic interruptions. Materials are being separated and

salvaged to support our sustainability efforts and LEED credits.

- **ICT Technology Support Technician takes home the “A” Mountain Staff award** – The NMSU Employee Council awarded ICT’s Alan Lambeth the “A” Mountain Staff award at NMSU’s Service Awards. The award recognizes employees who epitomize integrity, dedication, skill, endurance, resilience, determination and passion. Certainly, Alan is all that and more at ICT. He’s especially known as a “customer first” employee who goes above and beyond in his job at NMSU. WTG, Alan!
- **Water Saving Challenge** - The manager of the Office of Sustainability, Joni newcomer, spoke to Science and Technology Outreach & Research (STEM) students from the Arrowhead Center “Innoventure” competition about the eleven sustainability initiatives focusing on the water aspects of each. The team was challenged to create an innovative device which will reduce the amount of water used in an industry or activity without significant impact.
- **ICT staffer to participate in Golden Apple Scholars Program** – Melanie Blanchette, ICT computer operator aide, has been selected to participate in the Golden Apple Scholars Program. The program, whose scholar participants are recruited from New Mexico colleges of education, is designed to enhance the preparation and induction of future teachers. During the summer, scholars are mentored by Golden Apple Award-winning teachers and professional developers who prepare them for success in college and in their teaching careers. Great job, Melanie!
- **External Auditors Selected for FY2014 Audit** - On April 15, the Regents’ Audit Committee approved for Moss-Adams to serve as the university’s independent public accounting firm to perform the annual financial and compliance audit for NMSU. For fiscal year 2014, the audit will be conducted as a joint venture by the Office of the State Auditor and Moss-Adams. The fully executed contract for Audit Services was received from the Office of the State Auditor on May 7. Under the contract, Moss-Adams will perform 55% of the audit while the OSA performs 45%.

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

No Activity to Report

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

- Dr. Bernadette Montoya introduced incoming ASNMSU elected leadership at the Board of Regents meeting on May 9. The Board of Regents welcomed Wesley Jackson, incoming President and Jeremy Witte, incoming Vice President.
- NMSU campus welcomed over 1,600 graduates plus their friends and family on May 10 at morning and afternoon commencement ceremonies. Staff from Colleges, Facilities and Services, the President's Office, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, and many other offices helped make the ceremonies a big success.
- This week's end of the academic year saw many celebrations. Dr. Montoya was participated in those for the Advancing Leaders Program, the Hispanic Faculty and Staff Caucus, and the Alumni Association's Outstanding Graduate Lunch.
- On Wednesday, Dr. Montoya spoke at the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Roberts Memorial Student Awards Reception. Kyia Lynn Lively and Michaela Hulder were recognized for their work in serving students at NMSU. This award was established in 1983 by George Roberts, former NMSU assistant vice president for business affairs, and his wife, Bernice Roberts, in honor of their sons, Stephen W. and Robert Roberts.



Start of the morning Commencement Ceremony.

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

- The recruitment staff called over 1,100 students admitted for Fall 2014 to encourage them to enroll at NMSU and sign up for a New Student Registration and Orientation program.
- Recruiters visited high schools in Cuba, Farmington, Bloomfield, and Las Vegas.
- Brett Newcomer, Admissions Advisor, attended the Las Cruces Public School 90% Attendance awards ceremony; Valerie Pickett attended the Centennial High School Senior Awards program to present over \$400,000 in scholarship awards.
- Delia De Leon, Associate Admissions Advisor, attended the Rocky Mountain Association for College Admissions Counseling regional meeting and met with high school counselors from New Mexico, Colorado, and Wyoming.

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

- For the academic year, Financial Aid and Scholarship Services has awarded nearly \$160 million to NMSU students system-wide to attend school. The three largest sources of this aid are Pell Grants (\$47.2 million), federal student loans (\$64 million), and the New Mexico Legislative Lottery Scholarship (\$18.9 million).

### **University Registrar**

- To get notices of scholarship awards to students more quickly, the Scholar Dollar\$ system will now send an email to department heads, financial managers, deans, and other approvers when scholarship awards are awaiting approval. A reminder will also be send to scholarship coordinator when the award is ready to post in Banner.

- To ensure compliance with new federal guidelines, Student Information Management devised a system to note that students signed up for face-to-face New Student Orientation Sessions attended the NMSU Respects session. This session in part of our compliance with a federal law now requires that incoming students understand their rights and responsibilities regarding domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

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

- On May 2, the American Indian Program and Councilor Nathan Small toured the proposed Organ Mountains–Desert Peaks National Monument with tribal leaders from Tesuque, Cochiti, Jemez, and Ysleta del Sur Pueblos, and the Fort Sill Apache Tribe.
- Also on May 2, the Sexual & Gender Diversity Resource Center held its Ninth Biannual Lavender Graduation ceremony. Ryan Garcia, former SGDRC employee, and Derek Beckford, current SGDRC employee, received the Christina Chavez Kelley Award for Excellence in Service.
- On May 6, Jessica Spohn, Coordinator for the SGDRC, met with students and staff from NMSU's Clinical Psychology Program, and Counseling Center to discuss transgender awareness and visibility on campus. Also on May 6, the SGDRC and Stonewall QSA hosted the Las Cruces "Transgender Know Your Rights Training Roadshow". The training was co-sponsored by the ACLU, Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico, and Southwest Women's Law Center.



The American Indian Program and Indian Resource Development Program hosted visiting staff and prospective students on May 2.



On May 2, Laura Gutierrez Spencer and Adan Delval of Chicano Programs and Admissions addressed an audience about 45 students from the Phoenix Collegiate Academy in Arizona. The students toured campus and spoke with current NMSU students.

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

- At its meeting on May 9, 2014, the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University approved Amendment Four to the Master Ground Lease with Arrowhead Center Incorporated for the Arrowhead Business and Research Park. The Park—with more than \$36 million of capital invested since first leased to Arrowhead and now home to 160 employees—needs to expand. The amendment, under consideration for many months, extends the northeast boundary of the Park to Wells and Triviz.



## Innoventure

- Innoventure held its final competition at NMSU. More than 40 teams from middle and high schools around the state participated in this year's competition. Each team was challenged to develop a business model, marketing plan, and a prototype for an innovation that addresses water conservation issues. The overall winning team for the Middle School division was Pulse, from PR Leyva Middle School in Carlsbad. The overall winning team for the High School Division was Waterfall, from Goddard High School in Roswell. The teams that won first place received a touch-screen laptop and in addition the high school team members received a \$350 scholarship to NMSU.

## Studio G

- On Sunday, Studio G client Lorenzo Stanton launched his new app HallTalk. This app allows users to post disappearing pictures, looping videos and content to friends and hashtags. As Lorenzo describes it "I believe this is a new demographic of users with new opportunities. This [app] is to Snapchat what Twitter is to Facebook." Throughout the development process Lorenzo received weekly advice from one of Studio G's top Enterprise Advisors, Scott Maloney, to help with the launch and marketing of HallTalk. HallTalk is available for free download on the [Apple App Store](#).

## Technology Incubator

- OneEighty, a startup company launched from Arrowhead Center's Technology Incubator, has expanded their business into the realm of event ticket sales. OneEighty, initially launched earlier this year, is a no-charge membership club that provides users in the Las Cruces area with promotional offers and deals from local business via text message. Now they also include general admission tickets to local events as a product, with their first tickets sales offered a few weeks ago for the Las Cruces Country Music Festival.

## Vice President Research, Dr. Vimal Chaitanya

- Vimal Chaitanya attended the state-wide EPSCoR committee meeting in Albuquerque where year-end progress of the six technical areas was reviewed. NMSU led algal biofuels effort had the most measurable output. Presentation was also made on the State's S&T plan.
- Vimal Chaitanya met with Casey DeRaad, chief of technology outreach, Air Force Research Lab in Las Cruces to discuss current and future partnerships and state-wide collaboration in areas of mutual interest.
- NASA Kennedy Space Center will be on campus from September 23-25, 2014 for NASA days at NMSU. More information will be forthcoming.
- A Space Grant Student Launch Institute will be held from July 20-24, 2014. The purpose of this Institute is to create the pipeline of student experiments going to space. Middle school, high school, community college and university faculty will participate.
- Two separate proposals in the amount of about 2.6M each (over 5 years) to the U. S. Department of Education on behalf the Student Engagement, Student Affairs &



Enrollment Management Office as well as NMSU-Carlsbad. The funding opportunity was in support of Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Title V.

- The NM WRRRI has scheduled its 59<sup>th</sup> Annual New Mexico Water Conference for November 18-19, 2014 in Santa Fe. The conference is expected to attract about 350 participants and will focus on initiatives supported by the 2014 New Mexico State Legislature including the development of a statewide water budget.
- A Statewide Water Budget Steering Committee, directed by the NM WRRRI, met and plans are underway to implement short and long term goals associated with a statewide water budget.
- A list of NMSU faculty and staff involved in the water-related efforts and the graduate program in Water Sciences and Management was updated. Sixty-seven faculty and 19 professional staff were identified in a broad range of academic disciplines with an expansive variety of water research interests.

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

- Received a new Endowment for NMSU Athletics, funded by a testamentary gift (\$500,000, Revocable, for NMSU Athletics)
- Finalized distribution of The Leland Gile Estate (deceased 2009) received: \$292,564.04 for benefit of Dora Blossom Gile Endowments in ACES, A&S and Library. Special thanks to Personal Representative Dr. Curtis Monger (ACES), and our Gift Officers for exemplary teamwork in cultivating the Legacy gift from a most inspiring Aggie, and stewarding the estate closing: Ann Palormo, Debbie Widger, Kristina Martinez, Terra Winter, April Anaya. The estate gift totaled over \$653,000 dollars.
- C4CR (Cowboys for Cancer Research) Check Presentation is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 15, 2014, at NMSU Alumni Center
- Attended a successful NMSU Alumni Association Outstanding Graduates Luncheon on May 10, 2014. Congratulations to the following Outstanding Graduates:

**College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences**

Lyndi Owensby  
Animal Science

**College of Business**

Michael John Hallock III  
Information Systems

**College of Engineering**

Sam Pedrotty  
Aerospace Engineering

**Graduate School, Master's Degree**

Briana Bianco  
Anthropology

**International and Border Programs**

Diana Konchalski  
Chemical Engineering

**College of Arts and Sciences**

Justine deGruyter  
Chemistry

**College of Education**

Leslie Maria Guzman  
Communication Disorders

**College of Health and Social Services**

Darlene Ortiz  
Social Work

**Graduate School, Ph.D.**

Gholamali (Ali) Rahnavard  
Computer Science


**AMERICAN INDIAN PROGRAM**

Corinna Sabaque  
Community Health

**Alamogordo Community College**

William R. Hanna  
Humanities, Social Sciences & Education Division

Lindsey Cox  
Mathematics, Science, Business & Technologies Division



Alaric J. Kimmel  
Occupations, Technologies & Fine Arts Division

**Carlsbad Community College**

Matthew Yberra  
Associate of Science

Jon Blackmon  
Criminal Justice

Megan Lilley  
Nursing/EMT/Allied Health and Wellness

Beatriz Martinez  
Information and Communication Technology

Michelle Smith  
Education

Cristina Vega  
Social Science

Jie Tang  
Pre-Business

**Dona Ana Community College**

Tamara Wilcort  
Technical and Industrial Studies Division

Perla Tovar  
College Business and Information Systems Division

Cristina Aguirre  
Health and Public Services Division

Donna Farmer  
College General Studies Division

**Grants Community College**

Nenderle Hogue  
Associate of Arts

Kelly Beym  
Associate of Applied Science

Sky Maslowski  
Associate of General Studies


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

- We held our monthly Athletic Council Meeting on Monday, May 5. Professor Kevin Melendrez called the meeting to order to discuss the newly proposed Division 1 Governance Model, the NMSU Student-Athlete Advisory Board year end celebration and the athletic departments proposed adoption of an NCAA Model policy to prevent inappropriate relationships between student-athletes and athletic department personnel.
- I attended the Fiesta Bowl Spring Summit Fiesta Frolic, an event that includes all 106 division one athletic directors and football coaches. In addition to networking, there are opportunities to discuss scheduling of future football games and in our case, spend time with Sun Belt AD's discussing membership issues.

### **Student Development /Academic Support –James Hall, Associate AD**

- Student-athletes were busy this week in the Academic Center, Library and other study locations around campus as they prepared for final examination and for some taking their last test as they prepare for graduation commencement Saturday.
- Athletic Capital Outlay Projects:  
The Coca-Cola Weight-Room Renovation and Aggie Memorial Synthetic Turf projects got started this week. All weight equipment was removed from the Coca-Cola Weight Room Center and the carpet was pulled up to make way for new and refurbished equipment and a new Mondo floor. The project completion date is set for Wednesday, May 28. The Aggie Memorial Synthetic Turf project is also underway






with preliminary prep work beginning for the field to be taken out and digging to begin early next week.

- Very proud to announce Mike O’Larey, Head Athletic Trainer at NMSU for the past 21 years was honored with the Rocky Mountain Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award. Mike’s passion, dedication, commitment and affinity to New Mexico State University, department of athletics, Athletic Training and most importantly, the quality health treatment for our student-athletes is the reason for the recognition.
- It was truly a pleasure once again to celebrate the number one goal of 50 of our student-athletes; graduation and becoming proud alumni of NMSU Spring Commencement 2014!!! With the generous donation from Dr. Sean and Dr. Carmen Rogers (Faculty -College of Business and Director of Academic Services for Student-Athletes) the athletic department hosted a reception from 4 pm to 7 pm Friday, May 9 at the Fulton Athletic Center 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Bistro at the Danny Villanueva Victory Club for graduating student-athletes and their families. The program was emceed by James Hall, Associate Athletics Director and Dr. Boston (Athletic Director) provided a thank you and congratulatory speech for the graduates. Also in attendance was Mallory Driggers, to let the graduates know they will always be connected to NMSU through the Alumni Association and of course AGGIES! Each graduate was recognized individually and coaches, friends and family were given an opportunity to speak on behalf of each student-athlete. In addition each student-athlete received a special Student-Athlete sash to wear when they walked across the stage to receive their degree. Parents and students alike were very complimentary about the event.

### **Associate Vice President University Communications, Maureen Howard**

- This week’s Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News focused on the physics department acquiring new instrumentation through DOD funding. A team of faculty led by Professor Stefan Zollner has received a grant of about \$300,000 for the acquisition of a high-resolution, high-intensity X-ray diffractometer and reflectometer. The grant was awarded through the Army Research Office from the Department of Defense Research and Education Program.
- KRWG Executive Director Glen Cerny was named to the National Educational Telecommunication Association (NETA) Executive Board. This is one of the four public media national organizations that will help form policy and the future direction of the industry. The two-year term will commence on July 1.
- KRWG welcomed a new reporter, Simon Thompson. He comes to us from the University of Indiana and their NPR station. He has already begun filing and airing reports. His most notable story is a segment on LCPS and their effort to comply with Common Core curriculum.
- Darrell Pehr, Director of News, attended a workshop on the Mescalero Apache Reservation that is helping to establish a community garden for tribal members. Situated in an open space at the Mescalero Tribal Fish Hatchery, the community garden is intended to create awareness of the importance of nutritious food and to make nutritious food more easily available to the community. Working with the



Sovereign Nations Service Corps and Americorps, representatives from NMSU's Cooperative Extension Service are offering research-based knowledge to assist in the project, including a hands-on workshop led by NMSU agriculture specialist Del Jimenez May 6-8 to construct a "hoop house" style greenhouse for the community garden. We plan to spread the word about this project through traditional and new media news outlets.

### **Assistant Vice President Government Relations, Ricardo Rel**

- The Legislative Council Service had an organizational meeting this week. The Council did not create any new subcommittee, workgroups or task forces. The Drought Subcommittee and the Legislative Lottery Taskforce was not continued.
- NMSU signed on a letter that was delivered to Congressional leaders with concerns in a bill that was crafted to target abusive practices in patent litigation. The letter, circulated by APLU, stated that some of the measures go far beyond what is necessary and could do serious damage to the patent system. Apparently due to concerns raised about the bill, a committee markup of the bill was postponed.

### **Upcoming Legislative Events:**

- May 20-New Mexico Finance Authority Oversight Committee, Santa Fe.
- June 11 – 13 Legislative Finance Committee meetings, Las Cruces, NM, NMSU Campus:
  - Status of Lower Rio Grande Litigation, Lower Rio Grande and New Mexico Unit Settlement
  - New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute Review – Sam Fernald, Director
  - Improving Teacher and School Leadership Preparation – Secretary Designate, Skandera, Dr. Thomas Kane, Walter Gale (Harvard Graduate School of Education); President Carruthers
  - NMSU Vision 2020 – President Carruthers
  - Las Cruces Public Schools Performance and Strategic Initiatives
  - Optional tour of Early College High School.

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

- NMDA staff has been working with the University of Tennessee Knoxville on a Tribal public health course(s) that will be developed and sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.
- NMDA attended and participated in the New Mexico First "Facilitation for Success" workshop in Albuquerque May 6-7. The workshop covered meeting and town hall facilitation methods that have proven to be successful in bringing groups of people to a consensus on policy issues across the state.
- Marketing staff attended the Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce- Foreign Investment Trade Mission in Las Cruces. Staff met with dignitaries and investors from Chihuahua, Mexico.