



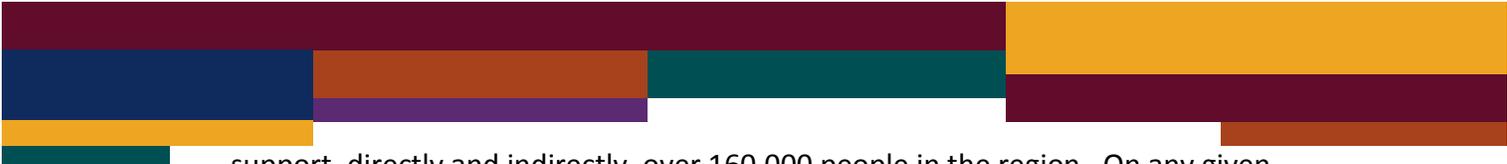
# New Mexico State University

## Weekly Activity Report

January 6 - 10, 2013

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

- Welcome back and best wishes for a very productive and pleasant New Year. I am gearing up for my first legislative session (as President) and will enter it, as always, with optimism. The Legislative Finance Committee has been somewhat more generous to Higher Education than the Higher Education Department, indicating support for a 3.3% increase in funding, a 1.5% increase in faculty/staff salaries, and a .75% contribution to the Educational Retirement Board – something we would have to pony up if the legislature did not provide. The LFC recommendation and the Governor's (HED) are going in positions for both and the work of the legislature is to sort in all out by providing a compromise budget that can be signed by the Governor.
- We have established a Legislative Response Team that will assure that NMSU quickly reacts to all bill introductions in the session and that we properly evaluate propositions that directly or indirectly affect higher education. Ben Woods and Ricardo Rel have their hands on the throttle on this effort. Many of you may be called upon to make a quick assessment of bills and policy initiatives.
- Provost Howard and I attended the College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences Service Awards ceremony. I bring this up because I believe that the strength of an institution is the personnel and successful institutions have long serving and very capable, happy personnel. I found that in ACES.
- I will be meeting this week with the Interfaith Council to review the design of our new "spiritual center" which has been generously funded by Jim Wetherbe and his wife Bryn. I really like the current design and the location of the Center between Corbett Center and the Educational Services Center (by the lake). The meeting with the Interfaith Council should result in some guidance on design of a nondenominational facility and a perspective on use. The facility is currently designed to seat about 125 for a wedding but more – up to 200 – for other occasions. Another of our donors will be providing some of the furniture for the Center.
- I have received a "game report" from the Western Athletic Conference reporting the use of offensive language at the Seattle/NMSU basketball game. The time is here to stop this tradition. The WAC rules allow for the referees to warn fans, call technical foals, or have people removed from the Center. I have visited with the students, as have others, and most are very understanding and somewhat disappointed that a few would continue to use offensive language.
- Greg Fant, Sharon Jones, and I visited Fort Bliss to discuss opportunities for introducing more of our programs there. COL Dayley, the Garrison Commander, gave us an overview of the base and the significance of the base to the region. They



support, directly and indirectly, over 160,000 people in the region. On any given day, there are about 44,000 people working at Fort Bliss. Retired COL John Kirby is our contact at Fort Bliss for all educational programs. If you have any good ideas for programs we can offer there please contact Greg Fant.

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

- Attended a meeting of New Mexico First to discuss water issues and ideas to help New Mexico deal with drought conditions, which probably represent the new normal for the state going forward. Among the ideas discussed were: more enclosed pipelines to limit evaporative water losses and losses due to leaky earthen canals; incentive systems to encourage planting of more low water use and flexible water use crops; establishment of a water commission that extends beyond county, state, and international boundaries; further research and development into desalinization, which would make vast amounts of brackish groundwater available for use; and, increased use of water banking in the state.
- The Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act) is a new initiative of the federal government designed to reduce sexual misconduct on college and university campuses in the United States. It requires new transparency with regard to the reporting of cases of sexual violence and stalking, as well as better counseling of victims of sexual violence. It also clarifies minimum standards for disciplinary procedures and mandates educational programs that must reach every employee and student on every campus. A task force led by Chief Stephen Lopez is meeting monthly to discuss changes to our procedures and the development of education programs capable of touching every employee and student. This week I met with the faculty senate to provide information about the SaVE Act and the educational programs that are currently being designed by the SaVE Act Task Force. Online training programs will be mandatory for all new and current employees, as well as all new and current students.
- I also discussed raising undergraduate admission criteria on the main campus with the faculty senate. In brief, the proposal calls for raising the minimum GPA required for admission to 2.75 and requiring juniors and seniors in high school to take English courses with significant writing requirements. Students who wish to attend the main campus, but cannot meet the admission requirements, would be admitted into a *guaranteed admission track* at one of the NMSU system community colleges. The change in admission standards is driven by the desire to better serve a group of students who have traditionally struggled on the main campus and have very low six year graduation rates.

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

- Dr. Kathryn Stoner is the new Department Head in Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology. Kathryn comes to us from Texas A&M, Kingsville. She earned her BS in Zoology—Anthropology, an MA in Biological Anthropology from the University of



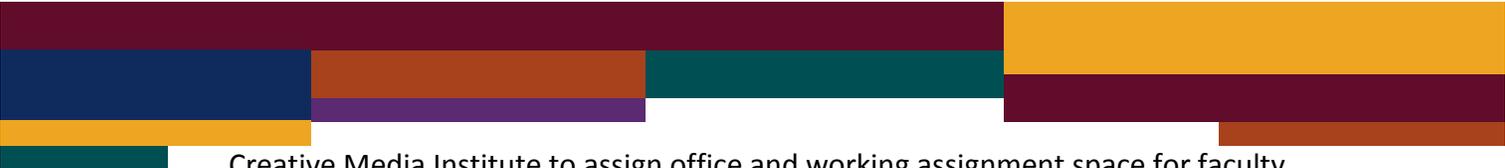
Michigan, Ann Arbor, and a PhD in Ecology from the University of Kansas, Lawrence. Her specialty is in tropical bats. She has extensive contacts in Mexico and Central America which will help with collaborations with other universities and also with recruiting students.

- Dr. Tracey Carrillo met with College faculty in an open forum to discuss research priorities at the Leyendecker Plant Science Research Center.
- Cooperative Extension Service (CES) faculty from around the state came to the main campus of New Mexico State University, College of ACES Gerald Thomas Hall for an In-Service training this week.
- Extension In-Service provides an excellent opportunity not only for subject matter training but also the opportunity to network with colleagues and conduct association meetings. The trainings included:
  1. “Extension 101—The History and Philosophy of Extension” for all County Extension Agents and State Specialists.
  2. Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Session for County Home Economists focused on characteristics of evidence-based programs; managing your chronic disease; strategies for dealing with junk mail; a new master volunteer program for FCS; research on canning red chile and gluten-free foods; and emergency preparedness.
  3. Getting the Extension Message out using Radio, Newspapers, Publications, Social Media and the Web for County Agriculture Agents, 4-H Agriculture Agents and State Specialists.
  4. Extension Plant Sciences Session for County Agriculture Agents and 4-H Agriculture Agents conducted several classes on Pest Diagnostics, Urban Horticulture and Agronomy and Soils.
- President Carruthers and Executive Vice President/Provost Howard attended ACES “Recognition of Service” ceremony to honor our Faculty and Staff for their years of service and contributions to NMSU and the college.
- An In-Service Reception was held on Monday evening, January 6<sup>th</sup> in the 100 West Café and the Bobby Lee Lawrence Academy of Wine, Gerald Thomas Hall.
- Dr. Jim Libbin, Associate Dean of Academic Programs, conducted a Staff retreat to discuss and set goals for 2014.
- Dr. Jon Boren, Associate Dean and Director of CES, along with Bruce Hinrichs, Mary DeLorenzo and Dr. Michael Patrick met with Dr. Kevin Boberg and Kathy Hansen regarding Community economic development.
- Dean Lowell Catlett met with the College of Business Search Committee on January 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss and finalize the CoB Dean’s job description. Kathy Agnew gave a presentation to the Search Committee on rules and conduct for search committee members.
- Drs. David Thompson, Jim Libbin, and James Peach met to talk about how to assess the possibilities of NMSU partnering to help run the Los Lucero’s property in Alcalde, NM.

- Dr. Esther Devall, Department Head of Family and Consumer Sciences held a departmental retreat January 10. Fred Pryor Seminars provided a 6-hour training on Mastering the Art of Working with People to all faculty, staff, and adjunct faculty in the department.
- ACES department of Extension Animal Sciences and Natural Resources in collaboration with Texas A&M Agrilife and Kansas State University held a Southwest Beef Symposium January 9 and 10<sup>th</sup> in Clayton, NM. Leann Saunders, co-founder and president of Where Food Comes From, Inc. and chair-elect of the U.S. Meat Export Federation, opened the symposium with a discussion on the 'Effects of Global Meat Exports on U.S. Beef Producers.' Afternoon outlook sessions addressed the changes in agriculture lending policies, emerging beef sustainability issues by major beef purveyors and a short and long-term weather outlook.
- Cooperative Extension Service specialists and university faculty from Texas A&M AgriLife, Kansas State University and New Mexico State University provided strategies and considerations on rebuilding regional beef herds specifically focused on the economics of re-stocking, defining current pasture lease rates and effectively selecting and managing the nutrition and health programs for stocker calves and cows.
- Youth from across the state competed in the State 4-H Conference back in July, in a variety of contests. The winning teams will be moving on to compete in the Western National Roundup, January 9-12 in Denver, Colorado. Western National Roundup provides a place for youth to compete nationally while encouraging teamwork and self-confidence, and while focusing on the 4-H Mission Mandates: Science, Engineering, Technology, Mathematics, Healthy Living and Citizenship. Counties representing New Mexico for the different youth contests are: Dona Ana County – Parliamentary Procedure and Public Speaking; Lincoln County for Consumer Decision Making; Quay County for Home Economics Skillathon; Catron County for Livestock Judging; Bernalillo County for Horse Judging; Curry County for Meats.
- Jim Brown, Rodeo Coach reported Fall 2013 NMSU Rodeo team cumulative GPA is a stellar 3.2! The following team members also received a grade of all “A” this semester: Elliot Romo, Kendra Stieneman, Olivia Train, Pacen Marez and Chantel I. Rice.

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

- The College of Arts and Sciences presented its annual Exemplar Awards to those who have excelled in helping the college achieve its annual goals. The awards were presented to two department heads—William Quintana (Chemistry/Biochemistry) and Stefan Zollner (Physics)—and two departments—Creative Media Institute Faculty and Staff and Music Department Faculty and Students.
- Ricardo Rel and Ben Woods met with the Dean, Associate Deans, and Department Heads to discuss legislative funding and university legislative priorities.
- The college announced the Spring 2014 call for Graduate Student Travel Awards.
- Associate Dean Jeff Brown and I met with department heads in Government and the



Creative Media Institute to assign office and working assignment space for faculty and graduate students in Milton Hall.

- Hope Martinez assumed the role of scheduling use of the La Academia Room, which is now being scheduled through Arts and Sciences.
- Associate Dean Lisa Bond-Maupin held meetings with three department heads regarding program level outcomes assessment and the development of strategies to improve their processes; finalized the schedule for the annual J. Paul Taylor Social Justice Symposium to be held in April; participated in the Online Infrastructure Taskforce; revised and resubmitted the IRB modification for college Diversity Committee's survey research.
- Associate Deans Lisa Bond-Maupin and Beth Pollack met with the Interdisciplinary Studies Department Head and Advising Center staff to develop policies for the BIS/BAS degrees to bring them in line with other degrees in the college.
- Associate Dean Jeff Brown participated in the first meeting of the Shared Service Center Task Force. Members are discussing the movement of personnel from OGC, SPA and HR to a shared service center that will be housed in Breland Hall by July.
- Heather Throop, Chair of the Arts and Sciences Colloquium Committee, sent a call for faculty participants for the spring semester speaker series.
- In the period since the last academic week in December, Nancy Chanover (Astronomy) received \$83,651 from NASA. Rene Walterbos (Astronomy) received \$28,500 from the Space Telescope Science Institute (operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA) for NASA). Chris Churchill (Astronomy) received \$24,771 from NASA. Jon Holtzman (Astronomy) received \$21,148 from the Astrophysical Research Consortium. Gary Eiceman (Chemistry and Biochemistry) received a \$50,000 award from Northeastern University that originated with the Department of Homeland Security.
- The college launched its revamped website: <http://artsci.nmsu.edu>

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

- The College kicked off the semester with convocation on January 10<sup>th</sup> featuring a drop in visit by President Carruthers, a presentation by Luiz Vazquez and Miriam Chaiken on the IRB process, and spirited discussions of standards for admission of business students to upper division business courses and the composition of the college's Graduate Committee. There was also a discussion of implementation of an online MBA program, initially proposed as a two year program structured similarly to the college's program at Sandia National Lab.
- During the week before the holidays, three candidates for assistant dean/development director were interviewed and an offer has now been made to one of those three. If the offer is accepted, we could have a new development officer in place within 30 days. Many thanks to Andrea Tawney for her on-going efforts to help with the College's development efforts at the same time she is supporting the President's office.

- In anticipation of the opening of Domenici Hall later this year, a group of faculty and staff met with the architects to finalize the selection of carpet for the building and to review the plans to put the furnishings out for bid.
- The College has awarded funding to three faculty members (Maria deBoyrie, Mike McGonigle, and Collin Payne) for participation in the summer in international faculty development seminars sponsored by CIEE. These include travel to Russia; China and Japan; and England and the Netherlands. Also in the international arena, the College has renewed its relationship with the Consortium of Universities for International Studies (previously CIMBA) administered through the University of Iowa.

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

- Participated in the PAC meeting with the President and Provost, discussed was Vision 2020 and a new proposal for return of tuition dollars.
- Had lunch with Dr. Phil Post from HPDR/the President/Provost to discuss Dr. Post's expertise in sport psychology and possible use of his expertise.
- Met with Dean Libbin to discuss the possibility of the ACES support through extension services for the Rio Grande High School, this discussion was an exploratory to determine interest, there will be follow up meeting with Kathie Davis at the high school in the near future.
- Met with Curriculum and Instruction staff to discuss plans for the Kidd Literacy conference and next steps in streamlining the process.
- Planned with Ashley and Enedina from the College the strategies needed to manage the development program while conducting the search to replace Dr. Martinez.
- Participated in a phone call with Senator Sapien and Michael Weinberg to discuss legislation being proposed.
- Attended a meeting with the Provost and deans and discussed the Mercer study that determines faculty salary adjustments, also discussed the HLC initiative on writing.
- Reviewed the Alliance budget with Dr. Schwartz and Dr. Valverde, also reviewed the legislation being submitted that supports the Alliance funding for next year.
- Reviewed the Athletic Training accreditation status with Dr. Wood and discussed what the next steps are in planning and informing students.
- Reviewed several development pieces with Robert Peterson and Ashley Jurado, including the Shirk estate and several other development activities.
- Met with Mary Prentice to discuss Leadership programs that included community agencies and state agencies in need for such programs.
- Reviewed with Dr. Hernandez the activities related to the Kidd Conference and other projects being coordinated by Dr. Hernandez.
- Conducted the AC meeting for the College of Education meeting with department heads and the staff and leadership of the College.
- Attended a meeting for the LCPS Bond Issue, submitted a document that had signatures of support to the committee.

- Had a telephone conference with Elizabeth Ross from AACTE to review the activities of the NM Deans and Directors of Education, the discussion included the political climate and trends in education in NM.
- Presented to the Department of Curriculum and Instruction on proposed changes emerging in the University and State, conversation included teacher education enrollments, new licensure requirements and the proposed change in Admission standards at NMSU.
- Discussed with Dr. Salas Provance staffing needs for the department and the use of development funds to support the Speech Clinic.
- Requested the Budget and Technology Committee of College Council to provide me with feedback on a couple of items related to the use of dollars for salary and or new positions as well as provide feedback on at the dean's level what should be considered for merit allocations.
- Met with Dr. DeNecochea' to discuss the strategic plan and sustainability, and the plan for the spring semester.
- Developed the presentation for opening programs that will include information on enrollments, faculty awards, and the political environment related to teacher education.
- Started the planning for a new scholarship and gift for the college.

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

- The Civil Engineering Department and Engineering New Mexico Resource Network hosted the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Samuel Maggard Quality Concrete School on January 3-4. Over 80 individuals participated in the 2-day professional development school, which delivers relevant information to the concrete industry on technology advancements, testing, troubleshooting and transporting concrete. The Quality Concrete School is conducted for professional engineers and encompasses a range of competency levels to accommodate those attending. Attendees were from NM, AZ and TX.
- Professor Tom Jenkins conducted a workshop on "Using Renewable Technologies for Pumping Water and Simple Remote Lighting" on January 8<sup>th</sup> for the Cooperative Extension Service. He discussed the solar pump, lighting spreadsheets and manuals.
- Dr. Delia Valles-Rosales and her IE 316 Methods Engineering fall semester class made end-of-semester project presentations to the board of Lucchese Boots (El Paso, TX) on lean production process improvement. This was the first semester we have worked with Lucchese. They have invited her spring IE 478 Facilities class to continue process improvement efforts.
- The Joseph and Grace-Ann Genin Outstanding Mechanical Engineer Scholarship has been established to honor the former New Mexico State University College of Engineering Dean who passed away this past summer. Joe Genin served as dean of engineering at New Mexico State University for four years. After leaving the office of dean, he focused on his life-long interests of teaching and research. He became a professor of engineering. Genin taught courses in mechanics and conducted



research in dynamic stability and fluid/structure interactions. He never retired from NMSU and continued to do research until his passing in May. He was 82 years old.

- Commissioner Edward Drusina of the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) has announced the appointment of two engineering alums to serve on the 2014-2015 Rio Grande Citizens Forum board, Dr. Conrad Keyes, retired faculty and Zachary Libbin, staff engineer with the Elephant Butte Irrigation District. The purpose of the board is to promote the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the community about commission projects and related activities along the Rio Grande between Percha Dam, NM and Fort Quitman, TX.

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

- The School of Nursing was ranked on the list of Best Online Graduate Nursing Programs by US World News and Report.
- Associate Dean Donna Wagner begins committee service this week to review online infrastructure at NMSU, and she is also a member of the Digital Measures Advisory committee.
- The School of Nursing met with the team leader from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing to discuss the agenda for the accreditation site visit scheduled for February 10-12<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- School of Nursing held its first faculty and staff meeting of 2014 on Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The College welcomed new faculty and staff: Assistant Professor Stephanie Lynch (Nursing), Administrative Assistants Rebeca Sanchez (Dean's Office) and Stephanie Caballero (Public Health Sciences), Event Planner Gloria Nunez (Social Work), Academic Advisor Bonita Medina (Social Work).
- School of Nursing completed a Fiscal Impact Report for the Legislative Finance Committee and the NM Department of Finance and Administration that justified the need for Nursing Expansion and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner senate bills.
- Students at the College of Health and Social Services have launched a new organization focused on mental health issues. The new National Alliance on Mental Illness campus chapter received its official charter at the end of the fall semester. The club has elected officers and plans to host a kickoff celebration this spring. Faculty adviser Ruth Burkhart, Nursing, says the chapter will provide education as well as support for those with a mental illness, their families and communities.
- It was announced that the newly named Stan Fulton Endowed Chair in Health Disparities Research, Dr. McDonald will utilize her extensive background in maternal and child health research to develop a center dedicated to studying health disparities across southern New Mexico and the border region. Dr. McDonald is preparing the Southwest Institute for Health Disparities to respond to the health disparity challenges found in southern New Mexico and the border counties.
- The Director of the School of Social Work, Dr. Hancock, and the CHSS 2013 Distinguish Alumna, Ms. Margaret McCowen traveled to Albuquerque, NM on



Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> to meet with Presbyterian MCO representatives and discuss potential future training programs for the Care Coordinators who work in the new expanded Medicaid program.

- Public Health Sciences' Dr. Kittleson and Dr. Rao submitted a grant proposal to Paso del Norte to evaluate their Framework.

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

No Report Submitted

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

- Visited with Amanda Bradford from University Communications to discuss publicity for upcoming Honors events.
- Welcoming back Honors students and Crimson Scholars.

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

- Attended meeting at which Dr. Andrew Pena briefed the Dean's and Provost on various aspects of faculty compensation and how market data is derived.
- Did a presentation on a funding proposal to El Paso Electric.

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

#### **Auxiliary Services**

- The NMSU Corbett Center Student union welcomed new occupants to the building: Student Success, Upward Bound, Aggie Welcome and Orientation staff is all now located in the Aggie Underground while Hardman Hall is being renovated. The Otero Room in Corbett has also been designated as Student Success' tutoring space for the same time period.
- Kim Otte the Vice President for Stores with Barnes and Noble College Booksellers and Mark Kerin the Regional Manager for our store visited campus this week to review the store performance and discuss areas of opportunities for NMSU and Barnes and Noble.
- Auxiliary Services Assistant Vice President was invited to participate in the "Online Infrastructure Task Force" that had its kick-off meeting this week. We are excited about opportunities where our services can support the online education offered at NMSU.
- Several of our areas are wrapping up meetings with "The Round-Up" this week on opportunities for us to advertise and promote the many services offered to our students, faculty and staff. We look forward to supporting the student newspaper more and the opportunities it provides to share service information out to our campus community.

## Information and Communication Technologies

- ICT tested the systems that supply backup power to NMSU's central computing and networking equipment in the secondary datacenter during the scheduled power outage on January 5<sup>th</sup>. The test verified that a full electrical load would be available during unscheduled power outages. A special thanks to ICT's Johnny Lopez, John Rede, Enrique Genera and Richard Gottlieb for their support of this test.
- ICT was recognized during the closing ceremony of the Go Teacher Ecuadorian Student Cohort #2 Program for its contribution to the success of the program. Over the semesters, NMSU has seen a steady increase in the number of international student groups who visit and participate in educational activities at the university. To accommodate these unique groups, ICT continually develops processes for ensuring international student access to standard student technology services.

## Facilities and Services



- FS Fire is proud to announce the “2013 Firefighter of the Year” award. Patrick Armijo was given the honor on December 21<sup>st</sup>. Patrick started in May of 2013 and has quickly made an impact here at the Fire Dept. He has already received his Emergency Medical Technician License and Firefighter II certification. Patrick is studying Business Management at the Main Campus. His anticipated graduation is May 2016. Patrick is originally from Belen, NM.

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

No Report Submitted

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

- SAEM is finalizing the update to our strategic plan. The update will be aligned with Vision 2020.
- Dr. Bernadette Montoya met with NMSU staff and students to assess changes that will be proposed to the New Mexico Legislative Lottery Scholarship Lottery during the upcoming legislative session. ASNMSU is working with student governments from around the state on a proposal that will have the support of students from many colleges and universities.

- SAEM staff discussed the current Lottery proposal with Legislative Finance Committee staff via a conference call. We gave our input to the proposal and gained a better understand of how their proposal will affect our students.
- SAEM is gearing up to implement the student portion of the Campus SaVE Act, which states that all postsecondary institution must have sexual violence education programs in place by fall 2014. Details about the education will be required for our Annual Security Report.
- Dr. Montoya and the Doña Ana Community College Presidential Search Committee will begin reviewing applicants for the DACC President on January 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Montoya and SAEM staff met with Judy Bosland of Institutional Analysis to discuss student retention and the effective use of scholarship funds for financial aid.

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

- To improve student communications and service, the front area of University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services will be remodeled, with work starting in February. The remodel will add two service windows, and the phone room will be enlarged to accommodate more staff and telephones. These changes will increase student access to staff and decrease student wait time. This remodel should be completed by April.
- University Financial Aid is now fully staffed after hiring two new front desk staff. Additionally, the office just finished hiring an Outreach Advisor. This person will work closely with Student Engagement and Admissions to increase the efficacy of financial aid outreach on campus and in the community.
- The Financial Aid Office is currently on ‘blackout’ status for January, which is designed to limit staff absences to medical and urgent or emergent situations only. More staff is also available for walk-in appointments and problem solving.



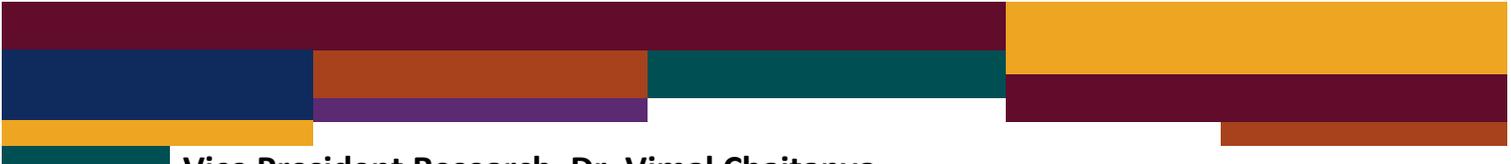
The front desk area after the remodel.

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

- The American Indian Program will receive a 2013–14 Native American Preparatory Scholars (NAPS) Fund grant, an initiative of the New Mexico Community Foundation. The grant is \$10,000 each year for two years and will be used to support American Indian student recruitment, persistence, and degree completion.
- On December 11<sup>th</sup>, Michael Ray of the American Indian Program met with San Juan College staff to explore opportunities for San Juan College students to transfer to NMSU.

**Interim Vice President Economic Development, Dr. Kevin Boberg**

No Report Submitted



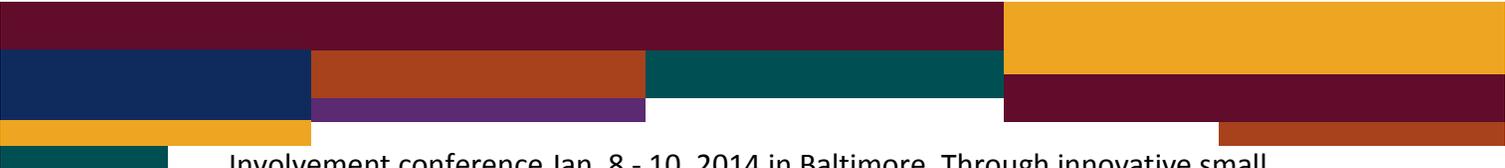
## **Vice President Research, Dr. Vimal Chaitanya**

- The VPR office distributed \$124,000 in Graduate Research Enhancement Grant funding to the colleges of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES), Arts & Sciences (A&S), and Engineering for awards made in previous years. Also distributed were \$186,000 to the colleges of ACES, A&S, Engineering, and Business for various research efforts such as grant cost-sharing, grant-writing, equipment maintenance, research staff, and lab support.
- On Wednesday, NASA released the request for proposals for the continuation of the support for the Columbia Scientific Balloon Facility currently operated by PSL. Proposals are due in 45 days. PSL also received a new commercial contract for the application of unmanned aircraft technology to the mining industry, and bid two new Army tasks under an existing contract.
- PSL conducted the 15<sup>th</sup> Unmanned Aircraft Systems Technical Analysis and Application Center Event (UAS TAAC) conference north of Albuquerque in December with larger than expected attendance.
- The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recently announced the (Congressionally-directed) selection of the six new unmanned aircraft system flight test centers. The existing NMSU flight test center was used as the model by the FAA for these other sites.
- The New Mexico Space Grant Consortium awarded \$130,000 of scholarships to 19 students statewide.
- NMSGC also called for 4-page pre-proposals to prepare for the next NASA Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research funding opportunity.
- In Las Cruces, Water Resources Research Institute staff conducted two septic system maintenance workshops on how to maintain and extend the life of septic systems while avoiding contamination of local groundwater supplies.
- Seven new students begin the NMSU Water Science and Management Program in the spring semester.
- Neta Fernandez and the Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP) faculty representative, Michael Johnson, attended the FDP meeting in Washington, DC. Much of the discussion centered around the new 750-page revised Office of Management Budget Circular that was released on December 26, 2013; the new regulations will be effective on December 26, 2014. The National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) both gave reports; the money situation continues to be bleak.
- At the request of Ricardo Jacquez, Neta Fernandez contacted the NSF program officer, James Hicks, about some unresolved issues on the Alliance for Minority Participation program. After a long conversation, Hicks promised that he would resolve the issues by the end of the week.
- The Office of Research Development (ORD) reviewed 600 funding opportunities released between January 3 and January 7 and disseminated 29 relevant opportunities to faculty researchers, based on interest and eligibility for NMSU.

- ORD staff participated in the Mountain West Consortium for Clinical Translational Research Infrastructure Network Visiting Scholars Program (by teleconference).
- Luis Vazquez and “Nellie” Quezada-Aragon conducted a workshop for the Student Affairs and Enrollment Management assessment team at the Educational Services Building at NMSU. The meeting was attended by various student office researchers and staff.
- Luis Vazquez presented to the Business College on the Institutional Review Board (IRB) process and most common issues related to human subjects’ research applications.
- IRB chair Wanda Eastman conducted an all-day retreat at the Holy Cross Retreat Center to address issues related to the IRB application process, provide training to IRB members, and review current federal policies related to human subjects research.
- Over the break, Abel Sanchez, Jose Rijos and Jim Andress of the Research IT office reconfigured the power and server connections in the server room to provide more reliable surge suppression and easier access to servers and network connections. Research IT also prepared for the January 5 campus-wide power outage; as expected all servers continued operations during the outage.
- During the past week, just over \$300,000 of awards were received.

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

- Instead of practicing an internal Secret Santa, members of the VPUA team purchased 55 Christmas gift tags for seniors in the Las Cruces area. Ariel Kannady and Faith Lester of Home Instead Senior Care picked up the gifts at the office holiday gathering and visited with the staff.
- Held numerous briefing meetings this week with staff members and board chairs on on-going and upcoming projects, tasks and committee meetings.
- As members of the VPUA Search Committee, Tammie Campos and I attended the 1<sup>st</sup> Round Interviews held on Saturday and Sunday. We identified final candidates for campus visits.
- The NMSU Phoenix Alumni Chapter gathered 125 Aggies to cheer the men’s basketball team to victory against Grand Canyon University on January 4. In addition to the 125 alumni tickets sold, there were over 200 alumni attending the game creating a spirit-filled arena. The group met prior to the game for a bite to eat and was joined by Mac and Magella Boston.
- Young Alumni in Albuquerque gathered for their first Young Alumni Aggie Hour of 2014, led by Abigail Goodin, ’12, on January 4. There were 15 young alumni who attended. Together they worked to plan monthly events for the rest of 2014 including events geared toward community service, professional networking, and connecting with NMSU alumni.
- Tammie Campos, executive director, and Katherine Vandertulip, senior alumni relations officer, attended the CASE Rethinking Homecomings, Reunions and Alumni



Involvement conference Jan. 8 - 10, 2014 in Baltimore. Through innovative small group sessions they explored new program models to fit current needs.

- Barbara S. Wise, Director, University Advancement, received commitment for \$90,500 from the W.W., Wanda and Willy Martin Trust for scholarships.
- A donor from Carlsbad, NM has given \$26,000 to establish a scholarship endowment in the College of Engineering in honor of her late husband. Her late husband created an engineering endowment years ago in honor of his friend. Robert Peterson and Debbie Widger have cultivated this relationship over the years. Partnered with College of Engineering, stewardship included photos, articles of the 1888 Pioneer newsletter "Look to the Future", visits, letters from scholarship recipients, phone calls.
- Kristina Martinez, Regional Advancement Officer, registered 11 participants for the Inaugural Women's Estate Planning Conference in Albuquerque.
- Gift recording for December 31, 2013 was completed on January 10, 2014.
- The College of ACES Dean's office along with Terra V. Winter, Director of Development, held a Cooperative Extension In-Service Reception on January 6<sup>th</sup>. All 150+ extension agents were invited to attend which provided Terra Winter with an opportunity to meet new extension staff as well as reconnect regarding fundraising throughout the state.
- Terra V. Winter, Director of Development, and Lois Melton have been invited to the New Mexico Hay Association Conference next Friday to accept a check in honor of Governor Martinez that will benefit the Billy and Lois Melton Professorship.
- There is a large list of prospective donors being reviewed for the NMSU Livestock, Agricultural Exposition and Event Center.
- ACES received a \$25,000 donation from the Norma Jean Fisher Estate for an endowed scholarship.

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

- Aggie Athletic Club Memberships to date are 477 members, Athletic Director Cabinet members are nine. Revenue generated for the scholarship fund (FY13-14) is at \$274,201.
- To date, \$3,075 generated in donations to AAC and individual sport teams from the End of Year Campaign. Thank you letters sent out to contributors of this campaign.
- Coordinator of Membership sales met with various groups such as, CLC TM Toastmasters, Mesilla Valley Kiwanis Club and LC Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, met with businesses and donors. Calling various leads and finalizing group to contact for Albuquerque Happy Hour. One new membership sold for AAC.
- Coordinator for Special Events finalized Albuquerque Happy Hour Event for February 6<sup>th</sup> at Albuquerque the Magazine. Special Guests Lou Henson and Doug Martin will be there to meet and greet. This is open to Aggie Athletic Club members only.
- Our office has assisted Coach Martin with the Alumni Football Player Challenge. This campaign is geared toward football alumni and raises money specific for football recruiting, we have raised \$8,500 to date.



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

- For the week of December 30 – January 5, news stories in both local and national media totaled 117 placements. The top story covered by the media this week was the bilingual-literacy project directed by Professor Anita Hernandez from the College of Education.
- This week’s Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlights NMSU’s Arthropod Museum, which boasts a collection of more than 500,000 specimens that are native or have been introduced to the Southwest. Now, with a grant from the National Science Foundation, it joins other universities in Texas and Arizona, creating a database of its specimens that will be available online through photography and new 3D technology. The importance of this new technology, which allows the sharing of photos of the collection with experts, is that some specimens have not been identified, and other specialists will be able to identify them or share their knowledge with NMSU.
- This week’s Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News profiled Holli Fillmore, a graduate of New Mexico State University and graphic designer with the New Mexico Lottery. Fillmore designs scratcher lottery tickets, which benefit the Legislative Lottery Scholarship.
- The Athletic Media Relations staff coordinated with ABQ Sports New Mexico Magazine for a feature on the Aggie men’s basketball team. The magazine was distributed statewide this week.
- Several members of the UCOMM team presented this week at the Extension In-Service Conference.
- KRWG- FM added the program “Here and Now” to the weekday lineup. This program is a live NPR production that features timely news, in-depth interviews and conversation.

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

### **State-Related Activities**

- Dr. Howard and Ricardo Rel attended the Las Cruces Policy breakfast which included representatives from the City of Las Cruces, Dona Ana County, Dona Ana County Legislative Coalition and Dona Ana County legislators. All of the entities mentioned discussed their legislative priorities for the upcoming session. Dr. Howard presented the NMSU capital outlay projects for NMSU-Las Cruces and Dona Ana Community College.

### **Upcoming Legislative Events**

January 13-17: House Appropriations & Finance Committee- Santa Fe.

January 15-17: Senate Finance Committee- Santa Fe.

January 15-17: House Education & Senate Education Joint Committee- Santa Fe.

January 20: Legislative Finance Committee- Santa Fe.



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

- NMDA sponsored the New Mexico Tribal/Pueblo/State Pesticide Forum meeting held in Santa Fe, New Mexico at the Hotel Santa Fe. Over 55 pueblos, tribal, state and federal agency representatives attended this meeting. The purpose was to provide information, discuss issues and determine future collaboration in relation to pesticide use, licensing, and registration; environmental protection; and pest and natural resource management issues of interest to New Mexico's tribes and pueblos. The meeting was co-sponsored and attended by the Eight Northern Indian Pueblo Council and the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 in Dallas, TX. It is anticipated this meeting will become an annual event.
- NMDA staff travelled to Kansas City and participated in a strategic planning session for the Multi-States Partnership for Agriculture Security. There were two specific items that were of particular interest in our involvement. The first one was providing input into the future of agriculture training throughout the nation around the core mission areas of prevent, protect, mitigate, respond and recover. New Mexico will work with others on this issue such as the National Center for Biomedical Research and Training. The second was providing input into the future of the Multi States Partnership Organization and New Mexico has agreed to compile a “history” of the organization for future use.