



New Mexico State University

Weekly Activity Report

October 13-17, 2014

President Garrey Carruthers, Ph.D.

- It was one of those weeks of very highs and very lows:
 - The highest point of the week was the terrific employee picnic organized by Greg Block and his intrepid Employees Council. 2,319 employees attended the event on the Horseshoe. Food was great, there was free beer (root beer), and I over indulged in some of the best sugar cookies ever manufactured on this campus. The A Mountain Staff Award was given to Kathy Valadez, an employee of the Agricultural Experiment Station in Los Lunas. And the real point of pride was to look out of my window at the sea of crimson worn by the employees, demonstrating on Crimson Friday the pride they have in our great University.
 - The low point was the accident near the campus involving NMSU students, resulting in the tragic death of an outstanding student, Jo Anna Rincon, and serious injuries to the others. Our prayers go out to all directly and indirectly affected by this accident. NMSU is a caring community and the outpouring of support for the students and their families was and continues to be impressive.
- I attended the Research Rally featuring the work and leadership of Dr. Elba Serrano and her team. She reviewed the years of progress of the RISE program which focuses on the encouragement and success of minority STEM graduate students. A grant of \$3.8 million has been renewed for another 3 years, reflecting the outstanding progress NMSU's team has made in advancing STEM degrees for underrepresented minorities. Dr. Serrano was very careful to acknowledge a host of folks who have helped make this program a crown jewel of NMSU programs.
- The Domenici Conference team had their debriefing regarding the past conference and began the planning for next year's event. They rightfully claimed this was the best conference to date with very few flaws and lots of commendations for our student participants and speakers. Over 1,000 folks registered for the conference, the highest number to date. Next year's conference will be on September 16 and 17. Topics under consideration include sessions on infectious diseases, regional economic development, the consequences of the U.S. now being energy self-sufficient, and mental health. The Committee is eager to hear from you regarding other topics of interest. Thanks to Sara Patricolo and Gena Bermudez for their leadership in this event.
- My commendations to all stakeholders for their work in our expenditure reduction process, which was caused by the decline in enrollment. After reaching out to all units for recommendations on how best to reduce expenses while protecting our core mission, the academic group (Provost and Deans) and the administrative group (President and Vice Presidents) were able to reach agreement rather quickly on the path forward. The result of the process is a 61% reduction in expenditures on administration functions and 38% reduction on academic expenses.
- Sharon Jones and I had a very nice visit with NMSU Carlsbad (or as they say, NMSU C). I chatted with the faculty and staff regarding system issues, spoke to the Rotary Club regarding the "Changing



Face of NMSU”, and then held a meeting with members of the community, to include people from the public schools and industry. All were very complimentary about John Gratton’s leadership of NMSU C’s program and responsiveness to community needs.

- I also gave the “Changing Face of NMSU” presentation to the Central Association of Physical Plant Administrators meeting in El Paso. Glen Haubold had asked me to do so and then the group took buses to our campus to see the sites. From all I could ascertain, our campus ranks right up there with the best in terms of beauty, infrastructure, and condition.

Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Dan Howard

- I meet with the NMSU community college presidents on a monthly basis to discuss system-wide issues. At our Tuesday, October 14 meeting, the presidents expressed support for moving to 60 credit associate degrees, in place of the current requirement for 66 credits. This change would bring the NMSU community colleges into alignment with most other community colleges in the United States. We also discussed collaborative recruiting—recruiting as a system, rather than as individual institutions, at college nights and other recruitment events. We are currently in the process of developing recruitment materials that tout the synergies of our system and the fact that community colleges can be a wonderful place to begin working on a four year degree.
- On Wednesday, October 15, I met with Pat Hynes and representatives from NASA and from the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space (CASIS) to discuss space research opportunities, especially with regard to life sciences. The discussions were enlightening and will help to inform us as we invest in the formation of research teams at NMSU.
- On Thursday, October 16, the President and I met with the President’s Advisory Council (PAC) to discuss and decide on expenditure reductions necessitated by enrollment declines over the course of the past two years. Prior to the meeting, deans and vice presidents had submitted 1 percent, 3 percent, and 5 percent budget cut scenarios for their units. The President and I examined the scenarios and identified budget cuts for each unit that would do as little damage as possible to the teaching, research, and service mission of NMSU. At the PAC meeting, we broke into two groups, one led by the President and one by me, and presented our recommended cuts for discussion and revision. There was a good spirit of common purpose at the meetings and virtually all of our recommendations were accepted. I am grateful to the deans and vice presidents for their commitment to NMSU and their willingness to make the best interests of the overall institution the primary consideration in the budget cutting process.
- Later that day, in a tragic traffic accident, four NMSU students were injured and one was killed at the corner of Triviz and University. President Carruthers, Vice President Montoya, Dean of Students Jasek, NMSU DACC President Scott, and I drove to El Paso to let the hospitalized students and their families know that that the NMSU community cared about them and was prepared to help them as they coped with the ramifications of the accident. I trust that the NMSU community will support the students who were injured, and their families, in the coming months. My deepest condolences to the family and friends of Jo Anna Rincon, a talented first-year student at NMSU, who died in the accident.

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

Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology

- The National Resource Career Tract sent three FWCE students to the Latinos in Agriculture Conference October 17-19 in Dallas Texas.

Cooperative Extension Service

- This fall, Specialists' from the **Extension Plant Sciences Department** in cooperation with County Extension Agents and Master Gardeners, conducted four "Plant Clinics" at County Grower's Markets and Festivals. On Saturday September 6, the clinic was held at the Los Ranchos Grower's Market, and on Sunday September 7, the clinic was held at the Corrales Grower's Market. This past



weekend, October 11-12, plant clinics were conducted at the Socorro Grower's Market and the Local Food Festival and Field Day at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House in Albuquerque. Plant Clinics help to educate the community about proper horticultural practices, pest identification, and pest management, through an informal question and answer session. Specialists, Agents, and Master Gardeners were on hand to help people with specific gardening questions and pest identification requests. Insect

boxes containing the 110 most common insects in New Mexico, biting and stinging pests, and arthropods that eat weeds, were displayed in the booth. The clinics drew good crowds with over 2,000 people stopping by to get their questions answered or to learn about the insects on display.

- Graeme Davis, Bernalillo County Extension Agent, Jason French, Plant Diagnostician, and Carol Sutherland, Extension Entomologist, answer questions during the plant clinic at the Local Food Festival and Field Day at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House in Albuquerque, NM.
- Cooperative Extension Service is heavily involved in the fair season activities! Agents all over the state have been working throughout the summer to assist 4-H youth with 4-H projects that are often shown at the county, state and regional fairs. Many agents spend time providing youth the opportunity to showcase their "indoor exhibits" such as: arts and crafts, posters for various projects, bake goods, sewing, welding, rockets, and the list goes on. These life skills are vital in the development of productive youth, along with the responsibility youth are learning while taking care of livestock projects. Agents play a crucial role in the education of youth when it comes to showing livestock as well.
- National 4-H Week is the kick off to the new 4-H year. Cooperative Extension Agents across the state have coordinated various activities to promote 4-H across the state during this week. From county proclamations, booths around towns, or 4-H fun days agents are getting the word out in their community about the importance of the good work 4-H youth are providing.



Media Productions/Learning Games Lab

- Media Productions personnel's ability to create innovative, highly effective health and food safety media was showcased at last week's Enhancing Microbial Food Safety by Risk Analysis National Conference. The by-invitation-only conference, sponsored by USDA, brought together 32 researchers from 25 universities specializing in food safety research and consumer behavior. The presentation by ACES's Media Productions, "Using Innovative Media to Reach Food Safety Audiences," helped scientists understand why it is important to reach the public using digital and mobile technologies. Drs. Chamberlin and Gleason presented research results from various food safety projects demonstrating increased performance by participants using games developed and



tested in the ACES Learning Games Lab. The presentation ended with samples of the group's virtual labs, scientific visualizations and mobile apps.

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

- Dean Slaton and Associate Deans Brown and Pollack attended the Cowboys for Cancer Research recognition dinner.
- Dean Slaton and Associate Dean Brown met with Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance Angela Thornberry, SPA Director Norma Noel and Tawni Swanson about the A&S Shared Service Center.
- Associate Dean Brown attended a meeting of the Intellectual Property Advisory Committee; attended a workshop about export control and grant proposals; and made arrangements for his panel presentation at the Council for Colleges of Arts and Sciences conference in November.
- The College of Arts and Sciences' programs have completed inventory accounting for more than 4,800 of its 6,584 inventoried equipment items.
- Associate Dean Beth Pollack along with Michele Shuster met with representatives of the design staff of Dekker/Perich/Sabatini regarding classroom furnishings for the Hardman and Jacobs Undergraduate Learning Center.
- Associate Dean Enrico Pontelli participated in the weekly EOS meeting.
- Associate Dean Ken Van Winkle attended the President's Communication Council meeting to discuss marketing strategies for the university.
- Associate Dean Ken Van Winkle chaired the J Paul Taylor Social Justice Symposium Committee to organize the symposium schedule and contact potential guest speakers.
- Associate Dean Ken Van Winkle attended the Research Rally in support of Elba Serrano and her presentation on the RISE program.
- Associate Dean Ken Van Winkle met with the College of Arts and Sciences Student Ambassadors in a discussion devoted to community engagement ideas.
- Associate Dean Ken Van Winkle met with the Provost and a team of campus leaders to begin the planning of the Assurance Report for the re-accreditation process through the Higher Learning Commission.
- Timothy Ketelaar (Psychology) gave the first Fall 2014 presentation in the College of Arts and Sciences Colloquium Series. His topic was "William James and the Transition to a Modern Science of Psychology."
- Nancy Chanover received \$17,154 in a grant from the Jet Propulsion lab. Mary Lamonica (Journalism & Mass Communications) will present a paper as Mary M. Cronin in Chicago on "An Indispensable Liberty: The Fight for Freedom of Expression in the 19th Century" at a symposium on the press in the 19th century Civil War era. This paper will be the 15-page introduction and overview of the book that she is editing about 19th century media law that will be published in 2015 by Southern Illinois University Press.

Dean, College of Business, Dr. James Hoffman

- Jim Hoffman attended a special meeting of the President's Academic Council on October 16 to discuss budget reductions.
- The week has been heavily oriented toward assessment including a meeting of the chairs of the Assurance of Learning, Graduate and Undergraduate Committees with Jim Hoffman and Kathy Brook. The purpose of the meeting and similar meetings in the future is to provide better



communication among the college committees working on assessment and curriculum improvement for AACSB purposes.

- We have submitted our annual academic program assessment reports to Provost Howard, which are part of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation process.
- In anticipation of the HLC site visit in spring 2018, the Provost has appointed a committee to draft the HLC report (previously referred to as a self-study). Kathy Brook is serving on that committee and will be responsible for the drafting of the Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement chapter of the report.
- Many of us attended the Employee Appreciation Picnic on October 17. It was a great opportunity to mingle with our fellow employees.
- Jim Hoffman met with faculty who regularly teach MBA required courses on October 17. It was a great opportunity to discuss curriculum issues, assessment, course integration and course sequencing.

Dean, College of Education, Dr. Michael Morehead

- Dean Morehead met with the Provost and other university administrators to discuss the one time cuts for this year. The College of Education's cut was 1.8 percent for this year. At the meeting Dean Morehead and others discussed the need to know what the target for cuts next year might be, it is essential for the colleges to know as soon possible what the potential impact will be for next fiscal year.
- Dean Morehead discussed with Dr. Valdez, Dr. Villa and Dr. Knapp the uses for Digital Measures and the college's identifiers that can be placed in DM for community engagement and outreach.
- Dean Morehead had a conference call with Bill Lavender and Keith Louis from Resound Audiology to discuss a grant from Resound to support the Audiology Clinic.
- Dr. Morehead met with a couple of department heads to discuss what the protocol is for notifying faculty about the decisions on promotion and tenure, it was determined that the policy language is a little unclear about which documents should be provided.
- As chair of the Graduate School Dean's position Dr. Morehead finalized his review of the candidates and is collecting feedback from the committee that will assist in the selection of the potential finalists.
- Dean Morehead and the college deans met to discuss several topics. Foremost on the agenda was budget cuts, also discussed was the ongoing conversations about research in the college.

James O'Donnell, Associate Dean

- Held the second of three informational sessions for Teacher Education students on the change in teacher licensure tests.
- Met with planning team to revise budget and program regarding the Public Education's Grant Award for *Aggie Prep*.
- Completed the review and summary statement for the College's Department's Outcome Assessment Reports.

Ron Dziwenka, Program Manager for Assessment

- Dr. Dziwenka began setting up a tk20 workshop for the SPED program to be held on November 19, during which all key assessment data for this Fall 2014 semester would be



inputted by faculty, instructors and students. He is planning a pre-workshop training for the SPED Coordinator.

- As per the request by the NM PED liaison, he reviewed the initial draft of the 2014 NM EARS Report.
- Dr. Dziwenka and Associate Dean O'Donnell discussed and revised the template for the new TEP Applicants that is generated each semester. More points of data to be collected were added to the template.
- With the NMUS as well as the permanent email addresses for the Spring 2014 TEP graduate cohort groups (UG & GR), he set up in tk20 and sent out the Fall/Spring Undergraduate Completer Survey and the Fall/Spring Graduate Completer Survey.

Michelle Valverde & Karen Trujillo, Community Outreach

- This week we continued the BoCES COG Project with two middle schools and 22 NMSU students, participated in the Idea team meeting with Dr. Boberg.
- Set up numerous meetings with Alliance superintendents for next week (Karen will be traveling).
- Assisted with the Las Cruces Chamber Literacy Expo, and met with the REC #8 Director.

Advancement Team

- Met with Leslie Cervantes and Dr. Sanchez – we visited about the Cornerstone Award. Dr. Sanchez was very supportive and truly like the idea of Cornerstone of creating a partnership with LCPS and NMSU.
- Spoke to Dr. Smoky Torgerson regarding her attendance for homecoming activities.
- Confirmed details for our Donor Breakfast.
- Dean Morehead and Kelley Coffeen met with two donors to discuss their scholarships and find out more about the family, it is apparent the family has significant historical ties to NMSU and are very committed to their scholarship Raiser's Edge training.
- Met with Andrea – discussed travel, portfolio, board meeting agendas, reporting etc.

Dean, College of Engineering, Dr. Ricardo Jacquez

- Undergraduate and post baccalaureate students from NMSU and the New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation met for a day-long workshop on October 4 to learn more about graduate study opportunities in STEM through the National GEM Consortium Getting Ready for Advanced Degrees Laboratory (GEM GRADlab). The event was sponsored by the National Graduate Education for Minorities (GEM) Consortium, the College of Engineering, NM Alliance for Minority Participation and MIT Lincoln Laboratories.
- Approximately 335 New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation community college and university students, staff, faculty, and administrators attended the 2014 New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation Student Research Conference at the Las Cruces Convention Center on October 3. In addition, high school juniors, seniors and advisers from New Mexico Math, Engineering, Science Achievement, Inc. attended the event. Student research presentations took place throughout the day, with 74 posters presented by high school, community college and university students from throughout the state. The University Research Council faculty poster presentation was held concurrently with the New Mexico AMP Conference.
- Mechanical and aerospace engineering Assistant Professor Mingjun Wei has been elected to the grade of Associate Fellow in the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). AIAA Associate Fellows are individuals of distinction who have made notable and valuable contributions



to the arts, sciences, or technology of aeronautics or astronautics. Each year, only one for every 150 voting members are selected and approved. Wei will be recognized at the AIAA Associate Fellow Recognition Ceremony in January in Kissimmee, Florida.

- Colin (chemical engineering, class of '83) and Susan Cahoon have given the NMSU Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering \$10,000, part of which will be designated to support the development of a pre-law track through the bachelor of chemical engineering program. Cahoon is also advising on the development of the pre-law track, offering his knowledge about intellectual property law to the design of a curriculum with the goal of providing students with strong preparation for law school. The balance of the gift will provide support to be used at the department head's discretion. Cahoon is a partner in the firm Carstens & Cahoon, LLP and recently delivered the Verge Fund lecture on campus. Carstens & Cahoon LLP was named Best Intellectual Property Law Firm in Dallas for 2014.
- Associate Dean Patricia A. Sullivan, was recognized on October 17 with the Bravo Outstanding MAESTro award by the National MAES Latinos in Science and Engineering organization for her outstanding contributions as a teacher, academician and mentor to engineering students. The MAES Bravo Awards recognize excellence throughout the Collegiate to Professional Pipeline by identifying and projecting the positive image of Latino role models within science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields. MAES is the foremost Latino organization for the development of STEM leaders in the academic, executive and technical communities.
- Faculty and students from the Electric Utility Management Program in the Klipsch School of Electrical and Computer Engineering participated in the annual meeting of the New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperatives, held in Las Cruces. The meeting provided faculty and students with an opportunity to share their work in the area of electric power transmission, distribution and renewable integration with board members from across the state. The program, led by Satish Ranade, head of the NMSU Klipsch School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, is one of only 12 or so power engineering programs in the country with a curriculum that is highly regarded across the nation for its ability to blend research with real-world applications including regulatory economics.
- TRAX International presented the College of Engineering with a check for \$12,500 as part of a continued partnership to expand workforce development for southern New Mexico. The funds will support NM BEST Robotics outreach program for middle- and high-school students, and design projects in electrical and computer engineering, mechanical and aerospace engineering, and engineering technology and surveying engineering.
- The Engineering New Mexico Resource Network received a grant in the amount of \$50,000 from the Intel Foundation to establish a peer mentoring program in the Aggie Innovation Space. The funds will support employment and training of peer mentors to advance innovation, engineering design and entrepreneurship projects with a focus on expanding student engagement across all engineering disciplines. An additional focus will be on leadership training of the peer mentors in partnership with Intel and other industry partners.
- The Engineering New Mexico Resource Network received a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the Halliburton Foundation to support professional development for engineering faculty in the area of innovation, product development, engineering design and entrepreneurship. Participating faculty continue to leverage the college's role as a Pathways to Innovation cohort institution to advance experiential learning and curricular focus to ensure engineering students are able to address the changing needs of a global workforce.
- The College of Engineering was host to a visit by NASA Associate Administrator, Human Exploration and Operations Bill Gerstenmaier and VP/Boeing Program Manager, Commercial Programs, Space Exploration John Mulholland. They met with faculty to discuss areas for

collaboration involving the reduced gravity and biomechanics laboratory in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

Interim Dean, College of Health and Social Services, Dr. Donna Wagner



- The School of Nursing celebrated the unveiling of the Nursing Wall of Excellence, a 3-D wall that preserves and celebrates the history and legacy of the School of Nursing from 1970-today. Community members, alumni, students, faculty and staff joined us for this momentous occasion as well as MMC CEO, John Harris. We acknowledge the generosity of Memorial Medical Center for making this wall possible.

- In addition, the School of Nursing’s newly remodeled suite in room 132 is now open and ready for business. It includes new “telehealth” equipment, an energy pod, a new simulation manikin and a conference room for student post-conferences. Representatives from the school also met with University architects to finalize plans for remodeling the nursing lab in Alamogordo.
- Dr. Cynthia Kratzke, of the Department of Public Health, was elected to the “Cancer Patient Education Network” Board of Directors for a two-year term as treasurer. The annual conference is next week in Clearwater, FL, where Dr. Kratzke will be presenting twice.

Dean, Honors College, Dr. Miriam Chaiken

- I met with Valerie Pickett to discuss ways to increase awareness about the Honors College for incoming students. I will be composing letters for incoming freshmen, transfer students, and parents of new freshmen about the opportunities available to them through the Honors College, and these will automatically be generated by Hobsons.
- Nigel Holman and Elaine Stachera of the Advancement office met with me and we planned a mailing campaign for alumni who graduated with Honors in the past. I have now drafted the appeal letter and included photos and profiles of some of our high achieving students in the side bar of the appeal letter. This is being put together and will be mailed out within the next couple weeks.
- Tuesday was a day full of meetings, with the Administrative Council and the ADC.
- I participated in a Masters of Arts thesis defense for Ms. Emily Bois in History. She wrote an outstanding thesis on the history of Jewish merchant immigrants in New Mexico in the 19th and 20th centuries, profiling five prominent families that played a very important role in the history of our state. The thesis was well written and researched and upon successful completion of the defense we discussed potential avenues for her to pursue for publication and dissemination of her work.
- I read drafts of two Masters of Arts papers and provided comments for the students who will have their defenses in the coming weeks. I gave feedback to two Honors College students preparing their applications for graduate school. I also wrote a letter of reference for a colleague who had formerly served as the University Museum curator for a tenure track position – this was a busy week for my students and colleagues who are seeking to move to new opportunities.

- I reviewed a paper submitted to a journal (I am on the editorial board) dealing with food security and hunger in Africa.
- I was able to finalize funding and arrangements for the spring 2015 University Speaker, Mr. Sherman Alexie.

Dean, University Library, Dr. Elizabeth Titus

- Dean Titus met with the Library Budget Committee for a quarterly review of the budget.
- The Technical Services Department staff met with Dean Titus for a group conversation on the Library's Restructuring Task Force recommendations. All departments in the library are also being asked to make any recommendations they would like to have considered.
- EX LIBRIS representatives conducted an onsite library-wide organizational workflow analysis and all library staff had an opportunity to participate in this activity. As we work towards gaining efficiencies in library operations, workflow analysis such as this will be helpful.
- Barbara Hart, the library's business manager and Dean Titus participated in a special meeting of the President's Academic Council which focused on the finalization of one-time budget reductions. As a follow-up to this meeting, Dean Titus met with the library's budget committee and briefed them on decisions that impacted the library's FY15 Budget that were finalized at the PAC special meeting.
- Dr. Andrew Pena and the Dean met with the Provost to discuss aspects of the library's restructuring process.
- Natalie Kellner met with the library faculty to update them on progress made on the campus-wide implementation of Digital Measures.
- On Saturday October 18 Dean Titus was a program speaker at the 10th Anniversary celebration held at the Zuhl Museum.

Associate Provost, International and Border Program, Dr. Cornell Menking No Activity to Report

Senior Vice President Administration and Finance, Angela Throneberry

- **Cyber Security Month Presentations are Underway** – ICT's Information Security staff and the NMSU Information Compliance Officer have teamed up and are providing information security presentations around the Las Cruces campus. The presentations give valuable information to students, faculty, and staff on information security, including the do's and don'ts related of keeping NMSU information secure. To date, the presentations have been well attended with the presentation in the Ag department presented to over 40 faculty and staff. In addition, as part of Cyber Security Month, ICT's Student Technology Group staffers are manning information tables around the Las Cruces campus. For the dates, times, and locations of the presentations and information tables, go to <http://infosec.nmsu.edu/security-awareness/>. Those attending presentations will receive a free, 4 Gb USB thumb drive, courtesy of NMSU. Remember, *Security is everyone's responsibility!*



- **Part of the Team** – NMSU Firefighters surprised future firefighter recruit Damien for his sixth birthday celebration this week! Damien's family live in family housing and attend NMSU. His parents asked our firefighters to deliver Damien's own personal fire bunker suit which he is wearing in the picture. We look forward to having him join the NMSU Fire Department team one day!

- **Project Development and Engineering (PD&E)** – A new PD&E website was designed to act as an on-line brochure for providing the university community with as much information as possible about our organization. Our goal is to improve the communication, efficiency, understanding, and effectiveness in promoting our department. Visitors to the website will find an easy to use homepage with navigation tabs, a flash image of a past project, and our logo. Additionally, there is a small description about the department, the people who work here, and information about the services we provide. We encourage everyone to take a look.
- **Where Credit is Due** — PD&E has posted signs at various construction projects on campus. The signage is intended to inform the public of who is responsible for the project. Project Design and Engineering proudly accepts ownership of all activities related to the project and are proud to show that our activities are in support of the overall mission and vision of the organization.



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

- Attended the ACES Freshmen Branding Ceremony to celebrate freshman initiation into the College. The event included paint branding, refreshments, and the Aggie Fight Song, which was led by President Carruthers.
- Met with the community college presidents on Tuesday, October 14 to discuss loan default and cooperative recruitment. We are looking at ways to decrease our cohort default rate as a system and to provide pathways for all students who attend NMSU to earn a bachelor degree.
- Facilitated a session on StrengthsQuest on Friday, October 17 for about 20 members of SAEM staff. Our emphasis on personal strengths is helping build a common language to encourage positive and proactive communication among all of SAEM.
- Celebrated Bosses Day with staff on Thursday, October 16.
- Welcomed Laurie Ferguson from Audit Services to the office. She will help with the fiscal side of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management while Dacia Sedillo serves as Interim Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management.



Dr. Bernadette Montoya is "branded" at the ACES Freshmen Branding Ceremony.

University Admissions, Ms. Valerie Pickett

- Admissions Advisors represented NMSU during the fourth week of Colorado College Days at high schools in Colorado Springs, Ft. Collins, and Denver.
- High schools visits were made to schools in Deming, Bayard, Reserve, Animas, and Cliff. Senior Applications Days were held at Mayfield High School and Oñate High School.
- We hosted group visits with students from the New Americas Charter School and Chaparral High School. Ten families attended personal campus visits.
- Admissions advisors attended graduate fairs at the University of San Diego and the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science national conference.



University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services, Ms. Janie Merchant

- Joseph Molina, Financial Aid Advisor, delivered a half-day training session to a state-wide audience at the NMAASFAA (New Mexico Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators) Fall Training in Albuquerque. The presentation covered expected family contribution (EFC) calculations, changes

to federal financial aid under consideration, and financial aid implications of the Supreme Court ruling on the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

Student Engagement, Dr. Terry Cook

- Student Engagement hosted a webinar on engaging commuter students for 18 staff members. Engaging this population can be challenging, but it is critical for our goals of retention and completion.
- The Aggie Capstone Graduation Program hosted a "Come Back and Complete" information session on Tuesday, October 14, 2014. Nineteen students attended the session presented by Marissa Macias, Program Coordinator. Former Aggies received information on the process to be readmitted to NMSU as well as how to receive advising and financial assistance.
- The Mid-semester Awareness Campaign sponsored "Check-In/Check Up Fall Expo" on Wednesday, October 15, 2014. Students visited with campus resource providers, took a mid-semester checkup assessment, and learned about strategies to improve their performance in courses.
- Military and Veterans Programs held the first Veteran Scholarship development meeting this week to outline and begin the process for the creation of a new endowed Student Veteran scholarship at NMSU.
- An MVP representative attended the Fort Bliss SFL-TAP/AUSA Career Fair on Wednesday, October 15. More than 25 schools, 60 employers, and 17 resources participated in the event and welcomed 1,000 soldiers and their families. This gave the MVP Office an opportunity to market our academic programs, discuss admissions requirements, and recruit prospective students.
- MVP confirmed a very generous donation of food from Andele's restaurant in Mesilla for our Annual Veterans Day Picnic. This is a yearly event held on Veteran's Day, November 11. Andele's will provide our student veterans with hamburgers, hot dogs, sides, and all the fixings at no cost.



Participants in Check-in/Check-Up visited with student service staff at the Taos Patio.

Health and Wellness, Ms. Lori McKee

- Kenny Coppedge and Sasha Garcia, NMSU Outdoor Recreation, traveled to the Three Rivers Area of the White Mountain Wilderness with 14 students in early October for Backpacking 101, a backpacking trip geared toward beginners. These trips are scheduled for student recreational and experiential learning for the Outdoor Student Leadership Program.



Backpacking students learned fundamentals of outdoor recreation earlier this month.



CHC Pink Month display

- The Campus Health Center hosted free Clinical Breast Exams by nurse practitioners, Patty Chavana and Renee Williams on October 15. The event screened 143 women of all ages. A woman's chance of being diagnosed with breast cancer is 1 in 8, and each year the CHC event has participants pledging to tell 8 of their friends about the signs, symptoms, and resources available for women to learn about breast cancer. The breast screening is a tremendous health education component to the university's Tough Enough to Wear Pink event.

Student Diversity Programs

- On October 15, Adan Delval represented Chicano Programs at Check-In, Check Up. He signed up interested students to Chicano Programs e-mail list and reminded students to fill out the Scholar Dollar\$ application.
- Dr. Laura Spencer presented a “Preparing for College” workshop to about 30 women at the Del Cerro Community Center in Vado on October 15. Among the participants were two women who are past participants of Chicano Programs Mother–Daughter program for fifth grade students and their mothers. One of the daughters is at DACC, and the other plans to apply to NMSU for admission next year.
- On Thursday, October 16, Dr. Spencer held a meeting of the Immigrant Student Issues Committee. The committee is planning trainings on serving students who have Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), are undocumented, or are US citizens or residents and graduates from a Mexican high school.
- On Friday, October 17, Dr. Spencer joined Justin McHorse, Director of American Indian Programs, Dean Reyes of the Graduate School, and many other faculty members, administrators, and students at an announcement of the 4th iteration of the RISE program. This federal program supports under-represented students in their pursuit of faculty positions in STEM disciplines. The ethnic programs were recognized as having an important role in the support of the students and the RISE faculty and administrators.

Vice President Economic Development, Dr. Kevin Boberg

Studio G Clients in the News

- Last Friday, the *Las Cruces Sun-News* featured a story on Studio G client Chico Farm. Chico Farm is a small organic farm located near Mesquite owned and operated by NMSU students Daniel and Norma Hartell. The Hartells came to NMSU’s business accelerator, Studio G, for assistance in launching their line of organic goat’s milk soap. Studio G offered guidance and mentoring to the Hartells as they developed their business model and eventually launched selling their product at the local farmer’s market and online. Their business, with the help of Studio G, has proven to be a great success. The complete article can be found at the link below.

http://www.lcsun-news.com/las_cruces-business/ci_26703465/arrowhead-centers-studio-g-turning-out-student-entrepreneurs

Arrowhead Enterprise Advisor Scott Maloney Wins \$30,000 for new startup

- Arrowhead Center Enterprise Advisor Scott Maloney took his startup idea to the 2014 Deal Stream Summit, an annual startup investment competition held in Albuquerque. Mr. Maloney pitched his company [Seed Worthy](#), an internet tech company, and its product [Bow Tie](#), a developer-centric tool kit for hosting and launching software. Good thing he did. Among the ten companies invited to pitch their ideas, Seed Worthy won the \$30,000 award as the most investable business. An article detailing Mr. Maloney’s win can be found at the link below.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/albuquerque/blog/morning-edition/2014/10/seedworthy-takes-the-prize-at-deal-stream-summit.html>

Proposal Submission to the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration (EDA)

- Arrowhead Center submitted a bid (approximately \$2M) this week for planning and feasibility studies as well as infrastructure improvements in Arrowhead Park. Prior EDA support for the Park has proven critical in leveraging \$32 million in private capital investment, over 170 jobs created, and the general economic impact of the Park in our region. While expansion in the Park continues with completion of the Arrowhead Park Medical Academy and announcement of the new Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine, additional infrastructure, economic feasibility, and master planning work

are necessary to fully realize the benefit of prior investments and succeed in rapid development of this new Health-Tech Cluster. Our role in providing place, infrastructure, services for our partners, and connections to NMSU's student base and research strengths for development and commercialization of new technologies is critical to delivering on the potential of this initiative. Catapulting regional business and technology development in this critical arena, along with other high tech industries such as agriculture, aerospace and commercial space, and water technology, will be the focus of the proposed Park planning and infrastructure developments.

Vice President Research, Dr. Vimal Chaitanya

No Activity to Report

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

- University Advancement and College of Health and Social Services partnered in service to a donor to close a revocable planned gift (NMSUF as beneficiary) that will support an existing endowment in the College. The donor was welcomed into the NMSU Foundation's 1888 Society.
- Received \$10,000 from the J. Frank Schmidt Family Charitable Foundation for ornamental horticulture in the Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences College.
- Received \$12,500 from TRAX International for NM Best and senior design projects in the College of Engineering.
- Received a generous pledge of \$900k from a local couple who are avid community leaders for current use funds to be used at the President's discretion. The first contribution of \$100k has been received and will be set aside by the President for Williams Hall renovation should the project contingency requirements be met.

Athletics Director, Dr. McKinley Boston, Jr.

No Activity to Report

Associate Vice President University Communications, Maureen Howard

- Our Marketing Services group is continuing to work on the fall recruitment campaign and released two new digital billboards this week.



- Former ABC news anchor Sam Donaldson hosted the only broadcast debate between congressional district candidates in the KRWG studio Wednesday afternoon. The recorded program aired across New Mexico Thursday on the various public television stations.
- This week's Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted Brook Milligan, a biology professor in the College of Arts and Sciences, who is one of a limited group of scientists around the world now beta testing a handheld genome sequencer. Oxford Nanopore's MinION is designed to gather data on hundreds of molecules simultaneously and return results quickly.
- This week's Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted Decade of the Zuhl Museum, an event celebrating the Zuhl Collection's 10th anniversary, which took place place October 18. This free event featured activities for both the young and young at heart. In conjunction with Earth



Science Week (October 12-18), the Zuhl Museum informed guests about the fossil, mineral and petrified wood collection on display year round.

- The President's Communications Council met this week. Assistant Vice President of Institutional Analysis Judy Bosland reported on the Graduating Student Survey and the representatives from each college/unit provided updates on current marketing activities.

Assistant Vice President Government Relations, Ricardo Rel

- October 23 – 24 Revenue Stabilization & Tax Policy Committee- State Capitol, Rm. 311
 - Proposed Changes to the Angel Investment Tax Credit
- October 22 - Capitol Buildings Planning Commission – State Capitol
 - Proposed Legislation requested by the Capitol Buildings Planning Commission
 - Executive Agency Capital Outlay
- October 27-29 – Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee – Albuquerque
 - Degree Plans Project - UNM
 - **Public Television – Glen Cerny will be on a panel**
 - Electric Grid Stability
 - Higher Education Endowment – Chaouki Abdallah, UNM
 - NM Tech Overview
- October 28 – 31- Legislative Finance Committee- State Capitol, Room 307
 - **October 30 – Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Experiment Station, New Mexico Department of Agriculture**
- October 29 – Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee – Angel Fire
- October 30-31- Indian Affairs Committee – Akela Flats/NMSU
 - **October 31 - Welcome and Status Update – President Carruthers, Justin McHorse, Jeanelle Chavez**
- October 30 – Cooperative Extension Service/Agricultural Experiment Station/NM Department of Agriculture
 - November 7- Radioactive Hazardous Materials – State Capitol

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

- I presented the NMDA capital projects to the Department of Finance and Administration Capital Committee in Santa Fe.
- Staff participated in the National Pecan Grower Council (NPGC) oversight meeting. NPGC Leadership and the U.S. Pecan team met to review the USDA FAS MAP Unified Export Strategy (UES) for 2015 and finalize the planned marketing activities in each of the seven key market groups (China, India, S. Korea, Canada, EU, Turkey, and UAE).
- Staff finalized preparations to implement the Canadian Inbound mission to Produce Management Association. Eight Canadian buyers were recruited to meet one-on-one with 18 Western U.S. produce/nut companies. Five of the participants are from New Mexico. Staff will lead this mission in the capacity of the WUSATA Project Manager.
- Staff hosted and gave presentations at the Veterinary Roundtable for local veterinarians.
- Staff attended the Association of American Feed Control Officials Board of Directors meeting and met with the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Center for Veterinary Medicine.
- Staff attended Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham's Water Innovation Summit. The Summit included several panel discussions, including New Mexico's existing water resources, technological



solutions to water scarcity, innovative water management and policy strategies, and economic development opportunities.

Chief, NMSU Police, Stephen Lopez

- The Police Department hosted a two-day training course in verbal communications for police officers from around the region. The 54 officers attending the course learned how to differentiate between incidents where force is needed and incidents where verbal communication might still work, techniques for de-escalating situations, and getting people to comply with reasonable directives. The training was held in Domenici Hall on the Las Cruces campus.
- The Police Department assisted the Las Cruces Police Department in handling a fatal traffic crash on University Avenue at Triviz Drive. While the crash took place off of campus, the NMSU Central Administrative Response Team took action to support the people involved in the crash. This ranged from sending a NMSU police officer to pick up a mother who was in Albuquerque to the senior administration going to El Paso to meet with patients and their families. The Dean of Students remains engaged with the decedent's family, as well as with the others involved in the crash.
- On Tuesday night, a NMSU patrol officer responded to a report of suspicious activity in South Campus Housing and located an individual who had been breaking into vehicles. The suspect was arrested and has been tied to numerous automobile burglaries throughout the region. Since his arrest, the number of automobile burglaries, both on and off campus have decreased.
- NMSU Police Officers filed 59 initial reports, 17 supplemental reports, and 11 traffic citations during the week. In addition, the Records Office fingerprinted 28 people and entered 57 items of evidence into the Evidence Vault.
- Bicycle theft remains a challenge, with eight bicycles reported stolen during the week.
- The Emergency Dispatch Center handled 184 calls for service for the Police Department and 25 calls for service for the Fire Department. The EDC continues to run overtime in order to meet the staffing needs due to being short one dispatcher position.
- The Crime Prevention and Victim Services Office put together four crime prevention efforts and reviewed and/or staffed eight special events.