



# New Mexico State University

## Weekly Activity Report

**September 22-26, 2014**

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

- The attendance numbers for the Domenici Conference are in, and it is a new record – 1,032 registered, with 37 percent being students. An outstanding conference with outstanding attendance.
- This is Tough Enough to Wear Pink week, which has become more of an NMSU program, even though we are still interested in working with the Cowboys for Cancer Research in raising money for their endowment. I hope all will wear their pink and show up for the game on Saturday in pink outfits.
- The search process is underway for the Athletic Director position. If you know of interested candidates, they should apply electronically by October 15, at which time the search committee will begin their review.
- Congratulations to Mary O’Connell, this year’s recipient of the Westhafer Award for Research. We had a nice reception for Mary where we also recognized other Westhafer recipients – the crème de la crème of our great University.
- The Council of University Presidents met by telephone to discuss the funding formula. Although not complete, it appears there is an agreement to use the funding formula from last year and tweak it by adding two matrices. One matrix will calculate the value of student credit hours using the Tier table developed in the 1990s (which really needs to be updated). The other matrix will assign various values to degrees. Neither matrix creates a big problem, but they make the formula a little more complicated. As currently constituted, there should be minimal movement among the sectors – research, comprehensive and two year college programs. This is important in that recently money was drifting away from the science universities toward the comprehensives and two-year programs.

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

- On Monday, September 22, I attended the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) statewide meeting in Albuquerque. The purpose of PARCC is to develop assessment of student learning in math, reading, and writing that is aligned with the common core. The assessment tools are currently under development; once complete, they are intended to provide colleges with reliable information about student readiness for college coursework. Also, beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, students will need to pass the PARCC assessment in order to receive a certified high school diploma in New Mexico. As I noted in my questions of presenters at the meeting, I am concerned that the assessment exams will be in place and required of students before longitudinal studies have validated the exams. While I am supportive of efforts to provide colleges and universities with more reliable information about student readiness for college coursework, I am concerned by the rush to implement assessments without proper validation.
- The Student Success Best Practices Summit attracted more than 100 faculty and staff members who listened to presenters from most of our colleges discuss innovative initiatives implemented within their colleges that are designed to enhance student success. There is much good work being done within our colleges to help students with developmental courses, to intervene aggressively when

students show signs of faltering, and to improve readiness for demanding coursework. To learn more about these initiatives and others (e.g., prescriptive advising, degree pathways, and peer mentoring) go to the Provost's Webpage and view the webcast.

- On Thursday, September 25, I attended a Legislative Finance Committee meeting in Santa Fe, where the formula funding for higher education was discussed. The proposed formula for the coming year is more complicated than the formula for the previous year and some legislators were concerned about loss of funding for community colleges and lack of stability in the formula. As Senator Papan noted, it is difficult for universities and colleges to plan when the formula changes annually. Work on the formula is likely to continue over the course of the next few months.

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

### **Agricultural Experiment Station**

- Fabian Garcia Gardens hosted the Ag Leadership group which consists of CEO's, company presidents, news media, and various other community leaders, and some ACES employees for lunch, and tours of the gardens and research plots. Sodexo served plated food items including NMSU Shrimp tacos. After lunch the group went over the shrimp production facility and learned of all the wonderful products that are being developed from glandless cotton seed. Glandless cotton seed is being researched at the Agricultural Experiment Station and is



being used for baked goods, meals, flours, oils and many other products including aquaculture feed. Participants got to see firsthand aquaculture production of pacific white salt water shrimp being grown in a zero water exchange system. The group learned how the Agricultural Experiment Station is addressing various issues that growers and community residents are facing. The Fabian Garcia Botanical gardens is located on University Street. It is open to the public from sun up to sundown. If anyone would like to visit the gardens, they can contact the Fabian Garcia Science Center at 575-646-2729 to make arrangements.

### **NMSU Rodeo Team**

- The first rodeo of the semester took place in Tsaille, Arizona. The NMSU Men's Team took first place in the overall rodeo competition. Lucas McKenzie took first place for Men's AA and second place for Tie-Down and Team Roping. Ty Anderson took third place for Tie-Down. Josh Davison took first place for Bull Riding. Tyke Kipp took first place for Steer Wrestling. Courtney Campbell took first place for Barrel Racing.

### **Family and Consumer Sciences**

- FCS has a subcontract proposal with Michigan State University that was recently funded. The proposal is related to behavioral health. Dona Ana County was one of 8 sites selected around the U.S. to participate. Dr. Esther Devall is the PI and Jon Schwartz from the College of Education is Co-PI.



## Media Productions

- Learning Games Lab is expanding NMSU's statewide mobile technology outreach. They equipped Extension agents at the Albuquerque State Fair with specialized iPad systems to help judge and track state fair animals. Media Productions also created a new mobile app, called Livestock Record, to help 4-H'ers monitor animal weight, feed, health, income, expenses and assets on their iPhones or iPads. The National 4-H Council is now promoting NMSU's new app to 4-H'ers across the nation.

## Animal and Range Sciences

- Dr. Dennis Hallford, interim Department Head, held their annual Freshman BBQ Picnic and Club Fair on Thursday, serving hamburgers to 125 freshmen animal and range sciences majors. Departmental student organizations displayed club information and encouraged participation in one or more of these groups. The event was coordinated and food was prepared by the Animal and Range Sciences Graduate Student Association (ARSGSA).
- The Department also recently hosted a "Welcome Back" Ice Cream Social for faculty and staff and their families. Honored guests at this event were graduate students and emeritus faculty/staff.

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

- I met with Lt. Col. David McCoy and Gary Cataldo to discuss recruitment for the Army ROTC program and Alumni support of the cadets.
- Patrick Knapp and I met with Dean's Council member Heather Pollard to discuss college priorities and to hear her recommendations for strengthening the college and building connections with the community.
- The Theatre Department hosted "Coffee with the Deans" and faculty and staff across the college gathered in the Center for the Arts for informal discussions.
- Beth Pollack and I attended the Provost's Best Practices Forum on Student Success. Excellent presentations were made by all colleges, including Arts and Sciences Advisors Jennifer Hughes and Kelly Hestir.
- I attended a truly enjoyable presentation in the Music Department and met Pancho Romero's former student, Hugo Moreno. Hugo is currently playing in *Cinderella* on Broadway.
- I met with Col. Jeffrey Staha and Lt. Col. Ira Kline regarding the Air Force ROTC program. Col. Staha was very complimentary of the NMSU program and expressed his pleasure with the support the College of Arts and Sciences provides for the program.
- The first "Listening Lunch" of the Academic Year was held at Fulton Center. It was a chance for me to meet with faculty from Journalism, Theatre Arts, and Biology and to hear their concerns and recommendations and to answer questions about the college and university. These lunches are always worthwhile and informative.
- The College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Council met and discussed strategies for fundraising for the college and supporting the Williams Hall Renovation. The Council members are very energetic and engaged and always offer constructive advice to the associate deans and me.
- Andrea Tawney and I met with an NMSU donor who is very interested in the art conservation program. She stated how impressed she was with the quality of the program and the services the students provide across the community.
- We hosted a reception sponsored by the First National Bank of the Rio Grande and Dickerson Group to kick off the fundraising activities for the Williams Hall Renovation. Ammu Devasthali was the featured speaker to a group of Art graduates, elected officials, and Art Gallery supporters.
- Associate Dean Brown and ASRC staff attended meetings with SPA and with OGC staff about the College of Arts and Sciences Shared Service Center.
- Jonathan Cook (Computer Science) received \$50,000 from Sandia. Shelley Lusetti (Chemistry and



Biochemistry) received a \$8,619 NIH-RISE supplement.

- Department of English alumnus Mike Meginnes received the 2013 Horatio Nelson Fiction Prize for his book *Fat Man and Little Boy*.
- Susan DeMar, administrative assistant in the Department of Geography, will be honored by Mayor Miyagishima on October 20 for her community service. She has advocated for an Amtrak stop in Las Cruces; has been an active officer in the NMSU Women's Club; developed the Ruth Mary Webber Scholarship in memory of her mother; and sings in the Mesilla Valley Choir.
- The Department of Theatre Arts inaugurated its 2014-15 season with "West Highland Way" on September 26.

### **Dean, College of Business, Dr. James Hoffman**

- Attended the Las Cruces Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Mix and Mingle event on September 23. It was a great opportunity to meet local business professionals.
- The Epsilon Upsilon chapter of Delta Sigma Pi, our professional business fraternity hosted a faculty/staff appreciation breakfast on September 24.
- Our resident experts Jim Peach, Chis Erickson and Ken Martin provided updates on the national, local and regional economies and the current state of the stock market at the second Economic Update Forum of 2014 on September 25. The event is a partnership between the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce and the College of Business; it was held at the KRWG-TV Studio and aired TV22.
- The Tribal Wisdom for Business Ethics: Gathering of People and Ideas on September 25-27 brought together students, faculty from across NMSU and other universities, business people and representatives from Native American tribes and pueblos including the Acoma, Arapaho, Apache, Blackfeet, Cree, Dine (Navajo), Hopi, Jemez, Laguna, Nez Perce, Palewyami, Potawatomi, Ute, Washo, and Zuni.
- Along with Kathy Brook, Jim Nelson, Ben Widner and Larry Blank, I attended the fall meeting of the New Mexico Collegiate Business Articulation Consortium (NMCBAC) in Albuquerque at CNM on September 26 and 27. This group meets twice each year to facilitate transfer of credits among two and four year institutions of higher education in New Mexico.
- We held a hooding ceremony on September 27 for our recent cohort of graduates from our remote site Master of Business Administration program for Sandia National Laboratory employees. The ceremony was held at the NMSU Albuquerque Center.

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

#### **Michael A. Morehead, Dean**

- Dean Morehead discussed advancement plans with Kelley Coffeen and Ashley Jurado. The discussion included expanding our reach into El Paso and building relationships with our graduates in that area. The discussion also included future plans for the Cornerstone award and the Board of Advocates.
- Following up on that discussion we met with Kay Brilliant to plan for the reorganization of the Board of Advocates. This process will be conducted in two phases; in the fall meeting we will seek input from the board members related to roles and responsibilities. In the spring meeting, an overall plan with three or four primary objectives and responsibilities outlined for board members will be determined.

- Dean Morehead met with the leadership team at Santa Fe Community College to explore possible two-plus-two programs delivered in Santa Fe.
- Dr. Morehead attended the university wide event on student success and heard several good presentations on student retention and actions taken by the various colleges to improve student retention.
- Dr. Morehead and Dr. Hannan reviewed the final budget for the fiscal year and reviewed the number of open lines for the college; additionally they reviewed the number of lines lost to central administration during the past five years and the number returned.

#### **James O'Donnell, Associate Dean**

- Began initial preparation of program development for grant award from Public Education Department.
- Attended the NM Deans and Directors meeting for Teacher Education.

#### **Ron Dziwenka, Program Manager for Assessment**

- Dr. Dziwenka worked with faculty and GAs to assist them to interact with the Tk20 training server, to become comfortable working in the Tk20 data collection system before using it.
- He continued the data collection for the 2014 EARS Report, due October 3.
- He began to organize and implement changes in Tk20 to a key assessment for the ELED program, changing its context from an observation to a field experience.
- He began running new reports on data collection and organization for all 4 Programs in Tk20, including reports number 002, 015, 016, 060, 067 and LTI 001.

#### **Advancement Team**

- Met with the Dean to discuss our Aggies for Kids members and Cornerstone event.
- Lunch with Kay Brilliant work out BOA direction and details.
- Met with Dr. Cahill - worked on a conversation for Aggie's for Kids.
- Met with Mallory regarding Homecoming and distinguished Alumni.
- Met with Anthony Causus and his new (assistant) Development Officer for College of Business. We discussed their scholarship luncheon, Hall of Fame Dinner, and Advisory Council and interaction with all stakeholders - great info on how to move forward regarding Cornerstone, Board of Advocates, Alumni and scholarship events.
- Met with Adelina and Ashley – clarified details on STARS event, started working on Homecoming.

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

- The College of Engineering and the Engineer's Council presented Spin Your Own Web, a full-day workshop to help students prepare for the career fair. Professional engineering career consultant and speaker Alaina Levine presented interactive discussions on preparing and attending an interview, appropriate dress code, maximizing the career fair experience and exploring passions and realizing potential. Some 36 engineering students attended the event.
- Company representatives and alumni from Cummins Inc., ChevronPhillips Chemical and Sandia National Laboratories volunteered their time and expertise and reviewed more than 200 resumes for engineering students over the course of a two-day Resumania. The event was sponsored by the College of Engineering to help students prepare for Career Expo.
- Nearly 80 employers visited the NMSU campus for Career Expo on engineering and technology day, jointly hosted by the College of Engineering and Career Services. An estimated 1,000 students attended the engineering day of Career Expo.
- The College of Engineering hosted 11 employer Information Sessions for students to learn about the respective companies and employment opportunities. Some 271 students attended sessions presented



Cummins, Fast Enterprise, Freeport McMoRan, NAVAIR, Kimley-Horn, Raytheon, Schlumberger, DCP Midstream, Sandia National Laboratories, General Motors and Chevron Phillips.

- Twenty-one engineering students participated in the first-ever College of Engineering's Aggie Engineering Design Contest sponsored by Intel Corp. Intel challenged students to develop a product that was fun, novel and marketable using Intel's Galileo boards. Students were given basic kits and had three weeks to develop their products, beginning with a training session on Galileo boards, followed by weekly question and answer sessions with Intel engineers. Competitors used the Aggie Innovation Space Presented by Intel to develop their designs. Mechanical engineers Gregory Taylor, Jesse Wilkinson and Colt Cappuro won the competition with their design Not-So Blinded that allowed automated blinds to track sunlight and allow ambient light into a room. Using the Galileo board as processor, solar panels track the position of the sun to close and open the blinds accordingly. Wilkinson explained that in the future, they would like to allow for manual adjustment, a battery back-up system and integration with other household appliances.
- Nearly 70 people participated in Stanford's Epicenter and Pathways to Innovation Program workshops, learning ways to incorporate innovation and entrepreneurship in undergraduate engineering classrooms and engage teams of faculty and university leaders to stimulate a culture of innovation on their campuses. The workshops were hosted by the College of Engineering and were attended by faculty, staff, students and representatives from universities throughout the nation who are participating in the Pathways program. The program culminated with an Aggie Innovation Challenge, with 45 students in teams creating their own low-resolution product prototypes. The NMSU College of Engineering is a participant in the Pathways to Innovation Program, managed by the National Center for Engineering Pathways to Innovation (Epicenter). Epicenter is funded by the National Science Foundation and directed by Stanford University and VentureWell (formerly NCIIA).

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

- Joe Tomaka, Associate Dean for Research, met with Clinical Outreach Sub-Committee of the CHSS Advisory Board (Ann DeBooy, Sabrina Martin and Jennifer Cervantes) where they discussed the results of our "Continuing Education Needs Assessment Survey" that is distributed to leaders at local health and social service agencies with professionals requiring CE. Results indicated needs in several areas. The next steps are (a) to conduct a follow up survey of specific needs in those areas and (b) use those results to organize a CHSS-sponsored CE opportunities in the spring semester.
- In addition, Dr. Tomaka is nearing completion of NIH grant application to examine the effectiveness of our innovative Coping-Enhanced PNF intervention for reducing college drinking and related problems. Submission deadline is October 5.
- Dr. Blair of the School of Social Work, had two papers accepted at an international conference on health psychology. The conference will be held in Havana, Cuba, from November 10 through 14. His papers are titled, "Developing an Optimistic Explanatory Style", and "The Use of Logotherapy with Suicidal Adolescents".
- Also from the School of Social Work, Dr. Tina Hancock hired a new faculty member. Ann Mosely, College Associate Professor, will serve as the content expert on their new SBIRT grant (\$850,000) for the next three years. The purpose of the grant is to integrate evidence based content on substance abuse prevention and intervention into the curricula of social work, nursing, counseling, education and psychology. The P.I. on the grant will be Dr. Hancock.
- Letty Gallegos, Academic Advisor for the Department of Public Health Sciences, coordinated a webinar titled, "Handling Difficult and Disruptive Behaviors" on September 23. The webinar focused on how to handle students in many different situations, and advice regarding how to manage



emotional faculty, staff and students who approach front office staff members in a disrespectful manner. The presenters were Dr. Brian Van Brunt, former President of the American College Counseling Association and Julia Johnson, Assistant Coordinator of Testing Services at Western Kentucky University. Over 40 people from across campus attended the webinar.

- Dr. Joe Gladstone from the Department of Public Health will be participating as a speaker in the Tribal Wisdom for Business Ethics conference, organized by Professor Grace Ann Rosile in the College of Business. Dr. Gladstone will be discussing the intersection of American Indian tribal values and organizational management. The Tribal Wisdom Ethics conference is sponsored but the NMSU Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative.
- The School of Nursing presented a proposal for the NMSU Alamogordo nursing program to the Board of Education on Friday, September 26.

### **Dean, Honors College, Dr. Miriam Chaiken**

- I met with four individuals who are interested in applying for the position of Associate Dean in the Honors College. They wanted more information on the responsibilities for the position and the goals and direction for the College in the years to come.
- I participated in the first meeting of the search committee for the Associate Dean position and we discussed the procedures for the search, as well as the qualifications that would be ideal for the Associate Dean.
- I began engaging in some of the groundwork for the search process for the Dean of the College of Education (Provost Howard asked me to chair that search). I worked with Yoli Baca in the Provost's office to have a call sent out across campus, especially in the departments in the College of Education, to invite interested individuals to submit their name as potential participants on the search committee. There will be an election to select search committee members in a couple weeks. I reviewed about 20 job announcements in the Chronicle of Higher Education for posts in Colleges of Education. I contacted HR and was able to obtain the current job description for Dean Morehead. I scheduled a meeting with Dean Morehead to discuss how he views his current role. All of this information will be used to craft a job announcement that will reflect the complexities and opportunities in this position.
- I had a lunch for two members of our advocacy group, the Circle for Excellence. I will be meeting all the members of the Circle in small groups in the next few weeks in advance of our first formal meeting since I became Dean, now scheduled for early November.
- I was very pleased to be recognized at a luncheon sponsored by the Teaching Academy to recognize the Outstanding Mentor. It was a lovely event, and I was very moved that my mentee, Kassia Wosick, nominated me for this honor.
- I learned that the Honors College has not traditionally mentored students as they decide whether to apply for graduate studies, nor helped them learn how to prepare competitive applications for graduate school. I designed a workshop on graduate school applications and professionalism and invited students to join us on Friday afternoon. Dr. Andersen, our Associate Dean, joined me in leading this workshop, and we had about 25 very engaged and lively students participate in this event. I anticipate teaching this workshop on a regular basis so that students get support and guidance in preparing for graduate studies.



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

- Held an all library staff meeting celebrating the accomplishments of library staff in meeting or making progress on 2014-2015 Library Strategic Targets.
- Met with the C. Boyse and L. Miller, co-chairs of the Library Task Force on Future Systems to review and discuss goals, objectives, and timetables.
- Met with all library budget committee to review and discuss current campus-wide budget reductions process and recommendations being forwarded by NMSU Library for one-time 1 percent, 3 percent, and 5 percent targets.
- Attended a library-wide staff training session on Title IX and Sexual Violence.
- Met with Angela Velasco; Norice Lee, Associate Dean; and Samantha Rich, Assessment and Data Gathering Librarian on affirmation action data gathering.
- Had lunch with a donor and April Anaya, Major Gift Officer and signed a deed of gift at this meeting.

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

### **International and Border Programs**

- Dr. Cornell Menking attended the European Association of International Education conference in Prague, Czech Republic from September 15-19. For the first time, NMSU had a booth where Dr. Menking met with existing partners and developed new collaborative possibilities for NMSU.
- Last week IBP units hosted visitors from Hebei Normal University in China and discussed opportunities to develop deeper collaborations between NMSU and HNU leading to an increased number of HNU students at NMSU studying Spanish, English, Education and ESL.

### **Office of Education Abroad**

- OEA will conduct, for the first time, a presentation on leading Faculty Led International Programs (FLiP's) at DACC's All-faculty Professional Development Day. This comes on the heels of the hugely successful first Study Abroad Fair held at DACC earlier this month.
- Presented to all University advisors on September 19 during the University Advisors Symposium.
- Conducted a Gilman Scholarship Workshop in coordination with the Honors College on September 23.
- Presented to the Pathways Towards Degree Completion (PDC) Committee on Best Practices in International Admissions on September 25 and 26.

### **Center for English Language Programs**

- A new eight-week session begins October 10; over 60 continuing students, and about 20 new students, are registered.

### **International Student and Scholar Services**

- Two recruiters represented NMSU at a student recruitment fair in Chihuahua City on September 18. They will also attend at a student recruitment fair in Ciudad Juarez on October 1.
- The Fall welcome picnic was postponed because of rain and will be held Wednesday, October 8 east lawn at Garcia Annex, 11:30am -1:00 pm.
- The Cultural Bazaar, co-sponsored by IBP and the Las Cruces Branigan Museum, will be held Saturday October 11 from 10:00am -1:00pm outside the Branigan Museum.

### **Confucius Institute**

- The CI celebrated Confucius Week and its 7<sup>th</sup> year on the NMSU campus. On September 25 its annual board meeting was held and fun cultural events for the community were held outside of Corbett Auditorium. A formal ceremony was also held in the Faculty Senate Chamber. Attending were representatives of the CI Chinese partner university, Shijiazhuang Institute of Science and Technology, President Liu Guiyun and Chairman Wu, and Deputy Provost Greg Fant.

## Senior Vice President Administration and Finance, Angela Throneberry

### NMSU Alamogordo Campus: Student Services Building

- The remodel and upgrade of the NMSU Alamogordo Campus Student Services Building managed by Project Development and Engineering has been completed. The Student Services Department will have a new look in the main lobby area, reception area, and offices. These new looks include new central reception/information desk, new furniture, finishes and new LED lighting fixtures. What you don't see is the new roof and the new HVAC system. The Grand Re-opening was September 25, 2014.



### Barnes & Noble NMSU Bookstore

- The NMSU Bookstore handed out free NMSU tattoos, NMSU magnets, and Hot Tamale candy samples at the UNM game. On September 22, President Carruthers was present at the Bookstore to promote NMSU Tough Enough to Wear Pink (TETWP) shirts. In addition, "Fight Like an Aggie" paper guns are also on sale for \$1.00 to raise money for breast cancer research.

### FS Fire Department

- The Fire Department wants to remind everyone that Fire Prevention Week is right around the corner. Please help us sound the alarm that working smoke alarms save lives. FS Fire Department conducted fire drills in student housing, sororities, and fraternities during the week of Sept. 9-11. Students and staff did a great job evacuating!



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

- On Tuesday, September 23, Dr. Montoya facilitated a leadership retreat for International and Border Programs. The training was based on the Five Exemplary Practices from the Leadership Challenge. Participants discussed the importance of teamwork regarding organizational change.
- The webinar *Training Front Office Staff: Handling Difficult and Disruptive Behavior* was held on Tuesday, September 23. About 40 advisors and SAEM staff members attended the training, which taught how to best handle difficult student issues. Thanks to Joseph Molina, Financial Aid Advisor; Leticia Gallegos, Vice Chair of the Academic Advising Council; and Marisela Marquez, Event Planner for SAEM, for making this training happen.
- Mr. Hector Sanchez, Assistant Registrar, and Dr. Tony Marin, Director of Student Engagement, represented SAEM at the Best Practices at NMSU Summit on Wednesday, September 24. Dr. Marin discussed best practices in mentoring while Mr. Sanchez spoke about continuing changes to the Star Audit Degree.
- Dr. Cassandra Lachica-Chavez has accepted the position of University Registrar. She will be only the fifth person to hold this position since 1924. She joins us from the University of Texas-El Paso, where she currently serves as the Director of Admissions and Registrar. Dr. Lachica-Chavez will begin employment on November 19.



Academic Advisors and SAEM staff got tips on dealing with difficult and disruptive behavior.

- Dr. Montoya and Ms. Melody Munson-McGee met with Jeremy Witte of ASNMSU and Offices of Government Relations and Institutional Analysis on Wednesday, September 24 to plan for the upcoming legislative session. We are collaborating on ways to be proactive on working with New Mexico representatives and senators.
- Nearly 900 students have reserved a seat for the December 13 Commencement Ceremony, promising to make this ceremony another large one. Students can reserve a seat until December 8 at <http://commencement.nmsu.edu/>.

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



Digital billboards are currently being displayed in Las Cruces, Albuquerque, Deming, Clovis, Artesia, and Roswell to promote NMSU.

- Admission Advisors traveled to northeast New Mexico for the third week of New Mexico College Days. We attended high school programs in Las Vegas, Raton, Clayton, Tucumcari, Santa Rosa, Portales and Clovis. Additional visits were made to high schools in Santa Fe and Los Alamos.
- Admissions Advisors were in central Arizona for the third week of Arizona College Days. Advisors attended high school programs in Apache Junction, Phoenix, El Mirage, Glendale, Gilbert, Queen Creek and Maricopa.
- Advisors made a second trip of the recruitment season to visit schools during Colorado College Days. Advisors attended high school programs in Estes Park, Greeley, Erie, Henderson, Loveland, and Thornton. NMSU also had an advisor in Nevada to represent NMSU at the Congressional College Fair.
- Transfer visits were made to El Paso Community College and Central New Mexico Community College. A group of prospective transfer students from Diné College were on campus Friday for a visit.
- On-campus recruitment events included presentations and tabling at the NMSU JROTC Day.
- Aggie Ambassadors launched a calling campaign this week to invite high school seniors to Aggie Experience, our upcoming open house event. The phone calling campaign will continue next week.
- Valerie Pickett was one of several NMSU representatives who attended the “Statewide Postsecondary Convening” sponsored by NMHED and NMPED. The meeting focused on the implementation of the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) to be implemented in the public schools in 2015.
- Ermelinda Quintela, Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary Services, and Valerie Pickett met to discuss ways that the Admissions and Auxiliary Services might collaborate on recruitment initiatives.

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

- The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Career Expo was held September 16-17 with approximately 115 employers participating in the NMSU’s largest career fair. Corporate, Government, and non-profit employers from across the United States were on-campus presenting many career and cooperative education and internship opportunities with their organizations.

### **Student Diversity Programs**

- On Friday, September 26, Justin McHorse, Michael Ray, and current NMSU students LaToya Johnson, Lani Rae Padilla, and Neilroy Singer presented to 17 students and three staff members from Diné College, who were visiting campus to explore options regarding continuing their higher education. The visitors represented the Diné College Crownpoint and Shiprock campuses as well as the campus in Tsaile, Arizona.



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

### **Studio G Networking Hour**

- This week's networking hour at Studio G focused on how to setup a company. The discussion was designed to teach participants about the different options for business formation, such as LLCs, and Corporations, and how to set them up.

### **Arrowhead Briefing and Tour**

- Colin Cahoun, NMSU Engineering alum and IP attorney, received an Arrowhead overview briefing and tour, and participated in the Studio G Networking Hour.

### **Rural Economic Development**

- Michael Patrick is working with representatives from Cibola, San Juan, and McKinley counties as part of the USDA funded Stronger Economies Together program. Through their participation, communities along the [Trail of the Ancients Network](#) are developing a regional economic development plan.

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

- Vimal Chaitanya met with regional leaders in the health related institutions/industries in a meeting called by Kevin Boberg and Arrowhead Center to discuss how our collective expertise and wisdom can benefit the state of economy and the citizens of our region.
- Vimal Chaitanya visited the faculty assembly of the Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences, Department of Psychology and Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering to present the state of Research Enterprise at NMSU, need to contribute to and continue upward trend in research proposals submission and research awards as well as discuss issues and promise assistance.
- The VPR office organized and held two research rallies. The first on September 19 recognized the contribution of Professor Gary Eiceman from Chemistry/Biochemistry Department to the science of ion mobility and its impact on numerous students and post-doctoral fellows at home and abroad. The second rally on September 26 recognized Professor David Jauregui from Civil Engineering Department for his and his students' contribution with the bridge inspection program for the entire state of NM and their contribution to the safety of the transportation industry and citizens.
- Vimal Chaitanya met with Michael Dougher, VPR at UNM to discuss future initiatives and progress with New Mexico Consortium (NMC), New Mexico Collaborative Research and Development Council (NMCRCDC) and about the need for infrastructure support for research from the State.
- New Mexico Space Grant Consortium hosted 11 NASA managers on the NMSU campus on September 23-25 for a 'NASA Days' event. They came from Kennedy Space Center and Goddard Space Center. These NASA managers and people from NASA's Education Offices held workshops for students, met with NMSU faculty to discuss research and held job interviews at Career Services. They met with over 100 students, many faculty members and the VP for Research.
- Alisha Giron participated in the Contracts/Mechanisms Working Group Meeting of the NM Collaborative Research & Development Council (NMCRCDC) in Albuquerque.
- Sam Fernald met with NM Secretary of Economic Development Jon Barela, Vimal Chaitanya, Kevin Boberg, Ricardo Rel, and Vicente Vargas to continue discussion on the proposed Water Center of Excellence.
- Sam Fernald met with NM State Representative Rudy Martinez, Ricardo Rel, and Vicente Vargas on WRRI's RPSP (Research and Public Service Project) legislative request for FY16.

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- NM WRRRI received 33 proposals from students throughout New Mexico in response to the institute's FY15 Student Water Research Grant Program Request for Proposals. The proposals are under review and awards will be announced by October 1, 2014.

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

- University Advancement and CHSS partnered in service to a husband and wife to close a revocable \$100K planned gift (retirement plan with NMSUF as beneficiary) that will support an existing, as well as a new endowment in the College. In appreciation for their farsighted planning, these long-time friends of the University were welcomed into the NMSU Foundation's 1888 Society.
- Received \$15,000 from Chevron Phillips Chemical Company for Engineering and Career Services.

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

No Activity to Report

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

- This week's Eye on Research in the Las Cruces Sun-News explores winter canola as alternative crop. As farmers in Eastern New Mexico are preparing to plant winter crops, a New Mexico State University research project is pointing out dual-purpose canola as an excellent choice. Sangu Angadi, a crop stress physiologist at NMSU's Agricultural Science Center at Clovis, is leading the study of the crop in Clovis, along with Sultan Begna, agricultural research scientist. Research on canola also is being done at the university's Agricultural Science Center at Farmington under the direction of Agronomy Professor Michael "Mick" O'Neill and Curtis Owen, agricultural research assistant.
- This week's Sunday feature in the Las Cruces Sun-News highlighted the good and bad about mushrooms. Soum Sanogo, New Mexico State University professor of fungal plant pathology, conducts research on soil borne plant pathogens. His fungal biology class, which includes a mushroom cooking demonstration lesson, brings into perspective the beneficial aspects of fungi and how they help the environment as well as how detrimental they can be to crops, humans and animals.
- College Sports Media Awards presented an honorable mention this week to the Special Production Unit for their AggieVision broadcast of the NMSU vs Grand Canyon basketball game last season.
- On September 19, WNMU Provost Jack Crocker and his wife Jodi hosted a KRWG fundraiser in support of arts programming. This Silver City event was well attended and provided a good opportunity to learn about activities in the area.
- On September 22, the KRWG team attended the Education Legislative hearings in Hobbs. Public television's early child education activities and the master control funding requests were discussed. Response from the legislators was extremely positive. Special thanks to our government relations group for their support.
- KRWG in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce also produced the quarterly Economic Forum this week featuring Jim Peach, Ken Martin and Chris Erickson. This is another in a series of forums designed to bring updates on the economy to our viewers.



## Assistant Vice President Government Relations, Ricardo Rel

- October 2 – Joint Meeting Economic and Rural Development Committee/Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee – Santa Teresa High School
  - **Logistics for Community Growth: Public Infrastructure Requirements to Underpin Economic Expansion –Kevin Boberg**
- October 3 – Economic and Rural Development Committee – Dona Ana County Government Center
  - **Sustainable Energy – Smart Grid Epicenter at NMSU – Satish Ranade**
- October 6-7 – Water and Natural Resources Committee
- October 8- Behavioral Health Subcommittee- Albuquerque
- October 8 –Mortgage Finance Authority Act Oversight Committee- Mortgage Finance Authority Office
- October 9 – Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee – Albuquerque
- October 13-15
  - UNM – Redesign of the College of Education
  - Farm to Table Appropriation Distribution
- October 16 – Jobs Council
  - Workforce Development Initiatives: Collaborating to Prepare for the Jobs of the Future
  - Science Early Education Pilot Program
  - Barriers to Agricultural Products Small Business Growth
- October 16 – Courts and Correction – NMSU Barbara Hubbard Room
- October 20- Legislative Health & Human Services Committee- Espanola, Santa Claran Hotel
- October 20-21- NM Finance Authority Oversight Committee- NMSU Barbara Hubbard Room
  - **Welcome – Dan Howard**
- October 29-30 Indian Affairs Committee – NMSU
- October 27-28 – Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee – Albuquerque
  - Degree Plans Project
  - **Public Television – Glen Cerny will be on a panel**
  - Higher Education Endowment – Chaouk Abdallah
- October 28 – 31- Legislative Finance Committee- State Capitol, Room 307

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

- NMDA staff is working on the final details for the Rounder's Award ceremony for this year, which takes place October 6<sup>th</sup> in Santa Fe.
- Staff is preparing events and promotions for the Eastern New Mexico State Fair in Roswell September 29 through October 4. The items NMDA is working on include the Country Store and local food activities; October 3: watermelon bust and on October 4: New Mexico's state vegetables, chile, and beans.
- During the New Mexico State Fair, I presented the 2014 Farm Family of the Year Award to the Woelber family of H.A.W. Farms, a dairy farm located in Belen.
- The final Organic Integrated Pest Management Farm walk of the season took place on September 24 at the Farside Farm in Medanales. Twenty-six producers discussed organic management of insect pests and learned about the solar-powered pumps that help irrigate the farm. This concludes the fifth season of organic IPM farm walks.



## Chief, NMSU Police, Stephen Lopez

- The Police Department is still struggling to catch up after the UNM vs. NMSU football game. There were 31 individuals arrested at the game, and all initial processing was done that night. However, all of the case entries, work with the courts, and follow-up investigations related to these are still underway. It is expected that this will continue to affect the department for at least another week.
- The Police Department has prepared the Annual Safety and Security Bulletins required by the federal Clery Act for the Las Cruces campus, DACC Central Campus, the Albuquerque Center, and the Santa Fe campus. Because of the many changes required by the Violence Against Women Act, as well as a lack of guidance from the US Department of Education, this has taken a large amount of time from all levels of the department, and has dominated time from the Command Staff for the past two weeks. The report will be released to the campus community the afternoon of September 30 (the deadline imposed by the law). Once that is complete, the information on the crime statistics then has to be re-entered into an online database to meet the reporting requirements to the US Department of Education, with a deadline of October 15, 2014.
- Bicycle thefts continue to be a problem at NMSU, with most of the bicycles stolen using low-quality locks.