NMSU’s impact felt statewide
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New Mexico State University is proud of the great number of services we have provided to the state and the people of New Mexico for the past 125 years. With a presence in every county, NMSU is part of the fabric of New Mexico. The university is actually older than the state itself and from our very beginning we have been devoted to making a positive impact in every part of New Mexico.

It’s spelled out in our mission statement that NMSU is the state’s land-grant university, serving the educational needs of New Mexico’s diverse population through comprehensive programs of education, research, extension education and public service.

Education is one of our fundamental roles as a university. Each fall, thousands of students from across New Mexico come to our campus to pursue degrees. During their academic careers at NMSU, these students not only learn about their chosen fields, they also discover who they are and what they want to do with their lives. After graduation, these students join nearly 65,000 other Aggie alumni living New Mexico, armed with the tools and the talent to make a positive impact in their communities around the state.

NMSU’s research operation is as old as the university itself and is constantly seeking new innovations and improvements in a wide range of disciplines from across the university. Discoveries at NMSU are as diverse as improved Internet security, smarter pecan field irrigation and new ways to monitor life at the cellular level. Each of these research projects has a direct impact on the people of New Mexico. With outside funding totaling more than $1 billion over the past seven years, NMSU’s research operation has an impact on the state’s economy as well.

NMSU’s Cooperative Extension Service and our various public service projects are also important tools we use to serve New Mexico.

Each day, the Cooperative Extension Service provides the people of New Mexico with practical, research-based knowledge and programs to improve their quality of life. The Cooperative Extension Service’s mission was defined by federal law with the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 and for more than a century, they have been serving the needs of New Mexico.

Each county in New Mexico has a Cooperative Extension Office where county agents are tasked with discovering and addressing the needs of the community. These needs range from agricultural and horticultural issues to parenting, child development, and helping people lead healthier lives through better nutrition.

Included in NMSU’s Cooperative Extension Service is the New Mexico 4-H Youth Development Program. It reaches more than 53,000 New Mexicans between the ages of 5
and 19 each year. It provides youth the opportunities to acquire leadership, citizenship and life skills. As part of the program, 4-H participants gain knowledge and skills related to agriculture, including animal science and horticulture. Additionally, they learn about healthy lifestyle choices, which include fitness, nutrition, safety and substance abuse prevention. Many of our 4-H’ers also learn about science and technology, including biology, computers and electronics. Plus, this group provides more than 30,000 hours of community service around New Mexico.

Additional educational outreach programs at NMSU assist more than 15,000 teachers and have a direct impact on more than 100,000 students in New Mexico. Just a short sampling of these programs include:

- A partnership between our College of Education and our College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences where NMSU researchers are developing educational games and interactive tools for school children that address gaps in conceptual math.
- Various departments in our College of Arts and Sciences that engage in outreach programs with school children where professors and college students visit with public school students to get them interested in math, science and higher education.
- The Innoventure program in our College of Business, which fosters the spirit of invention, innovation and entrepreneurship by providing middle and high school students with the skills necessary to develop a business idea, a business plan and a way to sell their product.
- Numerous programs in our College of Engineering that provide educational enrichment for middle school and high school students, including lessons in various sciences, robotics and technical writing.

Each of these programs in education, research and service at New Mexico State University is valuable and provides an important impact felt statewide. Whether it’s through the development of educational games to boost students’ math knowledge or sparking the future entrepreneurs of tomorrow, NMSU will be there to help, just as it has been there for more than a century. NMSU is a caring community transforming lives through discovery.