



Office of the President

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DATE: October 15, 2014
TO: All NMSU employees
FROM: Garrey Carruthers, NMSU President
SUBJECT: G.O. Bond issues

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Garrey Carruthers', written over a horizontal line.

Every two years, during the November election, voters in New Mexico have an opportunity to show their support for higher education by voting for General Obligation Bond C, which would help fund capital improvements for higher education across the state. It's important to note that this bond will not result in any tax increase.

If G.O. Bond C is passed, the New Mexico State University system will receive a total \$25.1 million. With these funds, we'll be able to use \$19.2 million to upgrade and replace aging infrastructure in Jett Hall, Jett Annex and Rentfrow Hall. Additionally, NMSU Alamogordo will receive \$1 million, NMSU Carlsbad will receive \$1.6 million, NMSU Grants will receive \$1.3 million and NMSU's Dona Ana Community College will receive \$2 million for infrastructure renewal and expansion.

We're not constructing new buildings. These funds are designated to repair and refurbish the buildings we already have. The Jett buildings, and Rentfrow Hall, were constructed in the 1950s and if you've been inside them, you know they are in serious need of renovations to improve the learning experience for our students. Jett Hall is home to our rapidly growing chemical, aerospace and mechanical engineering programs. Our planned renovations there will address some fire and safety issues involving with how we handle chemicals and other dangerous materials in the building. Our human performance, dance and recreation program is housed in Rentfrow Hall. This program has seen enrollment triple in the last six years, mostly due to an increased demand for kinesiology degrees, and is in desperate need of an updated facility for its students.

Also included in this election cycle is Bond Issue B, which includes \$3.5 million in support for academic libraries in New Mexico, including more than \$500,000 for our NMSU libraries. Typically, this bond is very popular around the state and I am confident the voters will once again vote to support this important issue.

Early voting is already underway and Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 4. I encourage you to go out and vote, in the affirmative, for these issues.