

DATE: April 7, 2016

TO: NMSU faculty and staff

FROM: Garrey Carruthers, Chancellor

SUBJECT: NMSU is a caring community

I'm delighted to send the note below from a proud graduate of New Mexico State University. This is just another example of how NMSU is a caring community and how our talented faculty and staff mentor our students. Thank you for all that you do for our students.

*Dear Chancellor Carruthers:*

*First and foremost, please accept my sincere gratitude for taking your time to read this letter.*

*My name is Maurice Portillo and I began attending New Mexico State University in 2008 immediately after my service to the U.S. Army. I chose NMSU for the diversity of programs offered within the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. Initially, I encountered many obstacles and endured the problems many students are faced with in terms of proper advising and overall direction. I am proud to say that despite those obstacles and differences in directives, I finally graduated last December with a Bachelor's of Agricultural Science. I am now nothing short of a proud Aggie Alumni!*

*I must take this opportunity to express that I would not have claimed the title of Aggie Alumni had I not been privileged with meeting two very caring, understanding and overall amazing members of your team, Dr. Rebecca Creamer and Ms. Janie Wagoner. I met Dr. Creamer under the most unusual circumstances when she herself was in a period of*

*grief for the loss of her mother; despite her own grief she took time to encourage and assist me in returning to NMSU in pursuit of my own success. She offered to directly advise me and ensured I would be successful in obtaining the prestigious title of Aggie Alumni. She referred me to Ms. Janie Wagoner of the College of ACES Academic Programs Office and together they determined well beyond the scope of their professional obligations how I would succeed.*

*I am honored to inform you that as a result of the more than exceptional level of care and support offered by both Ms. Wagoner and Dr. Creamer I have gained a rewarding career with the USDA Farm Service Agency of New Mexico working directly under the State Executive Director. I cannot express my gratitude or acknowledge Dr. Creamer or Ms. Wagoner at a greater level than to personally commend their excellence and care of students to their most Senior Official and Administrator. I respectfully request, if at all possible, you find some way to acknowledge those two very dedicated individuals for their service to students and specifically myself – a Proud Aggie and Disabled American Veteran!*

*Respectfully  
Maurice R. Portillo*