Dean, College of Business—Dr. Garrey Carruthers

- I have just returned from the first of what I think will be many briefings by Interim President Cruzado and Jennifer Taylor on the pending legislative session and budget outcomes. Both the Governor and the Legislature have advanced their versions of a budget to accommodate the rather sudden and dramatic downturn in the general revenue picture in New Mexico. It will be necessary to “re-budget” this year due to this decline (the state is down $400 million) and to anticipate a very flat year next year. The Deans have been invited into the discussions on how we might handle a flat budget next year. NMSU is in a very good budgetary position, having earned growth money over the last 2 years and also having a good reserve. The next New Mexico revenue projections are due about halfway through the legislative session. You will hear many rumors and projections. I will try to keep you as informed as I can, given the vagaries of the situation. Right now, I have restrained confidence! Please feel free to check in at any time if you have concerns.

- As the result of faculty interest I will soon be sending you the case statement for raising funds for the Domenici Legacy Project, a job description for the new “Executive in Residence” program we will be initiating and the press release naming the first executive in residence. In addition, I have been asked to serve on the Domenici Building Committee and will do so but I have a call into the project manager to see if we can have additional representatives from the College.

- Dr. Elizabeth Fletcher was very helpful in guiding our near term and longer term work on AACSB accreditation and assessment of learning. One of her recommendations was to find a full time person to work on the entire review. I have addressed this need with the Provost and have been advised that there may be a person who does this kind of work available to us in January. She worked on the Higher Learning Commission accreditation and is currently assisting another college with their accreditation needs. She is very good at “putting together the pieces” and writing documents.

- I will be attending the Governor’s Prayer Breakfast and the annual Amigos luncheon in Santa Fe on Thursday. I will also make the obligatory pass through the “Merry Roundhouse”.

Associate Dean of Academics—Dr. Kathy Brook

- Thanks to the efforts of Yolanda Sanchez we have new chairs in GU 200 as well as in several tutoring/study spaces. This means that the 1960’s have about ended in Guthrie. Faculty desk chairs should be ordered soon.

- Thanks to Liz Ellis for persuading Liz Anderson-Fletcher that she really did want to provide the assessment workshop for us. Thanks also to the dean, Kathy Carruthers, and HRTM for providing a welcome dinner which must have banished any misgivings our consultant might have had. Finally, I greatly appreciate the participation of faculty in the workshop.
Along with Richard Oliver, Pookie Sautter, and Chris Erickson, I participated in a strategic planning exercise for distance education on January 6-7. The goal was to develop a plan for the next five years.

**Associate Dean, Research & Economic Development—Dr. K. Boberg**
*(Nothing to report at this time)*

**Assistant Dean, Development & Public Relations—Sylvia Acosta**
- The College of Business’s new Executive-in-Residence program has been finalized. The first recipient will begin in February and a welcome reception is being planned.
- Sylvia Acosta is following up on major gifts ($100,000 to $6 million) that were requested of donors during fall 2008.
- Sylvia Acosta is coordinating the solicitation strategy for The Pete V. Domenici Institute, including setting up meetings with major U.S. oil and gas, defense and energy companies.

**MBA Program—Dr. Bobbie Green**
- Bobbie Green participated in the assessment meetings in support of the MBA Program’s preparation for the AACSB re-accreditation visit. This semester enrollment in the MBA Program has increased to 330 students, which is a 10% increase over last semester.

**Accounting & Information Systems Department—Dr. Larry Tunnell**
- Under the supervision of Bob Schoener, Master of Accountancy students Diane Telles and Bryan Runyan started their independent study internships with the 3rd Judicial District, District Attorney’s office assisting in investigating white-collar crime on Wednesday January 14th.
- Rusty Calk, Kevin McNelis, Sherry Mills, Ed Scribner, Cindy Seipel, Bill Smith, and Larry Tunnell met with a member of the State Board of Public Accountancy to discuss the proposed changes to the Uniform Accountancy Act.
- Jennifer Kreie conducted a database workshop on 1/15 in Tarrytown, NY, for employees at Stone Barns Food and Agriculture Center.

**Economics/International Business Department—Dr. Tony Popp**
- Tony Popp was interviewed on the Stuart Stein radio talk show (KKJY out of Albuquerque) on Saturday morning, Jan. 10th. The topic of discussion was the proposed exemption of military retirement pay from the NM personal income tax.
- Jill Johnson, Chief Deputy Treasurer of Dona Ana County contacted the department asking for a volunteer to be on the county’s investment advisory board. Chris Erickson has expressed interest in filling the position.
- Tony Popp met with Dean Carruthers, LCPS Supt. Stan Rounds, Herb Torres, and Mike Phipps, Artesia on Friday, Jan. 16th, concerning alternative funding mechanisms for public schools.
- Robert Steiner met with Dr. Ian Ray from Plant Sciences to use genetic markers to identify genes associated with high alfalfa yield.
Finance Department – Dr. Liz Ellis

- Hari Sankaran presented a paper titled ‘Informational relatedness among the broad indices: The context of extreme return clusters” co-authored with NMSU graduate student Anh Phuong Nguyen and Dr. Jayashree Harikumar, at the 9th International Business Research Conference, Melbourne, Australia 2008, Sponsored by World Business Institute.


- For the fall, 2008 semester, the Finance Tutoring Lab (supervised by Dr. Maria de Boyrie) had a total of 137 visits from 58 students. The lab’s primary purpose is to provide assistance to students enrolled in Finance 341, however, the lab also assisted students from Finance 360 and even a few graduate students from Finance 503. Overall, students who visited the lab were very satisfied with the assistance they received from MBA students Lauren Resinger and Casie Spencer who staffed the lab (based on their evaluation forms). Many thanks to Maria, Lauren and Casie for providing this valuable service to our students.

- Tim Query presented two papers, “Environmental Damage and Loss Valuation: Further Evidence from Hurricanes Katrina and Ike” and “The Complexities Surrounding Uninsured Motorists: A New Mexico Case Study” at the Western Risk and Insurance Association annual meeting in early January.

Management Department—Dr. Bonnie Daily

- Dr. Elias had his paper “Employee commitment in times of change: Assessing the importance of attitudes toward organizational change,” published in the Journal of Management.

- Drs. Boje and Rosile are coordinating a track at an Academy-of-Mgmt co-sponsored conference in Lyon, France, June 8-10. The conference theme focuses on multi-disciplinary measurement methods (“tetra normalization”) for sustainability in organizations, and includes qualitative as well as quantitative methods. Anyone interested in submitting a proposal should email garosile@nmsu.edu ASAP.

- Drs. Boje and Rosile have been invited to be keynote speakers at a conference sponsored by the University of Lincoln in the UK. The conference will be held in Venice, Italy, in August, and will address narrative studies and storytelling, ethics, and ethnography in business organizations.

Marketing Department—Dr. Pookie Sautter

- Pat Gavin received the Roush Award for Teaching Excellence for the College of Business. We are proud of his excellent work with the PGA golf management students.

- Dr. Robin Peterson was awarded the Robin T. Peterson Endowed Chair in Marketing. His continued excellence as a scholar was also demonstrated by his recent award for the Outstanding Article for the Year on Business Communication Quarterly; the article is entitled "An Exploratory Study of Listening Practice Relative to Memory Testing and Lecture in Business Administration Courses."

- PhD students Pia Albinsson and Yasanthi Perera (MGT) had a manuscript "Reducing Ecological Footprints on Mother Earth through Individual Social Responsibility" accepted at the Annual Academy of Marketing Science Conference. She also had “The Evolution
of Activist Punk” accepted at the Southwest Texas American/Popular Culture Conference with co-authors Joe Gladstone (MGT) and Yasanthi Perera (MGT). Pia also reviewed two manuscripts for the Eastern Academy of Management Annual Meeting - Sustainability Track.

• Dr. Kelly Tian returned revised a conditionally accepted paper to the Journal of Consumer Research (a top 3 marketing journal) and reviewed papers for the Journal of Marketing and the CHARM conference (formerly Marketing History Conference). Kelly also evaluated 9 programs as part of OAC1 tasks (she definitely qualifies as a faculty member well informed in assessment).

• Dr. Collin Payne and co-authors Drs. Brian Wansink and David Just, had the manuscript “Mindless Eating and Environmental Cues” accepted for publication in American Economic Review (the journal has been ranked 11th of 192 economic journals).

• Dr. Gerald Hampton’s manuscript. “The Subtle Sins of Case Analysis” was accepted for publication/presentation at the 2009 Marketing Educators’ Association Conference.

• Dr. Pookie Sautter attended the two-day NMSU Distance Education Summit on January 6-7. She and co-author Ron Jones (interdisciplinary PhD student), received acceptance notice for the manuscript “Co-creation of Value: Applying the Paradigm to Higher Education,” at the 2009 Marketing Educators’ Association Conference.

• Bruce A. Huhmann and his co-authors David Mothersbaugh and George Franke submitted a revision of their manuscript to the Journal of Business Research.

• Dr. Hyman and Dennis Kopf submitted an invited revision to the Journal of Brand Management (Private Label Branding: Benefits, Success Factors, and Future Research). Dr. Hyman also completed editorial reviews for the AMA Marketing and Public Policy Conference.

School of Hotel, Restaurant & Tourism Management

• Daren Bloomquist, Assistant Professor, visited Lynn Middle School on Friday, December 5th. He was asked to participate in their Career Day. Daren presented HRTM information to over 100 students and Instructors.

• HRTM is in the process of advertising two Assistant Professor Positions: 9 month, tenure track, and 12 month, tenure track. The target hire date is July, 2009.

• The HRTM Career Fair will be February 26. It is anticipated more than 30 businesses will attend. They will be interviewing for summer, internship and permanent positions.

• Groundbreaking for the NMSU hotel project has been pushed back a bit due to financial concerns at this point in the economy. The hotel is still on track, and will be started as soon as a few financial items are worked out. The City will break ground for the Las Cruces Convention Center April 9.

• The latest student enrollment number for HRTM: 390