Dean, College of Business - Dr. Garrey Carruthers

- The Domenici Public Policy Conference was even better than the last one, which was terrific. Subjects included nuclear energy, homeland security, national security, and budget/entitlement issues. Attendance was great with over 500 attending lunch with Lt. General Selve. Secretary Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security, was a hit. Senator Domenici seemed to enjoy the “fireside chat” he had with former Congresswoman Heather Wilson. For next year, we have contacted and been given some assurances that former Senator Sam Nunn, former ABC broadcast Sam Donaldson, and now television commentator and former White House official Karl Rove may be available. We will meet soon to debrief and then begin planning for next year. Kudos to Sharon Jones, Ann Morgan, Janet Green, John Hunner, Stella Lucero and all of the gang who did a wonderful job of organizing the event.

- The Domenici Public Policy Conference Book from last year’s event has been nominated for an award. One of the presenters, Sig Hecker formerly of Los Alamos, has just received a $350,000 award for his work on nuclear non proliferation.

- I played in Dr. Dan Lopez’s Scholarship Golf Tournament on Friday. His tournament always has lots of legislator/competitors. I visited with Senator Jennings, who said the financial plight was worse than advertised because natural gas prices continue to fall and with Senator Howie Morales, who said it wasn’t as bad as advertised but was worried about the time when the stimulus money runs out. Chairman of House Appropriations and Finance, Kiki Saavedra preferred to talk golf. Regardless of views, financing the deficit isn’t going to be easy and the issue still has the executive and legislature some distance apart, according to the golfer/legislators.

Associate Dean College of Business – Dr. Kathy Brook

- At ADAC there was an extensive discussion of proposed changes in the disenrollment process. As you may know the state requires that we have a commitment from students that they are enrolling if we are to count them in SCH for a semester. This has been accomplished by requiring a down-payment on their courses (including commitment of scholarship funds) by some point before the census date; otherwise students are disenrolled. After negotiations with HED, we are now moving toward implementing a system where students would provide a written commitment to pay before they are allowed to proceed with registration. Only those students who owe for previous semesters would be disenrolled. This should significantly reduce the number of disenrollments and the work of the Advising Center and the faculty in following up with the students to make sure they get back into classes if that is there wish.
• The Distance Ed Directors met for the first time during the academic year. Enrollment in DE courses continues to grow, campus wide by about 20% over last year. In addition to receiving the second year of seed money to start the Sandia MBA program and to expand upper division DE course offerings to support the implementation of the online Marketing major, the college will receive about $32,000 from the DE office. These latter funds are allocated on the basis of our distance Ed SCH relative to those of the university as a whole.

• I was privileged to attend the fund-raising dinner honoring Pervis Atkins, member of the 1959 and 1960 NMSU Sun Bowl teams. It was a very nice event, celebrating the success of the whole team from that era and attended by many members of the team as well as by Coach Jack Lengyel (of We Are Marshall fame ) representing the National Football Foundation.

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

Assistant Dean, Development & Public Relations - Sylvia Acosta
(Nothing to report at this time)

Accounting & Information Systems Department - Dr. Larry Tunnell
• Bill Smith reports that ALPFA (Association of Latino Professionals in Finance & Accounting) met September 16. The guest speaker was Tony Benitez, CPA an ALPFA member from the El Paso professional chapter. His presentation was "The Financial Services Industry and Insurance with New York Life."

Finance Department – Dr. Liz Ellis
• Ken Martin, together with Jim Peach, Chris Erickson, and Michael Ellis of the Economics Department, presented their views on the economy and the stock market at an Economic Forum sponsored by the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce, KRWG-TV, and Bank of the West. The program aired on KRWG-TV Thursday, September 17.

Management Department - Dr. Bonnie Daily
• Rakesh Mittal, management doctoral student, has been accepted as a participant (55 out of 115 applicants were accepted) in the SMA doctoral Consortium, to be held in Ashville, NC, on Nov 11.

• Dr. Maria Mendez, former management doctoral student, received the 08-09’ Outstanding Doctoral Student Award for Research in management.

• Michael J. Turner, management doctoral student, received the 08-09’ Outstanding Doctoral Student Award for Teaching in management.

Marketing Department - Dr. Pookie Sautter
(Nothing to report at this time)
Econ Department - Dr. Tony Popp

- Jim Peach, Ken Martin, Chris Erickson and Michael Ellis made presentations to the Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce Economic Update Forum on Monday, Sept 14. KRWG-TV broadcast the show on Thursday, Sept 17 at 8 pm.

- Winnie Lee was holding a table to represent our department in the 2009 Study Abroad Fair at the Corbett Center on Wednesday, 9/16. Many students visited and got information about IB and ECON majors.

School of Hotel, Restaurant & Tourism Management – Dr. Janet Green
(Nothing to report at this time)

Domenici Institute – Ann Morgan

- The 2009 Domenici Public Policy Conference is officially over and deemed a tremendous success. The official number of registrants was 889 with 500+ being students. Thanks to the faculty, staff and students who attended, and please share your thoughts about the conference with me, especially on the subject of engaging our students. Several sessions were full and the feedback about the content of the speakers’ presentations has been very positive from community participants as well as faculty, students and staff. We will begin preparations for the 2010 conference in the near future.