College of Business

Good News Report
December 10, 2010

Dr. Garrey Carruthers, Dean, 575.646.4083

General Regan, Commanding General of White Sands Missile Range (WSMR), and Dean Garrey Carruthers, College of Business, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding between WSMR and New Mexico State University (NMSU) for the "collaborative pursuit of potential business development opportunities, with either party as a lead organization as appropriate, which is beneficial to the missions of both WSMR and NMSU's Arrowhead Center, Incorporated." Areas of joint focus include national security, homeland security, space and aerospace, energy (alternative), and dual-use technologies.

Sylvia Acosta, Assistant Dean, Development and Public Relations at the College of Business, has submitted her resignation to take a position as the Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement at the University of Texas-El Paso, effective December 1st. Her warm personality, dedication to New Mexico State University, and professionalism as a development officer make her a blue chipper.

Dr. Kevin Boberg, Associate Dean, Research & Economic Development, 575.646.1334

The Arrowhead Center hosted Venture Capitalist Speed Dating (VCSD) and Networking at The Game. Approximately forty people attended the general networking that followed the private VCSD session. A wide variety of businesses were represented ranging from photography to a private school to unmanned aircraft systems. Each business person was given 5 minutes to pitch their idea with another time period for questions from a venture capitalist. When the bell rang, the business person would move to another of the six venture capitalists and would repeat the process. Both the businesses/entrepreneurs and the venture capitalists thought it was a very successful endeavor.

Dr. Sylvia Acosta, Assistant Dean, Development & Public Relations, 575.646.4917

The College of Business received a $250,000 gift for the School of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management (HRTM). This generous gift will allow for the development of the HRTM’s Bobby Lee Lawrence Academy of Wine.

Dr. Ed Scribner, Department Head, Accounting/Information Systems, 575.646.4901

Jim Nelson, associate professor in the Accounting and Information Systems Department of the College of Business, presented a series of public lectures in the Czech Republic on "The Future of Money," "A New View of IT Risk," and "The Possibility of Zero Probability Events." The Czech Ministry of Education sponsored the lectures in support of the European 2015 City of the Year competition. Nelson also consulted with economics faculty at the Ostrava Technical University and began a program of cooperative research projects with Ph.D. students and several of the 200 economics faculty members.

The Doña Ana Chapter of the New Mexico Society of Certified Public Accountants launched its mentorship program. Chapter members serve as mentors to accounting students seeking careers as Certified Public Accountants in public accounting, government, industry, and not-for-profit organizations. Eighteen NMSU students are being mentored in the program.

Dr. Richard Adkisson, Department Head, Economics/International Business/ESTAT, 575.646.4988

Benjamin Widner, assistant professor in the Economics and International Business Department, was selected to serve on the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Denver Branch Economic Education Advisory Council. The council held their inaugural meeting November 4th and will have regular quarterly meetings to discuss opportunities in Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico.
The College of Business’s Finance Department (on behalf of the New Mexico State University Foundation) accepted a $4,500 gift from State Farm Insurance to be used for scholarships for insurance studies students. Making the presentation were State Farm agents and representatives Mike Apodaca, Richard Griego, Kent Byers, and Paul Jones.

The Wetherbe Student Managed Investment Fund has achieved a 2010 year-to-date total return of 6.30% through September 30, 2010. This compares with a total return of 5.53% on the S&P 500 Index and 8.16% for the Barclay’s Aggregate Bond Index. Since its inception in January 2007, the fund has an overall return of 9.33% as compared to -12.68% for the S&P 500 Index and 28.72% for the Barclay’s Aggregate Bond Index. The Wetherbe Fund is managed as an asset allocation fund and is re-balanced each semester by finance students under the direction of Kenneth Martin, Regents Professor in the Department of Finance.

The Management Department held a dinner in honor of Pam Speer, who will be retiring at the end of December. Pam has served a grand total of 36.75 years at New Mexico State University with 29 of those years in the management department. Thank you, Pam, for your extraordinary service. It has been a privilege and pleasure for everyone in the department to work with you.

Management doctoral student Long Pham will attend the Allied Academies conference to present his paper co-authored with Lan Pham and Duong Nguyen. The paper, entitled “Small and Medium Sized Enterprises’ E-commerce Adoption Model in Vietnam,” is a Distinguished Research Award Winner in the Academy of Information and Management Sciences division at Allied Academies.

The PGA Golf Management Program™ was extremely busy hosting a 4-day alumni reunion. During the events, current students were able to meet golf management alumni and discuss employment opportunities. The PGA Golf Management Program™ also hosted a hugely successful scholarship endowment event, raising money for two PGA Golf Management endowments (Pat Gavin, Sr., and Henry Gutierrez, Jr.).

In what is hoped to be an annual event, the Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management’s Meetings and Events class taught by Jolie Tixier (Director of Special Events), organized, staffed and implemented “Novembrew” at the Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum. The event, sponsored by the National Distributing Company of New Mexico, showcased beer brewers from New Mexico, Colorado, Oregon, Washington, California and Vermont. A total of $12,380 was collected. After expenses, the balance will go toward HRTM scholarships.

On November 11 and 12, Gary Fisher (General Manager, Corporate Public Policy, Chevron Corp.) spoke about corporate social responsibility to 139 undergraduate and 43 masters and doctoral business students. The students were from many business disciplines including Cost Accounting, Marketing Strategy and Policy, and Current Issues in Business. Fisher also participated in an open seminar and two networking luncheons with graduate business students.

The New Mexico Book Awards Program announced Martin Janowski as its 2010 winner in the Political Book category for “Not Just New Mexico’s Senator.” Vicki Taggart, copy/production editor in the College of Business’s Economics & International Business Department, is the finalist in the same category for “Senator Domenici’s Legacy: 2009,” the proceedings from the 2009 Domenici Public Policy Conference. Janowski developed each chapter in his book from information gathered through interviews with Sen. Domenici and key staff members who worked for the Senator on energy policy, mental health care parity, the Congressional budget process and reducing the threat of nuclear proliferation. The 2009 Domenici Conference proceedings topics covered nuclear energy, homeland security and U.S./Mexico border, national security and the national debt and U.S. economy. Speakers were Alex Flint, Donald Marron, Secretary Janet Napolitano, Senator Mary Landrieu, and Lt. General Paul Selva, among others. Both
books were published by Rio Grande Books in collaboration with New Mexico State University's Pete V. Domenici Institute.

The Institute for Defense and Public Policy—a component of the Domenici Institute—sponsored Tom Ridge, former Secretary of Homeland Security, for its first forum held October 7, 2010. Both Air Force and Army ROTC students anchored the forum which was attended by faculty/staff and the public. Ridge’s talk focused on national and homeland security policies, followed by a question and answer session. Ridge, the nation's first secretary of Homeland Security and former governor of Pennsylvania, currently serves as the president and CEO of Ridge Global, an international security and risk management firm, headquartered in Washington, D.C. From 1995-2001, he served as the 43rd governor of Pennsylvania. He also served six terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. Secretary Ridge was briefed on the New Mexico State University Unmanned Aerial Vehicle program after his presentation.