The New Mexico Finance Authority held an open house in April 2009 to celebrate the opening of its new offices in the Genesis Center. The NMFA expects to expand their lending activities in southern New Mexico. They loan money to public entities for buildings and infrastructure. Senator Mary Kay Papen is the Chairperson of the New Mexico Finance Authority and was in attendance with Representatives Joseph Cervantes and Mary Helen Garcia.

In April 2009, Lt. Governor Diane Denish spoke to members of the Las Cruces business community on the stimulus plan and the availability of money for communities and education. During her visit, the Lt. Governor also toured the Genetic Testing Laboratories and the Forensic Testing Laboratory. The labs have grown from 3 employees to 30 and anticipate going to 50 if the forensic business grows as anticipated. The Lt. Governor, Dean Garrey Carruthers and New Mexico State Senator Mary Kay Papen had an ancestral DNA test administered. GTL is part of a group of DNA and forensic testing businesses spun off from NMSU in 2005 and still partially owned by the university. GTL’s sister company, the Forensics Testing Laboratory, also uses the test for law enforcement purposes.

New Mexico State University’s 2009 Domenici Public Policy Conference will take place September 16-17 on the NMSU campus. The conference brings together some of the best minds from across the U.S. This annual event focuses on public policy matters that significantly impact the entire country. Conference speakers and registration dates will be announced later this summer. The public is welcome and encouraged to participate in Domenici legacy activities. More information and updates can be found on The Pete V. Domenici Legacy website at http://domenici.nmsu.edu. Topics at this year’s conference are:

- U.S. Economy
- Nuclear Energy
- Homeland Security and the U.S./Mexico Border
- National Security

The National Security Technology Conference was held March 31-April 2, 2009, at the Hotel Encanto. Funding for the conference was through a grant to from the National Nuclear Security Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce to the Arrowhead Center, New Mexico State University. Highlights from the event included:

- The New Mexico National Guard First Responders Unit’s presentation and display of their weapons of mass destruction response equipment display
- A presentation by Thomas Cellucci, the Chief Commercialization Officer and Science and Technology Director at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS);
- A total of 28 excellent speakers representing NM’s congressional delegation, NM’s national laboratories, DHS, DEA, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, DACC, NMJC, LES, among others; and approximately 140 attendees.

New Mexico State University’s Stock Market Game reported that 2008-2009 participation (including college students) totaled 1,623 teams and 4,440 students. Grades 4-12 were represented by 1,376 teams from 72 different schools, 92 different teachers, and a total of 4,150 students. The "teams played" figure represents a 29% increase from the 2007-2008 academic year.
The Insurance and Financial Services Center (IFSC) at New Mexico State University’s College of Business awarded a series of scholarships for students studying risk management and insurance at NMSU.

- Michael McGonigle was selected as a Spencer Scholar by the Spencer Educational Foundation. The $2,500 award is nationally competitive, with only 33 students chosen among 156 applications. McGonigle also received special recognition as the charter president of Gamma Iota Sigma, a professional fraternity for students interested in international risk management, insurance and actuarial science.
- Kathy Murray received the Anita Benedetti Student Involvement Scholarship, which covered registration and travel expenses for attending the Risk and Insurance Management Society’s annual conference in Orlando, Fla., in April. The IFSC supports students, faculty and industry by promoting research and knowledge as it relates to the field of insurance. The center also facilitates interaction between students and industry, primarily through scholarships and internship programs.
- Anna Krylova was selected for the Mountain States Insurance Group Outstanding Student award. She graduated with a 4.0 grade point average and is now pursuing a career as an actuary in Albuquerque, NM. The Mountain States Insurance Group contributed $1 million toward establishing the Risk Management and Insurance Studies program at NMSU. This is an annual internal award that goes to the top NMSU risk management and insurance student.

Michael Hyman, a marketing professor in the College of Business at New Mexico State University, has been named the Stan Fulton Chair in Business. The Chair was created by a $1 million gift from Stan Fulton, owner of Sunland Park Racetrack and Casino. Earnings from the endowment are used to support the salary of the faculty member holding the chair, as well as program development and other needs. As part of his responsibilities, Hyman will work with Chris Erickson, an NMSU economics professor, to produce New Mexico Business Outlook, an online publication highlighting various aspects of business in the state. Hyman will focus particularly on ethics and public policy, and provide a preliminary venue for publishing their work. The Stan Fulton Chair is structured for a senior faculty member to mentor junior faculty members as well as doctoral students. A recommendation for the chair is made by the college’s faculty council and then sent to the dean for approval.

Kelly Tian, a marketing professor at New Mexico State University, has been named the Robert O. Anderson distinguished professor at NMSU’s College of Business. The professorship is designed to promote service that benefits the College of Business. Tian said she is putting together an orientation program for marketing Ph.D. students that will familiarize them with the cultural values of academia, and aid their performance in the domains of service, teaching and publishing. Tian currently teaches courses where students develop marketing strategies for nonprofit organizations and examine the effects of globalization on consumer culture. She is actively involved in shaping the college’s assessment of students’ learning outcomes and will work as the director of the marketing Ph.D. program. The distinguished professorship was made possible by a donation from Anderson to NMSU with matching funds from the New Mexico Legislature.