March 30, 2006

Garrey,

The Graduate Committee has generated the following questions and would like to hear your responses. Knowing clearly what you have in mind should help us as we try to make decisions and provide leadership for the MBA. When I spoke to you after the faculty meeting on Wednesday you indicated that you would rather respond in written form than in a meeting. Here are the questions. We look forward to reading your responses. Thanks for your time.

Rick Adkisson, Chair

A. What do we hope to accomplish by spreading the MBA in new directions?

B. When tough resource allocation decisions are made, how do we prioritize among the various MBA (WSMR, LANL, on campus, etc...) programs?

C. Are you committed to promoting/expanding the MBA programs even if it causes the faculty to neglect existing programs (including undergraduate teaching, research, etc...)?

D. Right now we are delivering the MBA on three fronts, on campus, at LANL, and at White Sands. In addition there is some discussion of implementing an online MBA. There is some variation in the requirements (especially White Sands) meaning that some students must meet different requirements than others to earn the same degree. In your opinion, should we seek consistency of requirements across delivery venues? What if the faculty or committee disagrees with you?

E. Do you envision offering MBA courses at Fort Bliss and/or Holloman? If so, what do you see as the method of delivery? --- face to face? Distance TV? WEBCT?

F. The word on the street is that you want NMSU Business to offer a completely online MBA. Is that the case and, if yes, please respond to the following questions.

1. Do you really mean online or do you mean distance education which might include other delivery methods?

2. Are there any AACSB ramifications regarding an online MBA offering?

3. What do we hope to accomplish by offering the MBA online?

4. Do you see the online MBA as an additional program or as a substitute for all or part of our current programs? Would students in our on-campus program be expected to take some online courses?

5. Do we want to pursue distance ed/online delivery even at the expense of quality (if there is a quality difference)?
6. Who are the students? Is there a demand not being met? Is there a long-term customer base, or merely some pent-up demand?

7. What would make our online MBA any different than the hundreds of others that already exist?

8. One of the big problems with our current MBA is large classes (±50 students). Given this, we may need more faculty just to give maintain or improve the quality of our on-campus program. Given that faculty are already busy, how will an online MBA beStaffed?

9. If the MBA is offered online will it be offered in load or will faculty have the opportunity to receive additional pay to deliver the program?

10. Do we really want to roll out an online MBA after seeing exit interviews indicating that many students do not value our graduate degree as it is?

11. Do we know what our peers are doing in terms of online education?

12. Would there be financial resources devoted to training and development of faculty for online teaching?

13. Do you agree that a major programming change, such as offering the MBA online will require approval by the faculty?

14. How will we determine the acceptable class size for online courses?

G. Based on your experience in business and government, what are the attributes that help a person be successful in business? What do you perceive our comparative advantage to be in nurturing those qualities? How can we teach the attributes that can be taught and nurture those that perhaps cannot be taught?