We are off and running on another New Year. Resolutions are in place and our resolve is to live the vision – to be recognized as one of the premier business programs in the Southwest.

ADMINISTRATION

- We have finally arrived at a very good response to the PGA regarding recertification of our PGM program. Pat Gavin and I will meet with PGA officials in Florida at the end of the month to review our submission and seek recertification.
- Rebecca Dukes, Barry Smith, and I journeyed to Albuquerque to ask Blue Cross Blue Shield for a substantial donation to the Center for Insurance and Financial Services. Liz Watrin, the leader of the New Mexico BCBS just happened to be enroute to Chicago to a meeting with corporate to plan their annual giving program. Ed Lujan continues to do wonderful work on behalf of the College. We need to name a classroom, board room or something for him after he reaches the $2,000,000 target he has established for himself.
- Sylvia Acosta and I attended the fund raising seminar sponsored by the Foundation. Good stuff. An interesting aspect of the training was to determine what the potential giver wanted (as opposed to what we want) as the initial overture. I am from the old school of just approaching people to give to my cause as I define it. I will soon learn the new thinking!
- Kevin and I met with Patricia Sullivan of WERC and Steve Castillo and friends from engineering regarding two opportunities. The first entails our participation in a Western Governors Energy Conference being organized by Governor Richardson. The good folks at the Center for Public Utilities responded quickly with some ideas on how we can help. The second opportunity involves assisting WERC in evaluating the economic impact of alternative strategies for reclamation of the mine tailings near Questa.
- We had an excellent faculty conference on January 8th. It was well attended with excellent dialogue on a number of important College issues. Kathy Brook has prepared a must read report of the goings on. There are a number of follow up items, to include completion of the rewrite of the College bylaws, organizing the tracking for the Strategic Directions 2004 goals and objectives, possible changes in the Promotion and Tenure Policy and continuing evaluation of the BUSA courses. My thanks to the faculty and staff for their active and enthusiastic participation in the discussions.
- I attended a reception for Leadership New Mexico held at the Farm and Ranch Museum. I bring this up because I want to encourage faculty to consider applying for this one year program. It is the finest educational and networking program for business leaders in the State. Please contact me if you have an interest and I will give you my take on why we should always have someone from NMSU in the class. (I believe Dr. Flores is a graduate of the program.)
- I met with Secretary of Economic Development Rick Homans, Regent Jim Manatt, New Mexico First President Judy Zanotti, and Dr. Flores regarding the upcoming New Mexico First Conference. The subject was fund raising and to get the buy in of Secretary Homans. One result of the conversation was a request that the Arrowhead Center consider doing a market analysis for the Arrowhead Research Park with an eye to improving utilization.
- I met with Joan Javier, the director of the New Voters Project. This national program is directed to increasing voter registration and voting by 18 to 24 year old folks. I am very supportive and committed to help if the activity is sanctioned by the University.
- The “First of the Semester” CBAE golf tournament was held Friday afternoon and the usual suspects were in attendance. There were four teams – three of the teams tied for first place and the fourth team was one shot out of first place. How ecumenical!
- Kathy Brook developed a list of staff members who would have the ability to receive and author reports under the new SCT Banner administrative records system.
• Kathy Brook met with Yoli Baca in Dr. Flores’ office concerning the funding that Dr. Flores agreed to provide to address salary inversion affecting full professors in the College.

ACCOUNTING AND BUSINESS COMPUTER SYSTEMS
• On Wednesday, Dean Kathy Brook and Pete Dillaway met with Dean Jeff Brown and Roger Hartley (Computer Science) to discuss the feasibility of making BCS and CS 110G identical. It was determined that we need more information. Dr. Hartley agreed to survey departments to determine their expectations for this course. Esther Steiner (CS) and Jennifer Kreie (BCS) will be asked to meet to compare the content of these courses as currently taught.
• Dr. Bobbie Green has been hired as a visiting Assistant Professor in BCS. Dr. Green will be teaching a hands-on version of BCS 110G in the spring, in the College’s computerized classroom, BC 115. Dr. Green is a Microsoft Certified Database Administrator, a Microsoft Certified Trainer, and a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer + Internet. Dr. Green, who has worked for Boeing during the last 18 years, most recently served as a Technical Instructor in Boeing’s Quality through Training/Leadership Development program. She has also served as an adjunct professor at City University (Bellevue, WA) and as a Senior Technical Trainer for Cyberia.
• Bob Schoener, MBA, CPA, CFE (Certified Fraud Examiner), has been hired as a College Assistant Professor in Accounting. Bob earned his MBA at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Following his graduation, Bob was employed by KMG Main Hurdman, where he eventually became National Director of Professional Development. Since 1992, Bob has practiced in Denver, specializing in litigation support, business valuations, insurance claims investigations, and claims administration. Bob will teach BUSA 211 and ACCT 251 in the spring.

ECONOMICS & INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
• Jim Peach finished his term as president of the Association for Evolutionary Economics (AFEE) on Monday, January 5. AFEE meets each year with the Allied Social Science Association. This year’s meeting was in San Diego, California. Jim’s presidential address was titled “Thorstein Veblen, Ty Cobb, and the Evolution of an Institution.” The address will appear as an article in the June 2004 issue of the Journal of Economic Issues. As immediate past-president, Jim will remain on the AFEE Board of Directors for another year.
• Michael Ellis, Jim Peach, Doug Gegax and Tony Popp are busy preparing for their presentations in the coming two weeks to the Academy of Learning in Retirement. We will report on those presentations as they take place.
• Jim Peach, Rick Adkisson, Ben Matta and Carl Enomoto attended the American Economics Association meetings in San Diego. Ben and Carl spent the time interviewing for two positions within the Economics department. They will brief the department on Monday regarding their findings.

FINANCE
• Peter Wichert has been hired as a College Assistant Professor of Finance. Peter has been teaching at NMSU off and on since the mid-eighties, but his position has now been “regularized” for the first time. Congratulations to Peter, who does an outstanding job in the classroom.
• Garrey Carruthers and Barry Smith made a presentation to the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Mutual Casualty Company in Albuquerque on Dec. 19. This week we were notified that New Mexico Mutual Casualty has committed $100,000 to the New Mexico State University Center for Insurance Excellence.
• Angela and Nestor Romero have established the Dinty and Ophelia Romero Endowed Scholarship (honoring his parents) with an initial gift of $25,000. It is their intention to eventually fund the scholarship fund at a level of $200,000. Scholarship recipients will be finance or accounting majors at NMSU. Nestor Romero’s company, RL Regulatory Consultants, a firm that audits insurance companies throughout the country, has begun a formal internship/coop program with our students by hiring four accounting students this spring for a six month coop experience.
• Hari Sankaran and Greg Roth have been notified that their paper, "Determinants of CEO Compensation in Very Small, Young, and Fast-Growing Firms," has been accepted for presentation at the Thirty Third Annual Meeting of the Western Decision Sciences Institute to be held in Manzanillo, Mexico April 13 - 17, 2004. The paper will be included in the corporate finance section of the meeting. The paper is co-authored with Bill Barnes at the University of Portland.
MANAGEMENT

- Peter Dorfman completed the faculty performance evaluations, helped finalize job descriptions for department heads, completed a review for Journal of Organizational Behavior, completed syllabus for spring semester, developed agenda for Department meeting next week, and attended BA&E college meeting.

MARKETING – NO REPORT

MBA – NO REPORT