September 8, 2003

To: Dr. William Flores
    CBAE Faculty and Staff

From: Garrey Carruthers
    College Executive Committee

Subject: Activities Report for September 4, 2003

Time flies when you are having fun. I was in Denver, visiting with some of our graduates, and having a good time, so this report is a tad late but still reflective of another good week in the College:

ADMINISTRATION

✓ Chris Knackstedt and his lovely wife Lucinda sponsored a reception for me at their home in Denver. I had a very nice chat with our graduates. Of interest were: (1) when could they get their MBA on line, (2) it would enhance our program to have more directed learning opportunities and (3) they were all proud of NMSU.

✓ Beth Mott, one of our Ph.D. students, will have her marketing class develop an internal (around campus) marketing program for "one of the premier" business programs in the southwest. That would be our program. Next year, she will have a class work on an external marketing program. Thanks, Beth for your interest.

✓ I visited with Jim Hinton, President and CEO of the Presbyterian Healthcare System in Albuquerque recently. He is interested in having one or more of our faculty involved in a summer exchange program in either the hospital or health plan side of his business. A good opportunity for someone interested in hanging out in Albuquerque for a summer. See me if you have an interest.

✓ Kathy Brook and I visited with Dr. Flores regarding the faculty salary inversion problem experienced in our ranks. Dr. Flores will be investigating the extent of inversion in other colleges and will attempt to be helpful within his constraints to help all Colleges having this problem.

✓ Pete Dillaway and I visited with Anthony Berrett, Managing Partner of KPMG in El Paso and Albuquerque offices, to initiate a proposal for a KPMG Professorship at NMSU. Based upon the discussion, a draft proposal has been written and given to colleagues for their suggestions. Mr. Berret agreed to present our final proposal to the KPMG Foundation.

✓ After discussions and negotiations with Kevin Boberg and me, Ambassador Delano Lewis has decided he cannot make the time commitment we were asking and, therefore, will not take the Executive in Residence position. He has asked that we consider a consulting relationship in which he would assist us in developing the major seminar
program. We will discuss his aspirations when he returns. He will be having lunch with Dr. Flores soon and may wish to discuss his involvement with NMSU at that time. He is a good friend of NMSU so I hope we can work something out.

✓ The Deans met with Dr. Carmen Gonzales, Vice Provost for Distance Learning, regarding a couple of key issues – how courses are to be funded going forward (which, of course, is different than going backwards which may or may not have been the good old days of funding) and the prospects of Colleges sharing the cost of off campus coordinators. There was some discussion of asking the University to put together a business plan for distance education so we can better plan for our own investments in distance education. There appeared to be decent support for jointly funded off campus coordinators but movement (progress) is limited until upper administration makes some decisions regarding how the courses will be funded.

✓ I met with Jim Luksic of the Sun News. He is interested in having the College contribute, on a regular basis, some popular articles directed at helping small business. He is to visit with his editor regarding the proposal and get back to me. This could be a neat way of connecting with the business community in their market area.

✓ I visited with Dr. Boje’s graduate class. In a conversation on “how we are serving our customers”, I received a couple of comments worthy of reporting. One customer said he anticipated class sizes of 10 -14 when he signed up for his MBA program but his first class had over 70 members. (Dr. Boje’s class had over 30.) Another customer wondered why we were requiring him to pass the GMAC when he had already completed 10 hours of credit with an A average. Both issues have been referred to the MBA Policy Committee.

✓ I made a courtesy call on Dr. Titus, the Dean of the Library. It would behoove us to have Dr. Titus visit with the faculty on an annual basis about our needs and her capacity to meet those needs. I was impressed with how electronic the library business has become.

✓ I will campaign on behalf of the educational Constitutional Amendments 1 and 2 (please vote YES on September 23rd) with the Governor this Wednesday, here in the City. I will also speak to the Junior League in support of these amendments. Early balloting is now available so when you are near the County Clerks office, drop in and cast your ballot.

✓ I attended the PSI Board meeting where, after much deliberation and discussion, the Board authorized the administrators of PSI to contract part of their responsibilities to the new center for the commercialization of intellectual property. The current plan is to modify the Tech Transfer Corporation to serve as the new entity with the possible merger of the Research Park Corporation into the Center after some bonds for the Research Park have been retired. This has not been easy but Kevin Boberg has been doing terrific work in keeping the project moving.
✓ The College sponsored an appreciation lunch for the staff who contributed significantly to the success of the First Annual Faculty Staff Conference held on August 13th. CBAE has an excellent and very cooperative staff, willing to pitch in to make things happen. Thanks again to all.
✓ The CEC and I have interviewed Sylvia Acosta for our Development position. We are working hard to fill this job as soon as possible.
✓ I will spend Thursday and Friday of this week with the Tax Commission meeting. We begin voting on options this week. I anticipate one more meeting and then it should go to the Governor and the legislature. The special session on tax reform is scheduled for October 27th.

FINANCE

- Barry Smith is completing his ninth year as Editor of the CPCU eJournal. During the past two years it has been published exclusively as an electronic journal. When it was delivered in hard copy, this professional insurance journal had a quarterly publication circulation of over 30,000 copies. As an electronic journal, research articles on property and casualty insurance are published monthly.

- Peter Wichert spoke at the Black Programs meeting Sept. 4 regarding credit card management for students, credit reports and other Personal Finance topics.

- On Sept. 5, Barry Smith will meet in El Paso with Don Litchfield, a potential donor.

- Barry Smith’s editorial, “The Distance Education Dilemma” will be published October 1 in the CPCU eJournal.

- Barry Smith is the Educational Coordinator for the Certified Insurance Councilor (CIC) Commercial Casualty seminar being held in Denver, CO from Sept. 10 – 12. Topics covered will include Commercial General Liability coverage, Business Auto insurance, Workers’ Compensation, and Commercial Umbrella coverage.

MBA PROGRAM

- Dealt with the tragic death of Kathryn (Katie) Sepich.
  - one telephone interview with KVIA, channel 7, El Paso
  - two telephone interviews with KTSM, channel 9 El Paso,
  - one on-camera interview with KOAT, channel 7, Albuquerque
  - one on-camera interview with KTSM, channel 9, El Paso
  - emailed all MBA faculty asking them to advise students in their classes that counseling was available upon request and to provide time in their classes for any discussion of Katie, the events surrounding the tragedy,
or any related matters – also spoke directly with those faculty members who had Katie in their classes this semester.

ECONOMICS/INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

- The Econ Dept is moving ahead with a recruitment ad to try to hire a Latin Americanist to replace Janet Tanski. We would like someone with Spanish language skills, Latin American experience and perhaps some capacity to help with the International Business major.

- Bill Gould has been selected to present the results of his work on estimating elk populations in Northern New Mexico at the 3rd International Wildlife Management Congress.

- Chris Erickson reports having in hand three articles ready for insertion in the “New Mexico Outlook.” Thanks go to Bruce Huhman (Marketing), Larry Tunnel (Accounting) and Chris Erickson (Economics).

- Chris Erickson reports that Rakesh Bhavsar has arrived on campus from India. He will take part in a semester of study here. NIRMA is his home institution in India.

MANAGEMENT

- Drs. Black, Boberg, Gray, Popp, and Dean Carruthers met this week with Kamran regarding the use of students to provide business development research for a new software program.

- The Strategic planning committee, with management faculty of Dr. Black and Dr. Boje, met and revised the first 12 college objectives, action plans, and indicators. Persons or areas responsible for implementing plans were identified and will be contacted to discuss the development of action plans.

- Dr. Boje had the following paper accepted for publication: Qualimetrics Contributions to Research Methodology: Preface to Recherche en Sciences de Gestion: Observer Lobjet Complexe Approache Qualimetrique by Henri Savall and Veronique Zardet, Lyon 3 & ISEOR, June 26, 2003:

MARKETING

- Met with Dr. Don Emery, a businessman now living in Santa Fe. Introduced him to Dean as a person who hopefully can assist us with our future efforts to create and develop on going businesses for the college.
• Unfortunately the department was confronted with the death of one of our majors, Ms. Kathryn Sepich. Our Dean talked with her father and offered any assistance needed. He assisted in creating a Kathryn Jaye Sepich Memorial Scholarship Fund for future marketing majors.

ACCOUNTING/BCS

• Jep Robertson has recently finished creating two different “courseware” packages for John Wiley & Sons, based upon their two top-selling accounting texts: Financial Accounting (Kimmel) and Intermediate Accounting ((Kieso, Weygandt, and Warfield). This is software that is essentially a turnkey accounting course, deliverable either through the Internet, or in a stand alone environment.

• NMSU accounting alum Shelly McGuire, Senior Tax Manager with Grant Thornton, LLP, Albuquerque office, presented a technical session to our Beta Alpha Psi chapter on Thursday, September 4. Shelly was accompanied by two more Grant Thornton professionals, Assurance Manager John Trujillo and Assurance Senior Erin Grant.

• NMSU accounting alum Brenda Shannon, has been selected to receive the “Outstanding Member in Government Award” from the New Mexico Society of CPAs. Brenda is NMSU’s director of Internal Auditing. The Award will be presented at the Society’s “Pride in the Profession” banquet in October.

• Carlo Mora has begun investigating a DE MBA program offering at his alma mater, by making contacts with interested parties at Instituto Tecnologico de Costa Rica. Carlo and Wayne Headrick are in the planning stage for a proposal.