

The Leading Object

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY'S

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AND HOME ECONOMICS

FEBRUARY/ 2005

CAHE.NMSU.EDU

VOLUME 19 / NUMBER 2

DEAN'S PERSPECTIVE



by Jerry Schickedanz

One University is an admirable ideal that has been put forward by president

Michael Martin. I believe the president has the will to make it a reality. The shape and nature of One University will be determined by the decisions and directions taken in the months ahead at many levels.

It is incredibly important that One University be inclusive of the principles and perspectives of Extension.

President Martin certainly understands Extension, but the tendency among those who don't is often to rid the university of its land-grant orientation and mold the university as solely a campus-based, scholastic enterprise. NMSU must be inclusive of scholarly traditions, but also it must be inclusive of constituents in the colonias, downtowns, and yes, the farms, ranches and rural areas of New Mexico.

It is our duty to be fully involved in the processes that define One University.

Many initiatives in legislature could affect the college

As the Feb. 17 deadline for submitting funding bills approached, 16 initiatives that could affect the college had been introduced. Bills to provide \$750,000 for water management research and education programs to Extension and the Experiment Station were introduced by Sen. Mary Kay Papen (D-Las Cruces) in the Senate and Rep. Joseph Cervantes (D-Las Cruces) in the House. The bills (SB 100, HB 297) were referred to their respective finance committees.

Cervantes also introduced a bill to provide \$130,000 for the Chile Task

Force (HB 298); a companion bill (SB 182) was introduced by Sen. John Arthur Smith (D-Deming). Both the water and chile bills are university priorities.

House Bill 168, introduced by Rep. James Madalena (D-Jemez Pueblo), would provide \$3.05 million to fund a statewide tribal Extension program through NMSU. John Pinto (D-Tohatchi) introduced SB 709 to provide \$500,000 for an opening phase of the same program. Madalena

(Continued on page 2)

College undergraduate enrollment up 6 percent

Undergraduate spring enrollment grew 79 students to 1,421 in the College of Agriculture and Home Economics—a 6 percent jump from year-ago figures. Wes Holley, associate dean for academic programs said retention efforts are paying off.

Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business paced growth with a 33-student increase, a 20-percent hike resulting in a new all-time high for spring enrollment at

196. Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management has 32 more students, placing it above 300 enrollees in the spring for the first time.

Entomology, Plant Pathology and Weed Science had the highest percentage growth with a 67 percent increase, representing a 31-student increase. Family and Consumer Sciences held steady to retain the College's highest departmental enrollment at 330.

Engineering dean heads search for Dean Schickedanz's replacement

Steven Castillo, dean of the College of Engineering, was named this month by Provost William Flores to be chair of the search committee for the dean of the College of Agriculture and Home Economics. Dean Jerry Schickedanz announced last month that he would retire from the post this year but will stay on

until a permanent replacement is named.

Castillo requested that Gregory Blanch, senior faculty senator for the college, conduct an election for faculty representatives on the search committee, to be completed this month.



**By Charlie Siepel,
Southwest
Extension District
Department Head**

It is indeed an honor to have been selected to serve as the Southwest District department head for the Extension Service. As we address the concerns and

interests of our clientele we must be mindful of their customs and cultures.

We are fortunate to follow in the footsteps of leaders with vision. Our future lies in meeting new and emerging issues with the knowledge gained from experience. This is an exciting time; we are realizing the practical applications of technological innovations

that have been developed through research. To many, the change may appear to be too rapid, infringing upon the our comfort zones. However, I believe past changes are only a small preview of what the future holds for those who are willing to dream and then make it happen.

The faculty and staff of the Southwest District are very energetic and innovative. We will continue to provide research-based educational programs while exploring new avenues of delivery and programming to meet the ever-changing clientele of southwestern New Mexico. It is a fascinating time, and we look forward to meeting the opportunities and challenges with excellence at all levels.

New faculty and staff



Ryan Goss, a turf scientist from the University of Nebraska, has been tapped as a new assistant professor in Agronomy and

Horticulture. Goss expects to conduct research on campus and agricultural science centers, as well as strengthen the academic turfgrass program, bringing in more students.

A native of Atlanta, Ga., Goss is a member of the American Society of Agronomy, the Crop Society of America and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. He earned his bachelor's degree in landscape architecture at Ohio State University and master's degree in crop and soil science at Michigan State University. His doctorate, which focused on turfgrass weed control, was from the University of Nebraska.

Jose A. Chaves
Program Coordinator
Agricultural Communications

Jason Nemrow
Computer Specialist (Tucumcari)
Agricultural Communications

Richard Ng
Extension Associate
McKinley County Extension Office

Amy Trujillo
Program Coordinator
Agricultural Communications

For more go to www.cahe.nmsu.edu and click "News Center."

Legislature (continued from page 1)

also introduced HB 813 for \$250,000 to create a native fungi resource bank including a microbiologist and support staff through Agronomy and Horticulture.

Senate Bill 409, introduced by Sen. Linda Lopez (D-Albuquerque), would appropriate \$2.6 million from the general fund for the family strengthening programs, including \$1 million for NMSU. Rep. William Boykin (R-Las Cruces) introduced HB 228 to provide \$2 million for NMSU's program.

Sen. Papen introduced a Senate Capital Outlay (SCO 587) bill for \$500,000 to complete a laboratory for Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management.

Three science centers, at Clovis, Tucumcari and Farmington, and specialized programs could be beneficiaries of legislation. Rep. Brian Moore (R-Clayton) introduced HB 428 to provide \$362,000 for faculty positions at Clovis, HB603 for \$413,000 for Tucumcari, HB 187 for \$200,000 for an Extension veterinarian, HB 188 for \$150,000 in support of NMSU livestock judging programs and HB 186 for \$537,000 in state FFA program support.

Companion bills for those initia-

tives included SB 579, introduced by Sen. Clint Harden (R-Clovis) for Clovis, and SB 238, introduced by Pete Campos (D-Las Vegas) for FFA. Rep. Ray Begaye (D-Shiprock) introduced HB 13 for \$385,000 for faculty and staff at Farmington and HB 417 for \$25,000 to study infrastructure improvements there. Sen. William Sharer (R-San Juan) introduced companion bills (SB 700) for Farmington staff funding and the feasibility study (SB 294).

Rep. Andy Nunez (D-Hatch) introduced HB 92 for \$75,000 for a viticulture program at NMSU. Papen introduced companion legislation in the Senate (SB 89). Nunez also introduced HB 90 to provide \$394,000 for precision agriculture at NMSU and HB 866 to provide \$250,000 for a rangeland monitoring program through the Range Improvement Task Force.

Rep. Don Tripp (R-Socorro) introduced HB 661 designating the Range Improvement Task Force at NMSU as the technical advisory group for Soil and Water Conservation Commission watershed projects. Sen. Phil Griego (D-San Jose) introduced SB 690 with the same language.



Deans' Coffee Time

Wednesdays,
8:30–9:15 a.m.
Gerald Thomas Hall Foyer



Phillips develops interdisciplinary teams around projects



Richard Phillips has been appointed senior project manager for the College of Agriculture and Home Economics by Dean Jerry

Schickedanz to create interdisciplinary teams around high priority projects addressing constituent needs.

Phillips has been asked to continue as manager of the Chile Task Force, while taking on new efforts to support the wine industry and a food processing initiative. The Chile Task Force has been an industry/university partnership involving federal labs, agencies and four NMSU colleges. Phillips said he hopes to build on ties developed through that task force as he pursues the new projects.

"My work concentrates on how

to bring together economic, social and scientific needs and address them in a project," Phillips said.

Phillips began such work in 1997, when he was asked to address peanut farmers' concerns after returning from a multiyear forestry project in Chile. The former superintendent of the Fabian Garcia Research Center, Phillips helped form a cooperative plan with the university and growers that is still in place.

Phillips earned a master's in agribusiness last year to complement his master's in horticulture, and he has been a student of project management. He offers himself as a resource in professional project management.

"We would never do science without the scientific method," he said. "Why would we run projects without the best tools of project management."



Marcus Tillery, Dean of Thomas Edison College, spoke to faculty and staff in Gerald Thomas Hall on Feb. 10 about agriculture, technology and social change as part of Black History Month activities.



HRTM school initiative moving forward

A proposal to establish the School of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management is moving toward a March 3 Faculty Senate vote. President Michael Martin spoke in favor of the measure before the senate on Feb. 3. It received approval in the Dean's council on Feb. 9 and will be

heard before the senate scholastic affairs committee on Feb. 15.

The proposal will establish joint administration with the College of Economics and Business Administration. Student credit hours and promotion and tenure processes will stay in the respective colleges.

Administrative changes in Extension outlined

Actions shaping Extension administration were announced Jan. 28 by Paul Gutierrez, associate dean for Extension. Jon Boren became interim Animal Resources department head upon the Jan. 31 retirement of Ron Parker. An internal search will be conducted for a permanent replacement.

Internal applications for assistant

dean of Extension have been received and are being reviewed by Gutierrez. Interviews will be conducted later this month. Finally, Gutierrez said he will establish a field-based position to develop county-based needs agendas for university-wide Extension implementation. The position will be filled from internal applicants.

College seminar results in legislation

A seminar offered Feb. 3 to legislators and other public officials in Santa Fe led to legislation being introduced Feb. 10. Steve Komadina (R-Corralles) not only attended the seminar, organized by Extension Home Economics and Family and Consumer Sciences, he worked

with others to fashion a Senate Joint Memorial calling for a study reassessing services and treatment of children exposed to domestic violence and to adopt best practices. The seminar referred to best practices related to intervention.

Presidential budget hard on research formula funds

President George W. Bush's FY 2006 budget halves Hatch Act and McIntire-Stennis funds from FY 2005 levels and eliminates funding for the Joe Skeen Institute for Rangeland Restoration, in which NMSU participates. Federal formula funds comprise about \$1.8 million of the NMSU Experiment Station funds.

Wool team fifth in San Antonio

The NMSU wool judging team placed fifth at the Senior Wool Judging Contest in San Antonio Feb. 5. Aggie Tessie Emond posted the top score in reasons as the team took top honors in the category. The team travels to Houston to compete March 7.

Cox retires after two decades in Lea County



Wallace Cox, NMSU Extension program director in Lea County since 1983, will retire Feb. 28 after an Extension career that spanned 28 years.

Cox earned bachelor's and master's degrees at NMSU and went to work for Extension as an assistant livestock specialist in 1971. He was in charge of the Tucumcari Bull Testing Station and was an Extension horse specialist. From 1975-1978, he served as Luna County agent.

Cox's contributions to his community have been recognized by several organizations. Cactus CowBelles recently named him Man of the Year and 4-H'ers honored him this year for his outstanding dedication to the youth of Lea County over the past two decades. In 2002, he was named outstanding agriculturalist by the Hobbs Jaycees and in 1999 was honored by the Farm and Livestock Bureau. In 1994, he received the college's Distinguished Service Award. He received the Career Achievement Award from Extension on Jan. 8.

Hawkins honored for career achievement



As a livestock judging coach, **Jerry Hawkins** made several trips to the winners podium at the Fort Worth Stock Show. This year, the NMSU recruiter made

another trip across the stage to accept a 45-year career achievement award.

The award, given by the National Junior College Livestock Judging Coaches Association, recognizes Hawkins for his service and dedication to students, family, peers and community, and for serving as a role model to many.

Hawkins began recruiting students for NMSU's College of Agriculture and Home Economics during the summer of 2003. He was present at more than 20 county fairs and the State Fair in 2004, and attends state 4-H and FFA activities, recruiting high school youth to attend NMSU. He also travels to junior colleges in Kansas, Texas and Oklahoma to recruit transfer students for NMSU's judging programs.

"I feel really fortunate to be able to have the opportunity to work with the students, parents and educators

in New Mexico," he said.

Along with NMSU livestock coach Clay Elliott, Hawkins initiated New Mexico judging contests at the State Fair, Sierra County Fair, Grant County Fair, Eastern New Mexico State Fair, Southern New Mexico State Fair and Otero County Fair.

Among many of Hawkins' accomplishments are winning the 2002 Texas FFA Blue and Gold Award, awarded once a year from 1,000 chapters in the state; a 2002 recognition award for belonging to the Texas Vocational Agriculture Association for 45 years; and a 2001 Texas Tech Distinguished Animal Science Alumnus award.

Prior to moving to NMSU, Hawkins spent 35 years teaching at Clarendon Junior College in Clarendon, Texas. He helped start the ranch and feedlot program and initiated the horse and meats judging programs.

Hawkins also coached a competitive college livestock team at Clarendon, winning titles in Phoenix, Shreveport, Fort Smith, Tulsa, Denver, Fort Worth and Houston.

Events

Feb. 24

Ranch-to-Rail Field Day
Clayton
Contact: Clay Mathis, 646-8022

March 10

Water Lecture Series
Campus
Contact: Leeann DeMouche,
ldemouch@nmsu.edu

March 18

Tucumcari Bull Test Sale
Contact: Ron Parker,
rparker@nmsu.edu

March 21-22

FDA Food Labeling Workshop
Las Cruces
Contact: Gloria Hernandez,
glorthern@nmsu.edu

March 31

Specialty Crop Production
and Marketing Conference
Santa Fe
Contact: Patrick Torres, 471-4711

For more information go to www.cahe.nmsu.edu and click "calendar of events."

*The Morrill Act of 1862 established a land-grant university in each state where **The Leading Object** would be instruction in agriculture and related fields.*

***The Leading Object** is dedicated to encouraging communication among all areas of NMSU's College of Agriculture and Home Economics.*

Department of Agricultural Communications
NMSU / MSC 3AI / P.O. Box 30003
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8003
(505) 646-2701/Rm. 173
Gerald Thomas Hall

Jerry G. Schickedanz,
Dean and Chief Administrative Officer

NMSU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator. NMSU and USDA cooperating.

www.cahe.nmsu.edu

Take a few minutes today to check out the newly redesigned College of Agriculture and Home Economics Web site. It proudly represents what we are all about.