



Campus Connection

April 4, 2017

Volume 3, Issue 6

From the President's Office

Dear Campus Community,

You did it! The final report from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has confirmed what we already knew, that this is an awesome college that strives to protect our great programs and improve on others. We are doing well in many areas thanks to the hard work of our staff and excellent teaching by our faculty. We also have the opportunity to remain viable as we move forward by acting on recommendations made by the HLC site team.

Thank you so much to the writing team, the faculty, staff, and students who all demonstrated that we are working together to improve our campus and comply with the HLC criteria and meeting higher education standards. The final report suggests that we met all criteria, we have no monitoring recommendations, and we may choose the pathway that we feel best reflects the needs of our campus. You may read the entire report if you go to the President's page on the NMSU-A website.

I always look forward to graduation. It is that wonderful time in which we celebrate our students' perseverance in finishing the important goal of earning a degree or certificate. At the risk of repeating myself, I want to remind you that New Mexico's Secretary of Higher Education, Dr. Barbara Damron, will be our commencement speaker. Please mark your calendars for New Mexico State University Alamosordo Commencement Ceremonies, Friday, May 12, 7:00 pm in the Tays Center.

At the time of this writing, we do not know if and when the Governor will call a special session to determine the state's budget. Therefore, we do not have our final bottom line. The word on the street is that we may experience another cut of 3%-5% of our fiscal year 2018 budget....not good. I am asking faculty and staff to visit with their respective division heads or supervisors to contemplate ways that we may make this cut without 1) anyone losing their job, or 2) students' progress toward degrees or certificates being hindered. We will all have to participate in this process. Again, our gradual road out of this difficult financial situation will be through improved enrollment, which we can do.

April Showers Bring May Flowers!

Dr. Ken Van Winkle
President
New Mexico State University Alamosordo

FINANCIAL AID and SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

FAFSA® Changes for 2017–18

On Sept. 14, 2015, President Obama announced significant changes to the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) process that will impact millions of students. Starting with the 2017•18 application cycle, the following changes will be put in place:

- **Students will be able to submit a FAFSA® earlier.** Students will be able to file a 2017–18 FAFSA as early as Oct. 1, 2016, rather than beginning on Jan. 1, 2017. The earlier submission date will be a permanent change, enabling students to complete and submit a FAFSA earlier every year. (There is NO CHANGE to the 2016–17 schedule. The FAFSA became available January 1 as in previous years.)
- **Students will use earlier income information.** Beginning with the 2017–18 FAFSA, students will be required to report income information from an earlier tax year. For example, on the 2017–18 FAFSA, students (and parents, as appropriate) will report their 2015 income information, rather than their 2016 income information.

Golden Gears Car Club of Alamogordo Scholarship

Amount: \$250

Criteria:

Student must be seeking a degree in Automotives

Must have a GPA of 2.0 or higher

Must provide 3 references

Applications available in the NMSU-A Financial Aid Office

Deadline is April 15, 2017

Officers' Spouses' Club Scholarship

Amount: Awards ranging from \$500 to \$3000 per winner.

Criteria:

- Spouse or dependent of an active duty Air Force personnel stationed at Holloman Air Force Base, White Sands Missile Range or on a remote assignment from either; or
- Spouse or dependent of active duty, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, retired, POW/MIA, or deceased Air Force personnel, and currently residing in Otero, Lincoln, or Dona Ana County; or
- Spouse or dependent of retired Air Force personnel whose sponsor currently resides in Otero, Lincoln, or Dona Ana County; or
- Others: spouses or dependents of military personnel who do not meet the criteria above, may request an eligibility determination by contacting the Scholarship Chair, Teresa Ferenczhalmy, at HOSCscholarships@gmail.com.
- Individuals who previously won a scholarship from the Holloman Officers' Spouses' Club (formerly known as the Holloman Officers' Wives' Club/HOWC and Holloman Officers' Spouses' Organization/HOSO) are ineligible to apply for another HOSC Scholarship. Any scholarships awarded to Military Academy appointees will be forfeited to alternate winners.

MORE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Albuquerque Community Foundation

Student Aid Applications are OPEN! \$160,000 to be awarded for the 2017-2018 school year. Apply at <http://www.albuquerquefoundation.org/>.

The Albuquerque Community Foundation has 7 separate student aid programs for current college students to help New Mexico students attain their educational goals.

Each program is different; however, if you are...

- New Mexico resident?
- Currently in college?
- Attending college in-state?
- Attending college full-time or part-time?
- Attending a community college or public college/university?
- Returning to college after taking a break?

You may qualify for one or more programs!

National Military Family Association Spouse Scholarships

NMFA awards an average of \$500 for career funding and \$1,000 for degrees. Up to \$2500 is available for clinical supervision towards licensure in the mental health profession. Spouses are also eligible for funding, typically \$1,000, to build their own businesses. This includes entrepreneurs, LLCs, direct sales, franchises, contractors, and other for-profit ventures. Non-profit organizations, please check back in our May application round. Any spouse with a valid military ID is eligible. Apply from October 1st through January 15th, and May 1st through June 30th.

Who is Eligible:

You can apply for a spouse scholarship if you:

- are a military spouse with a valid military ID
- are married to an active duty, reserve, guard, retired, medically retired, wounded or fallen service member (must be a service-related wound, illness, injury or death that took place after September 11, 2001)
- are a dual service military spouse
- are a divorced spouse, but ONLY if you receive 20/20/20 benefits or 20/20/15 benefits
- are married when we ask for verification paperwork, usually a month after the applications close

Who is Not Eligible:

- Surviving spouses who are remarried, unless they are remarried to a service member
- Children (Check the Defense Commissary Agency Military Children Scholarships at www.fisherhouse.org)
- Spouses of former service members, unless they are retired or medically retired.

MORE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Nola Jones Scholarship

The Nola Jones Scholarship is open to all graduating seniors at Alamogordo High School, Academy del Sol, Cloudcroft High School, Mescalero High School and Tularosa High School who intend to enroll in an institute of higher learning during the 2017/2018 academic years. One recipient will be chosen from each high school. Each scholarship is for \$300.

Applicants must submit an original, typewritten essay of 500 words stating "What is Your View of the Political Party System in the United States."

Applications are available in the NMSU-A Financial Aid Office.

Deadline is April 15, 2017.

Scholarships for High School Seniors

Deadline: Friday, June 9th, 2017

Andrew Piech Memorial Scholarship: Providing assistance to students in the field of Automotive Technology and related Applied Technologies. Students must pursue a degree or certificate from a nonprofit, public, automotive or technical vocational institution including community college. Apply Online: https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_3382/?SA=SNA&FID=35027

American Advertising Federation-New Mexico Scholarship: Providing assistance to deserving men and women who intend to enter advertising, marketing, strategic communications, graphic design, fine art, photography or illustration while maintaining a career focus in marketing/advertising. Apply Online: https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_3382/?SA=SNA&FID=35029

Trythall Family Scholarship for Excellence in Continuing Education: Providing assistance to individuals who are employed while attending a nonprofit or public educational institution part-time or full-time. Applicants must live in the Greater Albuquerque Metropolitan area (includes Bernalillo, Sandoval, Valencia or Torrance counties). Apply Online: https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_3382/?SA=SNA&FID=35030

Youth in Foster Care Scholarship: Providing assistance to young adults who have been in the New Mexico foster care system who want to develop a marketable skill or continue their education at a post-secondary school. Apply Online: https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_3382/?SA=SNA&FID=35042

Rae Lee Siporin Scholarship for Women: Providing assistance to women who are continuing or returning to college/university to complete their first undergraduate degree and need financial assistance for their senior year of school. Apply Online: https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_3382/Default.asp?SA=SNA&FID=35043&SESID=529&RL=

David R. Woodling Memorial Scholarship: Providing assistance to students attending an accredited nonprofit or public educational institution in pursuit of a certificate or degree in metals technology program with a concentration in machine tool technology and welding. Apply Online: https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_3382/Default.asp?SA=SNA&FID=35028&SESID=8997&RL=

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about financial aid or about scholarship opportunities, we can help! Give us a call at (575) 439—3600, send an email to finaidnmsua@nmsu.edu, or come in to Student Services. We are here for you!

STUDENT SERVICES

A Message from Interim Vice President for Student Success, Kathy Fuller

One of the most rewarding experiences that I especially appreciate at NMSU Alamogordo is the way we celebrate and acknowledge the successes of our students! A wonderful Celebration of Excellence was held Friday evening (March 31st) to recognize and honor students from several areas: those receiving scholarships from generous community individuals and sponsors, the many high school students of excellence who participate in the Dual Credit program, the numerous Crimson Scholars and Meritorious Graduates from our campus, the members of our NMSU-A student organizations who make a huge impact on our campus and in the community, as well as the Outstanding Students from our academic departments, and the two Outstanding Graduates for NMSU Alamogordo, Zoë Elliott and Jerry Moore.

Special thanks to the many folks who worked diligently to ensure the Celebration went smoothly and that everyone had the opportunity to be recognized for his or her accomplishments. The staff and faculty members who worked tirelessly include Cindy Holder, Judy Garcia, Karen Duggan, Linda Beavers, Rose Pena, Elma Hernandez, Gary Bond, Tim Wheeler, Jennifer Smith, Sonja de Vargas, Paul Aragon, Doris Valdespino, Dona Sennett, Aidee Covarrubias, and all the work study students who helped with various projects, as well as our facilities personnel who set up tables and chairs. What a great team effort!

Lastly, we extend special appreciation to the NMSU Alumni Association and Ms. Katherine Vandertulip for joining us and for providing the cake. (What's a celebration without cake?!)

Faculty and staff are truly proud of those who have achieved so much during their time at NMSU Alamogordo. No two stories are alike, and each person has faced his or her own challenges. The important lesson is: Never give up!

We wish each and every student all the best!!

Kathy Fuller
Interim Vice President for Student Success
New Mexico State University Alamogordo



STUDENT SERVICES

Here are a few helpful hints from our Admissions Department. We are always here to help you! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. If your last name begins with the letter A-K, contact Angelica at (575) 439-3701. If your last name begins with the letter L-Z, contact Alicia at (575) 439-3702. You may also send an email to admissnmsua@nmsu.edu.



Reminder: Summer/Fall Registration is Fast Approaching

- **Check your registration date**
<https://registrar.nmsu.edu/registration-schedule-by-classification/>

Designated Group or Classification	Day	Date
CRIMSON SCHOLARS (Seniors and Juniors)	Thursday	November 10, 2016
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (must have approval from Student Accessibility Services)	Thursday	November 10, 2016
VETERAN STUDENTS (All Levels – See Additional Info for criteria)	Thursday	November 10, 2016
AGGIE PATHWAY STUDENTS	Thursday	November 10, 2016
CRIMSON SCHOLARS (Sophomores and Freshman)	Friday	November 11, 2016
GRADUATE STUDENTS	Monday	November 14, 2016
SENIORS (90 cr. or more)	Monday	November 14, 2016
JUNIORS (60 – 89 cr.)	Tuesday	November 15, 2016
SOPHOMORES (30 – 59 cr.)	Wednesday	November 16, 2016
FRESHMEN (0 – 29 cr.)	Thursday	November 17, 2016
NON-DEGREE	Friday	November 18, 2016
READMITTED STUDENTS (last attended prior to Spring 2016)	Friday	November 18, 2016
NEW TRANSFER STUDENTS	Monday	November 28, 2016
NEW STUDENTS (Undergraduate and Graduate Students)	Monday	November 28, 2016
NEW INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENTS	Monday	December 19, 2016
SENIOR CITIZENS (New Mexico residents who are 65 or older may attend New Mexico State University at a reduced tuition rate. Individuals must apply and qualify for this program through the Registrar's Office on the first day of class. The Senior Citizen Waiver can be found under the Forms tab on the Registrar's website.)	Wednesday	January 2016

ALLIED HEALTH

On Wednesday, March 15, the Allied Health Student Association conducted a health fair at the senior health center in Alamogordo. This community engaging activity was led by Advisor Karen Sadowski, and students Lena Prowant, Raymond Martinez, Sarah Moore, Savannah Swayzee and Wei Gutshall over a 90-minute time frame. Students performed blood glucose checks and blood pressure checks on approximately 35 people. The group had a great time practicing their skills and have been invited to come back in the future. Pictures are courtesy of KarenSadowski.



Student Government

Deadline for budgets for FY 2017-2018 (Jul 1, 2017-June 30, 2018) is April 14.

Student Government meetings are open meetings and all students are welcome to attend.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Community College Survey of Student Engagement

Beginning next week, students in randomly selected classes at NMSU-A and community colleges across the nation will share their college experiences by completing the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE).

If you are in a class that is selected to participate in the survey, I encourage you to respond candidly. Your individual responses will remain confidential, and NMSU-A's results will be important in helping us identify ways we can improve programs and services for students.

We appreciate your willingness to help us learn from your experience.

Pokémon

Greetings, NMSU-A Pokémon Trainers!

I hope this update finds you all well and having enjoyed last week's in-game update and subsequent event. Water-type Pokémon spawned at a higher rate, whilst the game also introduced evolution items with every 7-Day PokéStop streak. Do not forget that there are a total of 9 PokéStops and 1 PokéGym on the NMSU-A campus. My greatest achievement during the event was catching a wild, high-level Gyarados outside of the art complex. I had no idea you could even catch such a rare character in-game unless evolved!

The event began at NMSU-A with Team Mystic strongly holding the gym in Student Services, despite currently being de-crowned by Team Valor.

Be observant, as I am going to release multiple Pokémon Lures in Allied Health in the coming weeks.

As always, happy training, and play safe!

- Miguel Viscarra, M.A.

Take Back the Night Alamogordo
11th Annual March and Rally
Saturday, April 8, 2017 from 6—9 PM
NMSU-A Tays Special Event Center
2400 N. Scenic Dr.
Help Us Prevent Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence!
Help Us **TAKE BACK THE NIGHT!**
Find us on Facebook and Follow us on Twitter - Take Back the Night Alamogordo
Email us at tbnalamogordo@gmail.com

Where will you be in two years?



How about here?

- 23 Associate Degrees
- 18 Certificates
- Low cost tuition
- Small class sizes
- Financial Aid and Scholarships
- Pathways to NMSU Las Cruces

SUN PATH

In February, SUN PATH Grant welcomed the new grant coordinator, Sarah Cerra. Mrs. Cerra has been employed with NMSU-A since 2013 and now brings experience working with outreach and a bubbly personality to the SUN PATH Grant. She looks forward to sharing the success stories of the SUN PATH grant to all, so please stop by and see her in her new office in the Allied Health Building or send her an email at scerra@nmsu.edu.



New Mexico Skill Up Network: Pathway Acceleration in Technology and Healthcare (SUN PATH) is a Department of Labor grant focused on improving and strengthening healthcare needs in New Mexico. The grant is a consortium grant of 11 community colleges in the state. Student participants at NMSU-A have an opportunity to complete certificates, degrees and industry recognized credentials in the allied health programs. Employer partners have been integrated into classrooms to ensure students are prepared to enter the workforce with the skills necessary in their fields. The job development career coach and the I-BEST instructor have also been integrated into courses to encourage and support students to successful completion of the courses and state and/or national credentials.

Natural Resource Management Class Field Trip

Students participated in a field trip to Valley of Fires Recreation Area with their Natural Resource Management class (FWCE 110) to study the Malpais Lava Flow near Carrizozo. They met with a volcanologist from the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources who took students on a hike across the lava beds and into dome caves caused by gas bubbles in the molten rock. He showed students the numerous location of volcanos in New Mexico and the planning for urban development around these areas. Students examined and learned names for the lava flow patterns, historical uses and the management of these resources. On the way back, students explored the Three Rivers Petroglyph Site, finding glyphs of birds, humans, animals, fish and abstract geometric designs hidden among the rugged landscape. They learned how the Jornada Mogollon people used stone tools to remove the dark patina on the exterior of the rock to communicate prime hunting grounds and sacred areas with others. These two visits to Bureau of Land Management sites offered students insight to professions in natural resource management, as well as exposing them to these precious resources.



Natural Resource Management Class Field Trip

We recently learned from a retired botanist, David Anderson (black and white photo attached), from White Sands Missile Range at Oliver Lee State Park while we participated in a service learning project in the native plant garden. He taught us about native plants identification and historical uses or ethnobotany. After we upgraded the gardens with the help of the Native Plant Society, students heard from Oliver Lee head ranger Kathleen German, David Anderson and his cohort, Gregory Silsby's background education and how they became employed in their relative natural resource agencies. David's adventures included working in South America researching rangeland ecology and his evolution into the amazing insightful ecologist that he is today.



Photo credit: Richard Sass

Left to right: Kristal Padilla, Patrick Willis, Kenneth Stephenson (NMSU-A students) and David Anderson, retired White Sands Missile Range botanist, clear out invasive species and upgrade the native plant garden at Oliver Lee State Park.



Photo credit: Richard Sass

Left to right: NMSU-A students Esperanza Maynez, Jacob Aragon, Kenneth Bonnell, Dr. Jennifer Smith, White Sands Missile Range botanists Gregory Silsby and David Anderson, NMSU-A students Kristal Padilla and Aurora Corona, and Oliver Lee State Park Superintendent Katherine German sat to hear the educational background and work adventures of these professionals in their natural resource fields.



Photo credit: Richard Sass

NMSU-A students Esperanza Maynez and Aurora Corona have a picnic by the peaceful streams found in Dog Canyon at Oliver Lee State Park.



Photo credit: Richard Sass

FWCE 110 class poses for a photo in Frenchy's historic ruins at Oliver Lee State Park. Left to Right: Kristal Padilla, Aurora Corona, Kenneth Bonnell, Patrick Willis, Dr. Jennifer Smith, Esperanza Maynez, Jacob Aragon, Kenneth Bonnell and Richard Sass.



Photo credit: Kenneth Bonnell

David Anderson, retired botanist with White Sands Missile Range, gave his time to spend with students to mentor them in the natural resource field of botany and range ecology.

TOWNSEND LIBRARY

On April 9th at 2pm the library will be showing "I Am Me: Understanding the Intersections of Gender, Sexuality, and Identity". This is an educational training video that explores the challenges our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, etc. (LGBTQ+) young people face and how adults can be supportive allies. The film was brought to my attention through Student Services and the New Mexico Communities of Care and it seemed like an excellent opportunity to showcase it once again for our campus. You may view a trailer for the film here <https://youtu.be/qT9ns3A8srY>.

April is National Poetry month (among other things!) and the library will be mounting a display as usual so come over beginning next week and get to know a bit more about poetry! Since we don't host Round-up again until 2018, we have over a year to prepare another, **supercalifragilisticexpialidocious** poetry book. Consider this your first announcement--there will be more in the fall!



Come to the Townsend Library to see the panoramic photo of the opening of the White Sands National Monument!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY?

Otero County Health Council

Otero County Community Health Council/Behavioral Health Local Collaborative is open to all community members.

The mission of Health Council is to assess, promote, and enhance the health and well-being of county residents by encouraging broad-based community involvement.

You are invited! Health Council and Behavioral Health Collaborative meet together on the first Tuesday of every month at 11:30 at PMS/The Counseling Center Bldg., 1900 10th Street in Alamogordo. All are welcome.

Meetings usually include a health-relevant presentation, short business meeting, and round table sharing. The emphasis is on well-being, awareness, community health, mental health, and collaboration. Additional committee happenings:

- Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) subcommittee meets 2nd Thursday each month at 11am, GCRMC. (Walk follows—inside or outside the hospital, depending on weather)
- Substance Abuse Task Force (SATF) subcommittee meets 3rd Tuesday each month at 12pm, 1900 10th St.

ALSO,

Otero HEAL invites YOU to a group walk

“Pre-work 4th Friday walks”

next: April 28th

Meet at 1st Street & Scenic Drive 7am

Comfy shoes and a water bottle suggested

For more information, email Maureen Schmittle at Maureen.Schmittle@state.nm.us, or call (575) 437-9340.

CHAOS BISTRO

The Chaos Bistro food truck will be in the NMSU-A Faculty Parking Lot (behind the Allied Health Building) on Wednesdays from 11-2:30.

As always, each week we will add a special of our own...but you have to keep an eye on our Facebook page to find out what that will be. Mark your calendar! We will go live from the food truck on Wednesday at about 11:45 a.m. to tell you about our special surprise. Who knows what you may win? It could be Rohovec Theater tickets, an NMSU-A backpack, or a Satchel of Student Services' Secret Stash of Smarties! Tune in to the New Mexico State University Alamogordo Facebook Page to find out!

Come on over and Order Some Disorder!



SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

NMSU-A Small Business Development Center Honors Client of the Year

General Hydronics Inc., owned by Shannan Wright and David Caraway, is a true small business success. Their story is so good, in fact, that the New Mexico Small Business Development Center (NMSBDC) has named the contracting company one its 2016 Star Clients of the Year. This annual award recognizes top performing business owners throughout the state. The company was honored by the New Mexico Legislature, the Lieutenant Governor and the Governor at events in Santa Fe in January.

General Hydronics is located in Alamogordo and they have over 50 employees. For 30 years, the business has survived and thrived in spite of several economic downturns. A strong work ethic, good reputation and guaranteed quality work have ultimately led to the expanding and growing company it is today. The owners, Shannan Wright and David Caraway, take pride in their work and have a loyal customer base. General Hydronics provides construction services throughout southern New Mexico focusing on mechanical, plumbing, utilities and concrete services.

Shannan and David have been working in the construction industry since the early 1980's. Shannan, newly enlisted in the military, was relocated to Holloman Air Force Base. Finding himself with extra time on his hands, he took a second job doing construction work for Polson & Grady. It was there that he met David and the two formed a working relationship that would last a lifetime. In an interesting twist of fate, Shannan and David married the Grady sisters, Tammi and Kathi, making them brothers-in-law. In 1986, Mr. Grady (of Polson & Grady) founded General Hydronics, Inc. When Mr. Grady retired in 2000, Shannan and David purchased both companies.

No job is too big or small for General Hydronics. The company's work history includes experience with schools, military installations, farms, and government agencies, as well as residential and commercial work. As an environmentally friendly company, General Hydronics utilizes green business practices. They offer "one-stop shopping" for construction jobs, providing efficient and convenient services for their customers. These services include complete building services, excavation and clearing, installation of utilities, plumbing and HVAC work.

Over the years, General Hydronics and the NMSU-A Small Business Development Center (SBDC) have formed a solid relationship. The company has utilized the no-cost, confidential small business assistance that is offered by the SBDC. Shannan explained that their relationship with the SBDC "is a fantastic experience. We are very satisfied every time we call for assistance with something or if it's just being informed about workshops and events, they are extremely helpful!"

General Hydronics is now a third-generation company and they have always been committed to family. Shannan is active in local business groups, his church, and with Holloman AFB. Both David and Shannan have a history of coaching local youth sports teams. As the business grows, the owners and entire General Hydronics team continue to mentor others and have a positive impact on the community.



L to R: Shannan Wright, Tammi Wright, Governor Susana Martinez, Kathi Caraway, and David Caraway at the Governor's Office at the NM State Capitol January 27, 2017.

ROHOVEC THEATER

NMSU-A Theatre on the Hill Presents

The 18th Annual Production for Young Audiences

A new family play by Carolyn Dittmer

The Haunted Garden



Friday & Saturday
May 5&6 @ 7:30 pm

Sunday Matinee
May 7 @ 2:00 pm

Advance Tickets Available At:
NMSU-A Business Office
The Blue Stone (1117 S White Sands Blvd)
Books Revisited (inside White Sands Mall)

Advanced Tickets

Adults: \$8.00 Children: \$3.00

NMSU-A Students w/current ID: \$2.00 (limit 2)

Student Discount Tickets Sold ONLY at Theatre Box Office Day of Performance

For more information, please call (575) 439-3670



Programs at New Mexico State University-Alamogordo are available to all students without regard to age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.
New Mexico State University-Alamogordo ofrece programas educativos, actividades, materiales sin discriminación basada en edad, color, discapacidad, identidad o expresión de identidad sexual, origen nacional, raza, religión, sexo, orientación sexual, o estado de veterano.

Rohovec Theatre, NMSU-A Campus
2400 N Scenic Drive, Alamogordo

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT
RAYMOND ROSA

The following excerpt was taken from a talk given by Raymond Rosa at the Spring Eat and Complete event on Wednesday, March 15, 2017, and printed with permission.

I started my pursuit of higher education in the fall of 2014, a whole 14 years after I graduated high school. I was never academically gifted. I tended to gravitate to the things that caught my attention. Mostly fringe/pseudo-science, history, video games, and beer. In those days, intellectual discipline and endeavors were virtually non-existent for me. So, I joined the Massachusetts Army National Guard. I served 6 years as an 11 B. with the 1st of the 181st Infantry Battalion, 29th Infantry Division, where I was deployed a few times on various operations in service to the Nation. After I ETS'd out of the service I worked odd manufacturing jobs, but there was always this lingering gravitas towards college. Fast forward a few years, and here we are. A new chapter, a new commitment, a new mission. So, I wanted to share and give credit to the amazing ensemble of individuals who have guided me through my personal cacophonous college life. I will not name-drop, but I will give praise to the amazing institution that is NMSU Alamogordo, and in doing this, share and bring to the forefront the beauty and gift which she represents for all of us.

Because it is through education that we can become malleable enough to meet the challenges beset upon us, honor the past, but set a progressive course into the future, for if we don't, we will become obsolete, and I refuse to let the stringent obtuse thinking of those who fear dictate the possibilities of my daughters, my country, and her diverse beautiful people. But it all begins with this journey. Let us accomplish, for whatever personal reason and goal we have set upon ourselves, let us ascend to greater heights. Do not let your dreams perish into oblivion. So, as I bequeath these, my last words, my thoughts and wishes upon you, I challenge each and every one of you to make your dreams blossom. Do not smother your aspirations. Cultivate them, breathe life into it and let it nourish you. "A posse ad esse" (From Possibility to Actuality).



Adult Education Student of the Year Alyssa Conine

Alyssa Conine, Adult Education Student of the Year

Alyssa came from a troubled home and had a fifth grade education. Her grandparents, Donya and Wayne Conine, took custody and registered Alyssa into NMSU-A Adult Education, in January 2015. She immediately took the challenge of learning and taking her studies seriously. Quickly she progressed through her classes and completed with the college transition classes at Adult Education. In spring 2016, she took and passed the HiSET exams and received her high school equivalency.

In January 2017, Alyssa was nominated by NMSU-A Adult Education, to the New Mexico Adult Education Association (NMAEA) as a candidate for Student of the Year. On February 8, 2017 it was announced by the President of the NMAEA Board that Alyssa Conine was selected as the "Outstanding Student of the Year." She along with her grandparents attended AE day at the Capital and was officially recognized by The House of Representatives. In addition, Alyssa completed her Phlebotomy certification through the NMSU-A SUNPATH grant with Allied Health. Alyssa plans to move to Texas to be with her father and brother and find a job in the health field. Congratulations Alyssa!!!



Aggie Cupboard Alamogordo

UPDATE

Aggie Cupboard Alamogordo is still in need of canned pasta sauce, canned vegetables, canned chicken breast, peanut butter, canned soups, packages of dry beans, pasta and rice.

Donations for the Aggie Pantry may be brought to several places on campus including Student Services, the lobby of the Library, and the Science Center. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Please make checks out to the Otero Hunger Coalition as they now hold our account. Donations through Otero Hunger Coalition are tax deductible.

The dates for spring distribution are:

April – 25 & 26

May – 30 & 31

Thank you,
Greg Hillis

BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO CAMPUS

There are several locations on campus where you can drop off your Aggie Cupboard Alamogordo donations.

There are donation boxes located on the table in the Glass House, in the lobby of the Campus Library, and in the Science Center. There is also an Aggie Cupboard Alamogordo donation shelf in the lobby of the Student Services Building. You can also bring your donations to Greg Hillis's office, which is located next to Human Resources.

We do have students in need, so please do what you can to help.



AGGIE CUPBOARD ALAMOGORDO

On Monday, April 10th, the Aggie Cupboard Team will be hosting another community meal. The Team hopes to develop the resources, both food and volunteers, to commit to providing one community meal on the second Monday of each month.

In terms of resources, the food for this meal is not generally a problem, as food is donated by the Hunger Coalition and by the generosity of the faculty and staff at NMSU-A.

What the Aggie Cupboard needs to ensure this commitment is a strong volunteer base. We need this base to come from NMSU-A faculty and staff.

There are a lot of ways faculty and staff can get involved.

We can always use a cooking team. This is by far the largest time commitment. Volunteer cooks generally help plan the meal based on the food provided by the Hunger Coalition, and they need to arrive at the church (New Beginnings, 817 Scenic Dr) between 3:00 and 3:30 p.m. If you are interested in being part of the cooking team, contact Kathy Fuller (kathfull@nmsu.edu), Greg Hillis (ghillis@nmsu.edu), or Kathy Roark-Diehl (kathyrd@nmsu.edu). We can provide more details on how the meal preparation for 150 people magically happens.

We understand that this time frame is what eliminates many of our campus community from participating. Here are other ways you can volunteer:

Come around 4:30 or 5:00 to help serve the meal.

Come after 5:30 to help clean up.

Just come and enjoy the meal!

Food service begins at 5:00, but anyone who shows up between 5:00 and 6:00 is served a meal.

Why is coming to the meal and eating helpful? Many of the community members attending a community meal bring their children, some are between jobs, and others are looking for opportunities for self improvement and ways to change their lives.

Just being yourselves can be good for the guests at the meal and good for our NMSU-A community. Talking to folks, getting to know them, and finding out about their hopes and dreams can begin a life-changing conversation. Sharing how a college education has changed your own life can bring hope and inspiration to individuals who have not seen education as a viable option in their own lives. We at the Aggie Pantry hope to build relationships between members of our community and the college, as we see this as the true mission of the *community part of community college*.

--Aggie Cupboard Team

If you have an article, story, or photo you would like to share in the Campus Connection Newsletter, please send it to Katie Pacelli-Klinger at kpacelli@nmsu.edu or call (575) 439-3729. Don't forget to Like and Follow the New Mexico State University Alamogordo Facebook Page and @NMSU on Twitter!

