

From the President's Office

We are completing our last week of the compressed work schedule. I have enjoyed the extra long weekends, but it has not been easy to work the 10-hour days. After some analysis, I will let you know if we saved any money by closing the campus for the three-day weekends.

I hope I do not jinx our enrollment trend, but you should know we are improving. We are not in the positive numbers yet but we are close, and I am optimistic. I know Student Services has been working diligently to recruit new students and to enroll continuing students. Thank you to the advisors and admissions for your efforts in recruiting and retention. In addition, thank you to those of you who have been promoting classes and programs in and around the community. I have high hopes for improved recruiting, retention, and completion as we begin the 2016/17 academic year.

The Strategic Plan is undergoing an analysis with the help of Greg Hillis. I will speak more about this at Convocation, but suffice it to say we have made progress in some areas and less in others. In general, the data suggests that we are headed in the right direction.

I look forward to seeing faculty and staff at Convocation on Friday, August 19th at the Tays Center. Please enjoy the rest of your summer.

Ken Van Winkle

President, New Mexico State University Alamosordo



NM STATE UNIVERSITY ALAMOGORDO

Discover Your College, Your Future.

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Register Now!
Classes Start August 17th
575-439-3600
nmsua.edu

NMSU-A is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission



Keep Up!

Text **NMSUA** to **24587**

for the latest
Student Services updates
and information.

NM STATE UNIVERSITY ALAMOGORDO

**SUCCESS!!!
&
MOVING FORWARD!!!**



Success!!!
Stephanie Aericko, Shiheem Walker, and Caitlin Crawford

NMSU-A Allied Health
is honored to announce we are proud of these students' accomplishments!!! They earned their Phlebotomy Tech completion certificate at New Mexico State University Alamogordo and through clinical partnerships with Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center and Ben Archer Health Center located in Alamogordo, New Mexico.




We have been receiving lots of great vacation photos like these sent in from Professor Claire Forsmann, who visited Germany, Denmark, and Holland this summer. Don't worry, though. She will be back in plenty of time to teach her class this fall.

Classes start August 17th, and registration is open now! Register online or come in to Student Services where we will be happy to help you!

Our hours are Monday-Thursday 7am-6pm through July 28th. Beginning August 1st, our hours will be Monday-Thursday 8am-6pm and Friday 8am-5pm.

New Mexico State University Alamogordo
Welcome to your virtual bookstore!

Finding your books for NMSU-A



Course materials will be listed. You will have options on the condition, and the choice to rent or buy, on most titles.

OR

You can go directly to the NMSU online store:
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Click on the Textbooks tab

Select your

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- Course
- Section

NMSU Bookstore Hours
Las Cruces, NM

Mon – Fri	7:30am – 5pm
Sat	10am – 3pm
Sun	CLOSED

For more information or questions, please contact NMSU Main Campus Bookstore at 575.646.4431.



Are you a virtual Pokémon Trainer attempting to "catch them all?" If so, NMSU-A may be the place for you! Our campus is the one place in Otero County that has the most stops and even a gym in the smallest geographical area. There are over 9 Pokémon Stops on the NMSU-A campus, and the Student Services Building is a Pokémon gym with NMSU-A students as reigning champions.

I have always been a gamer, and I am taken aback to my freshman year in high school, when I played the original Pokémon game for the first time on my Game Boy. Recently, PokémonGO has become a worldwide phenomena.

Be sure to check the Campus Connection Newsletter for the latest in Pokémon happenings at NMSU-A. Throughout the fall semester, I will be activating Pokémon Lures at various locations on campus, so our students can catch the rarest Pokémon and have a bit of virtual fun here at NMSU-A. Please remember to adhere to the highest of safety standards, and be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Do not forget that registration for the fall 2016 semester is ongoing! Make sure to stop in to Student Services during your time on the NMSU-A campus to sign up for available courses.

- Miguel Viscarra, M.A.
ASC Tutor Coordinator
College Instructor of Sociology

Here is some "food" for thought:

Did you know Alamogordo Aggie Cupboard distributes all year? So far in 2016, 71 food distributions have helped NMSU-A students, faculty and staff in need. This amounts to more than \$1000 in food and is done only through the generous donations of food and cash by the NMSU-A and Alamogordo communities (Boy Scout Troop 127 and Pack 127 donated over 500 pounds of food).

Each distribution includes:

- 1 can of soup
- 1 can of fruit
- 2 cans of vegetables
- 1 can of pasta/tomato sauce
- 1 can of beans
- 2 to 3 pounds of dry pasta, beans or rice
- 15 ounces of tuna/chicken or 20 to 30 ounces of peanut butter
- 3 or 4 other items that we have available



Your donations are greatly appreciated but, as you might imagine, it doesn't take long to deplete our shelves.

We are in great need of packages of dry pasta, rice and beans and canned tomato/pasta sauce and peanut butter, We can also always use canned soups, fruit, vegetables, chicken, and tuna. All items need to have a use by or best by date in the future. We also accept cash donations through the NMSU-A foundation which can easily be made by contacting Mary Fechner at (575) 439-3696.

Please do what you can to help.

For more information, contact Greg Hillis at (575) 439-3624.

The "First Impressions" event is scheduled on Wednesday, August 17 and Thursday, August 18 from 8 am to 6 pm.

This event is held to welcome students back to campus, help new students find classrooms, and obtain necessary information for a successful semester.

Volunteers are needed at the various tables set up around the campus:

Science Center, Patio, Student Services/Bookstore, Library, and Pro-Tech.

Please contact John Barnes at zbarnes@nmsu.edu or call 439-3727 to sign up.

The next Alamogordo Downtown Merchants Association Art Walk will be FRIDAY, August 19th from 6-8pm. Stop by the NMSU-A table and visit with us! Many thanks to Beth and Greg Hillis, Daron Patton, Hazel Wilson and Dolly for volunteering last month!

We had a great time at Fourth Friday on July 22nd! A big thank you to Lee Kinney, Beth and Greg Hillis, and Rob and Katie Klinger for volunteering! We will have our table at Fourth Friday again on August 26th. This is the last one for the year. Please stop by and see us! The band will be Gasoline Alley and the movie will be Kung Fu Panda.



The Art Walk is held all year on the 3rd Friday of each month from 6-8pm on New York Avenue, between 8th St and 10th St. We need volunteers to help hand out information and goodies, and to answer questions. This is the perfect venue for promoting your program and boosting registration!

Come join us! There is a sign-up sheet in Katie's office in Student Services. Please help us by volunteering, even if it is only for one hour each month.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Daron Patton for all of his hard work and dedication to NMSU-A. Daron was always the first to sign up to volunteer, the first to show up, and the last to leave when events ended.

Daron, thank you for all of your help, and for making work so much fun. It has been an honor and a privilege working with you, sir. I wish you and your family all the best in Oregon. You will be missed.

~Katie Pacelli-Klinger
NMSU-A Marketing

...and that's how you get ants.



NMSU-A Dual Credit Advisor and Recruiter Elma Hernandez will be attending Registration Days for Fall 2016 for the following schools.

Alamogordo High School

Thursday – July 28

Friday – July 29

Monday – August 1

Tularosa High School

Thursday – August 11

Friday – August 12

During Registration Days, Elma will be available to provide students and parents with information regarding the Dual Credit Program. She will also have Dual Credit packets to hand out.

If you have any questions, you can call Elma at 575-439-3856 or email elmah@nmsu.edu.



You may now begin to apply for degrees and certificates for fall 2016. Application is free. To start the process, see your academic advisor to verify all requirements have been met. Then login to MyNMSU, select Banner Self Service, select Student, then select Student Records and Degree Application. If you need assistance, contact your academic advisor.

An online Certificate application is now available at <http://nmsua.edu/certificate-application/>

Due to the summer compressed work week, July payroll will be handed out on Thurs, July 14 and Thurs, July 28. If you have any questions, please contact Tony Salinas, 575-439-3601.

The Academic Support Center Summer Hours are Mon-Sat 9-5 (the last test starts at 4). For more information, call (575) 439-3853 or (575) 439-3852.

And, of course...

**Don't forget to register for the Fall Semester!
Classes start August 17th!**



NMSU-A Associate Biology Professor Dr. Jennifer Smith has spent the summer in a remote area of West Texas studying a Critically Imperiled species, the Chihuahuan Mud Turtle. She received a grant from Texas Parks and Wildlife to place trackers on the turtle's shell, then follow them by listening to "beeps" in headphones. The louder the beeps get, the closer she is to the turtles until she locates them and marks it with a GPS on a map. The purpose of the study is to see where they nest and where they go for the winter. She has been staying in an abandoned ranch house on a huge ranch with no company except her dogs, no air conditioning with temperatures at 122 degrees F, no water and no electricity at times. She has been studying these turtles for the past six years as part of her dissertation research, which she just completed in May. The population estimate is 134 individuals remaining in a very small area near Big Bend National Park.

Dr. Smith took 11 students from her Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology (FWCE 110) class to the area over this past spring break, where they found a new population that had not been seen in over 30 years! This means there may be more out there which was exciting news to scientists and students. This summer, she found the nesting sites and saw a female digging a place to lay her eggs. This has never been documented before! She plans to take a group from the class in the Fall of 2016 to find the turtles' over-wintering sites. Learning about their nesting behaviors and habitat requirements was one of the purposes of this study, with the goal of establishing new habitats that contain all the necessary components for success with the long term goals of re-establishing a healthy population in the wild.

This fall, a protective fence will be constructed to protect the turtles from predators such as feral hogs, javalina and raccoons. In the future Dr. Smith hopes to 1) start a captive breeding program, which has been agreed to by the San Antonio zoo, with the goal of releasing juveniles back into the wild; 2) establish new habitats by constructing ponds in a protected area; 3) involve students in these conservation and tracking projects. As part of the requirements for this grant, she needed to post her activities on social media, so she posted her activities here: www.theturtleladyblog.com

Coming Soon...

On August 30, 2016 from 12-1 pm on the patio, NMSU-A will present an International College Fair. Multiple companies specializing in study abroad programs will be here to share the process and benefits of participating in global learning. Don't miss this opportunity to speak directly with individuals who can make studying abroad a memorable and once-in-a-lifetime experience. For information, please contact Dr. Juan Garcia at (575) 439-3626 or email jbgarcia@nmsu.edu.

NMSU-A Volleyball Camp is a SUCCESS!

By Dr. Ernestine Baca

NMSU-A's first Summer Volleyball Camp was a huge success with over 70 in attendance!

On July 5-7, New Mexico State University Alamogordo hosted a volleyball camp at the Tays Center, helping players from 6th through 12th grade who were interested in volleyball to get the specialized instruction needed for success. The girls learned the physical skills required for volleyball as well as concepts in teamwork, dedication, motivation, "coachability", and hard work. The best thing about volleyball camp is that participants get to work as a team, but still get time to work on individual skills.

NMSU-A would like to thank Jerry Hekeia and Dalton Overstreet from Eastern Arizona for putting on such a great camp. Athletes who wanted to learn from some of the best coaches came in from Hondo, Cloudcroft, and Alamogordo as well as coming from as far away as Ignacio, Colorado! Hekeia and Overstreet's main focus was on developing all volleyball skills in a fun and energetic environment.

High school camp athletes as well as community athletes were given the opportunity to compete in a co-ed volleyball tournament held on July 8-9. This year, 8 teams participated in the volleyball tournament. Everyone had a great time! The Tiger's Team was the winner of the tournament.

Members included: Cierra Chenault, Kelsie Malone, Aciana Herrera, Keith Wilders, Megan Sampath, and Adriena Joyner. NMSU-A Athletic Director Dr. Ernestine Baca said, "Volleyball camps and tournaments are always a fun event and NMSU-A enjoyed putting it on. We can't wait to do this again next year!"



There is an Aggie Cupboard Alamogordo food distribution at the Tays Center Kitchen located near Adult Education:

- Tuesday and Wednesday, August 16 and 17 from 4pm to 6pm
- Tuesday and Wednesday, August 23 and 24 from 4pm to 6pm

Distribution is open to any NMSU-A or NMSU student or employee who has an NMSU-A ID number. Persons receiving food will need to complete a short information card with their name, ID number and any food restrictions or allergies. You may also provide constructive comments to help the pantry improve.

We are also in need of non-perishable food and/or financial donations. Money can be donated through the NMSU-A Foundation. Contact Mary Fechner at 575-439-3696, mfechner@nmsu.edu.

If you have any questions, please contact Greg Hillis, Institutional Research Office, New Mexico State University Alamogordo, Phone: 575-439-3624, ghillis@nmsu.edu.



Do you have time for one more getaway before classes start? Don't forget to pack your NMSU-A t-shirt! Send us a picture of your NMSU-A pride, and we'll give you a piece of NMSU-A swag for your collection!

There's still time to send in those photos! If you have trouble posting them to our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/New-Mexico-State-University-Alamogordo-116932278342612/>) you can email them to kpacelli@nmsu.edu.

Happy and safe travels to you wherever you go, and we will see you when you return.