

From the President's Office

I hope everyone is having a great summer. It has been hot in Alamogordo but we are so lucky to live in this part of the country without the drastic weather you see in the Midwest or other parts of the country.

I am disappointed for us, but happy for Dr. Vandeen McKenzie, to announce that she has been recruited by NMSU Las Cruces to be their Director of Financial Aid. I understand that we will continue to have the pleasure of working with Vandeen through the month of August. Vandeen has been an exemplary employee for NMSU-A and has demonstrated a work ethic and concern for our campus second to none. Although we will have to make some quick decisions concerning Student Success, we are extremely happy for Vandeen and will be proud to let everyone know that her first position in the NMSU system began in Alamogordo. Obviously, I will have more to say about this soon.

I have asked Brenda Ramos to oversee the process of inventory as we move into the fall semester, and I am confident that she will do a great job. However, and to be clear, inventory is a responsibility that rests on the shoulders of all of us. Brenda will help us organize and oversee the process but she cannot do this by herself. At this point, all correspondence will go to Brenda but she must be trained on how to complete a request. In addition, and again, even after Brenda is trained, we must all help complete the process. This includes help in scanning and finding equipment for reporting.

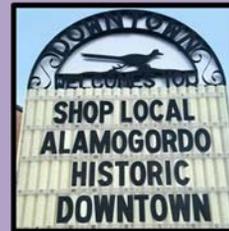
Our numbers are not great but we are starting to see a smaller declining enrollment trend. We still have time to make a difference in the number of students who could use our help, encourage them to enroll at NMSU-A for fall classes.

See you soon,

Ken Van Winkle
President, New Mexico State University Alamogordo

The next Alamogordo Downtown Merchants Association Art Walk will be THIS FRIDAY, July 15th from 6-8pm. Stop by the NMSU-A table and visit with us!

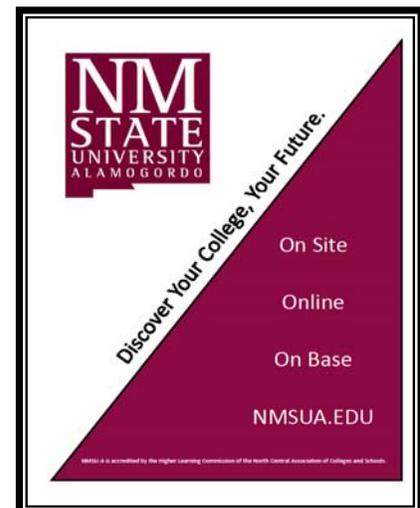
This month you can see Sun Path Coordinator, Daron Patton; Community Education Outreach representative, Beth Hillis; Lead Institutional Researcher, Greg Hillis; Academic Advisor, Hazel Wilson and her special guest, Dolly, the amazing and majestic hawk!



The Art Walk is held 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 a great venue for boosting registration and promoting your program!

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.

Thank you!



NMSU-A Spotlight: Dr. Vicente Lombraña

Dr. Vicente Lombraña: Synonymous with Dedication to Students at NMSU-A

Anyone who has ever visited Dr. Vicente Lombraña's office in the northeast corner of the Allied Health building at NMSU-A knows that it is a busy student learning center. Dr. Lombraña is especially well known among the Allied Health and Science students on campus. He has B.S. and M.S. degrees from UTEP and a Ph.D. from NMSU, has worked within the system since 1995, and has taught:

- Cellular and Organismal Biology (Biol 211)
- Introductory Microbiology (Biol 221)
- Anatomy and Physiology I (Biol 225)
- Anatomy and Physiology II (Biol 226)
- Human Pathophysiology I (Biol 262), and
- Human Pathophysiology II (Biol 263)

Most current students know him for his work in Anatomy and Physiology. Because his education in this field of study gave him an excellent overall view of cell and organismal biology, he was a perfect fit for his current work, where he plays a critical role for students who will pursue a degree in Allied Health or Science at the university.

What very few people know about Dr. Lombraña is that he may be the state's only remaining expert on pocket gopher cytogenetics! He worked together with the late Dr. Charles Thaeler, Jr. of NMSU's Las Cruces campus, to shed light on that important group of New Mexican mammals.

In addition to his skills as a biologist, Dr. Lombraña is known throughout the region for his dedication. Always willing to help students by explaining, drawing, and clarifying difficult concepts in biology. It is rare to see him without a coffee cup in one hand and a piece of chalk in the other! Likewise, co-workers know that he is not afraid to get his hands dirty and help out wherever he sees a need.

If you are an aspiring biologist or someone looking toward a career in Allied Health or Science, and would like to talk to an instructor who will carefully listen and thoughtfully answer your questions, stop in to see Dr. Vicente Lombraña at NMSU-A. You will find him in office number SC 166 when he is not in the Science classrooms teaching. One may also reach him by phone (575-439-3864) or email (vLombran@nmsu.edu).

Finally, do not be surprised if you see him in one of the Alamogordo grocery stores or restaurants on a Saturday or Sunday, where he is known for throwing out tough biology questions to his current and former students while shopping!



NMSU-A Pokémon Blogspot

Dear Pokémon fans,

It has come to the attention of the college that Pokémon Go© is becoming a national trend. A trend that has had lots of activity on and throughout our campus here at NMSU-A. Pokémon Go is an app that is accessed on mobile devices that allows the user to find Pokémon in real life. Within this app are "Pokestops", randomly selected locations that have either memorial or landmark significance where the user of the app can spin for free to gain items, such as pokeballs, potions, eggs, revives and berries. New Mexico State University-Alamogordo has the luxury of having multiple pokestops throughout campus; encompassing the entire campus from the Pro-tech building to the Tays center. Players of this app should be mindful that this is a public space, open to all members of the community. We ask you be respectful of campus policies and show everyone enjoying the campus, courteous and friendly behavior.

Here are some tips for the advent poke-goers who embark on the journey to "catch them all".

- Stay hydrated, stay in the shade, stay cool
- Be aware of your surroundings: e.g. -strangers, wild animals, landmarks, private property etc.
- 3 paw prints is 1 kilometer away, 2 is 100 meters, 1 is 20 meters and 0 is next to you
- The circle colors determine difficulty of catch-red is difficult, orange is moderately difficult, yellow is slightly difficult and green is easy to capture
- Battery saver mode can be selected through the settings, and if selected the player can turn their phone upside which will automatically darken the screen but still leave the game open
- Elusive items like modules, incubators and lucky eggs can either be bought or granted when players reach higher levels
- High CP is crucial for taking over gyms and can be increased using pokecandies and stardust

NMSU-A encourages players to have fun, respect each other, respect the facility in which you are playing. While you are on campus sign up for the fall semester.

If you are interested in participating in the Pokémon fun, download the app at <http://www.serebii.net/pokemongo/>.

Genaro Brusuelas
Job Development Career Coach
SUNPATH: New Mexico State University-Alamogordo
Allied Health Building-Room 162



Perhaps this Clefairy Pokémon was looking for some career advice in the Allied Health Building. What do you think?



This Zubat scared Ms. Judy! There are Pokémon all over Student Services! Come on over and see if you can catch them all!



NMSU-A's Marketing Representative Katie Pacelli almost caught this Pidgey in her office with her bare hands! But he got away. Maybe you can catch him!

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

Cloudcroft High School
Monday – July 18
Tuesday – July 19
Wednesday – July 20

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.

NM STATE UNIVERSITY
Otero STEM
SUMMER 2016 MINDSTORM PROGRAMMING WORKSHOP

Workshop Schedule
Week 2: July 25-28
Every day 8:30 to 11:30
NMSU-A Science Bldg

TEAMWORK BUILDING PROGRAMMING

Ages 7-14 years
Limited Space Available
24 students per workshop
\$100 per child

Register: cmstong@gmail.com
Contact: Fred: 425-337-8925



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.

Academic Support Center Summer Hours are 8-6 Monday-Thursday.
Testing Center Summer Hours are 8-5 Monday-Thursday.
For more information, call (575) 439-3853 or (575) 439-3852.

And, of course...

Don't forget to register for the Fall Semester!



Coming Soon...

The first week of robotics camp was held June 20-24 for kids ages 7-14. We conducted two sessions each day with nine kids in the morning session and nine in the afternoon session. The afternoon class was a cooperative effort with the Space Museum's camp students.

Everyone successfully learned to program the Mindstorm LEGO robots including using a color sensor for location identification, an ultra-sonic sensor used for distance measurement, and a touch sensor best used for contact detection. The week ended with both morning and afternoon students bringing their parents to the museum to watch them launch rockets and demonstrate their programming skills.

The next robotics camp session is July 25-29 with 15 students signed up for the morning session and 13 for the afternoon session.

In addition, based on positive feedback from parents, we are planning to add an adult programming afternoon session in the future with the ThunderDog team providing daycare as a fundraiser.

The robotics camp greatly helps feed our pipeline of younger students interested in robots and programming into our middle school and high school programs.

Thank you to NMSU-A for sponsoring our classroom and Mindstorm kits.

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 García at (575) 439-3626 or email jbgarcia@nmsu.edu.



In the last issue of Campus Connection, Sarah Cerra was listed as a biology instructor. Sarah is NMSU-A's awesome Lab Coordinator. Our face-to-face biology instructors are Dr. Vicente Lombraña, Dr. Gloria Villaverde, and Dr. Jennifer Smith. Sorry for the error!