



**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
REGULAR MEETING
March 9, 2026, at 1:30 PM**

Wooton Hall, Room 105
2995 Knox Street
Las Cruces, NM 88003

LIVESTREAMED AT <https://regents.nmsu.edu/regent-meetings/>

Regents of New Mexico State University

Chair Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chair Deborah Romero, Secretary/Treasurer Christopher T. Saucedo, Marisol Olivas, Ricardo Gonzales

Non-Voting Advisory Members - ASNMSU President Wyatt Ziehe, Faculty Senate Chair Vimal Chaitanya, Ph.D., Employee Council Chair Sonia A. White

University Officials - President Valerio Ferme, Ph.D., Interim Provost Lakshmi Reddi, Ph.D., Vice President for Administration and Finance Allen Bottorff, P.E., Ph.D., General Counsel Lisa Henderson, J.D.

AGENDA

A. Call to Order, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Pledge of Allegiance

- 1. Welcome, Nick Webb, USDA-ARS Jornada Experimental Range**
- 2. Introduction of the Media and Elected Officials, Chief of Staff Justin Bannister**
- 3. Introductions**
 - a) Introduction of the newly elected chair of NMSU Employee Council, Sonia A. White, President Valerio Ferme**
- 4. Confirmation of Quorum, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali**
- 5. Approval of the Agenda, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali**

B. Approval of Minutes

- 1. Special Meeting on February 18, 2026**

C. Regent Committee Reports

- 1. Audit and Risk Committee Report, Regent Ricardo Gonzales**
 - a) 2024 2025 Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025, Lisa Todd (Baker Tilly)**
- 2. Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee Report, Regent Deborah Romero**
- 3. Student Success Committee Report, Regent Christopher Saucedo**

D. Advisory Member Reports

1. **Associated Students of NMSU Report**, *President Wyatt Ziehe*
2. **NMSU Faculty Senate Report**, *Chair Vimal Chaitanya*
3. **NMSU Employee Council Report**, *Chair Sonia A. White*

E. Affiliated Entity Reports

1. **NMSU Foundation Inc. Report**, *NMSU Foundation CEO Sylvia Y. Acosta*
2. **Arrowhead Center Inc. Report**, *Interim Director & CEO Winnie (Yu-Feng) Lee*
3. **Aggie Development Inc. Report**, *CEO Scott Eschenbrenner*

F. Public Comment, *Associate Vice President Abby Butler*

G. Consent Items, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

1. **2026 Annual Open Meetings Notice Resolution**, *University General Counsel Lisa Henderson*
2. **Confirmation of DACC Spring 2026 Honorary Degree Recipient Selection**, *NMSU Community Colleges Chancellor Mónica Torres*
3. **City of Las Cruces Right of Way Easement - Natural Gas Pipeline**, *Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner*
4. **El Paso Electric Easement – Office of Emergency Management Building**, *Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner*
5. **DACC Electric Boilers Conversion**, *Interim Associate Vice President Scott Eschenbrenner*
6. **Piñon Hall Roof Repair**, *Interim Associate Vice President Scott Eschenbrenner*
7. **Disposition and Deletion of Capital Property**, *University Controller Ross Justus*
8. **Philanthropic naming of Motion Capture Lab located in Milton Hall, Room #189, the "Kevin Andrew Long Motion Capture Lab"**, *NMSU Foundation CEO Sylvia Y. Acosta*
9. **Philanthropic naming of Conference Room 253A in the Pan American Center, the "Shari Jones Conference Room"**, *NMSU Foundation CEO Sylvia Y. Acosta*

H. Action Items, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

1. **Computational Social Science - Doctor of Philosophy**, *Rick Marlatt, David Ortiz Canseco*
2. **Artificial Intelligence Technician - Associate of Applied Science**, *Shannon Bradley, Jon Juarez*
3. **Anthropology Course Fee Request**, *Academic Department Head Lois Stanford, Assistant Professor Katie Richards*
4. **Election of Officers**, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

I. **Informational Items, Chair**

1. **Summary of Revisions to the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP) for the period December 1, 2025 - February 28, 2026, University Policy Officer Donna Ottaviano**

J. **NMSU System Report, President Valerio Ferme**

K. **NMSU Academic Report, Interim Provost Lakshmi Reddi**

L. **Report from the New Mexico Department of Agriculture to the Regents of New Mexico State University (Board of Agriculture), Secretary Jeff Witte**

M. **Announcements and Comments, Chair**

1. **Good News for NMSU!**

N. **Adjournment, Chair**



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # B-1

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: Christopher Saucedo
Secretary/Treasurer,
NMSU Board of Regents

Agenda Item: Special Meeting Minutes on February 18, 2026

Requested Action of the Board of Regents: Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes for February 18, 2026, as presented.

Executive Summary:

As required by the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, the board shall keep written minutes of all its meetings. The minutes shall include at a minimum the date, time and place of the meeting, the names of members in attendance and those absent, the substance of the proposals considered and a record of any decisions and votes taken that show how each member voted. All minutes are open to public inspection. Draft minutes shall be prepared within ten working days after the meeting and shall be approved, amended or disapproved at the next meeting where a quorum is present. Minutes shall not become official until approved by the board.

References:

NM Open Meetings Act §10-15-1 G.

Prior Approvals:

N/A



NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

February 18, 2026 at 9:00 AM

Educational Services Building, Regents Room
1780 East University Avenue, Las Cruces, NM

Regents of New Mexico State University

Chair Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chair Deborah Romero, Secretary/Treasurer Christopher T. Saucedo, Marisol Olivas, Ricardo Gonzales

Non-Voting Advisory Members - ASNMSU President Wyatt Ziehe, Faculty Senate Chair Vimal Chaitanya, Ph.D., Employee Council Chair Donna Johnson

University Officials - President Valerio Ferme, Ph.D., Interim Provost Lakshmi Reddi, Ph.D., General Counsel Lisa Henderson, J.D.

MINUTES

A. **Call to Order**, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali called the special meeting to order at 9:04 AM.

1. **Confirmation of Quorum and Roll Call**

A quorum was confirmed through a roll call.

- Regents Present: Chair Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chair Deborah Romero, Marisol Olivas, and Ricardo Gonzales.
- Regents Absent: Secretary/Treasurer Christopher T. Saucedo (traveling).
- Advisory Members Present: ASNMSU President Wyatt Ziehe and Faculty Senate Chair Vimal Chaitanya. Employee Council Chair Donna Johnson joined later online.
- University Officials Present: President Valerio Ferme, General Counsel Lisa Henderson, and NMSU Foundation CFO/COO Larry Mirabal (representing Sylvia Acosta).
- University Officials Absent: Interim Provost Lakshmi Reddi (traveling).

B. **Approval of Minutes from the Special Meeting on December 11, 2025**

Regent Olivas moved for approval, seconded by Regent Gonzales. The minutes were approved as presented.

C. **Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting on December 11, 2025**

Regent Olivas moved for approval, seconded by Regent Romero. The minutes were approved as presented.

D. Confirmation of Prior Closed Executive Session on December 12, 2025

The Board of Regents of New Mexico State University held a closed meeting at noon on Friday, December 12, 2025. The closed meeting was called to complete an interim performance assessment of the President under his contract, and discussion of personnel matters related to individual NMSU employees as permitted under the personnel matters exemption of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA Section 10-15-1, subsection (H)(2).

Those board members who were present certified that only matters of that nature were discussed.

Regent Gonzales: Not present at the closed meeting.

Regent Olivas: Yes

Regent Saucedo: Absent

Regent Romero: Yes

Regent Devasthali: Yes

E. Confirmation of Prior Closed Executive Session on January 23, 2026

The Board of Regents of New Mexico State University held a closed meeting at noon on Friday, January 23, 2026. The closed executive meeting was held to discuss pending litigation in accordance with NMSA Section 10-15-1 H(7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act and discussion of personnel matters related to individual NMSU employees as permitted under the personnel matters exemption of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA Section 10-15-1, subsection (H)(2).

Those board members who were present certified that only matters of that nature were discussed.

Regent Gonzales: Not present at the closed meeting.

Regent Olivas: Yes

Regent Saucedo: Absent

Regent Romero: Yes

Regent Devasthali: Yes

F. **Action Items**

1. **Waiver and Discharge of Right of Repurchase for Property Located at 2495 S. Locust St., Las Cruces (0.6894 acre tract), NM, NMSU Foundation CEO Sylvia Acosta**

Larry Mirabal presented a request for NMSU to waive its right to repurchase a car wash property located at 2495 South Locust Street, Las Cruces.

Purpose: The NMSU Foundation is selling the property to the current tenant to liquidate the asset and move proceeds into a long-term investment pool.

Strategic Justification: Real Estate representative Scott Eschenbrenner confirmed that the sale is at market price and that the land serves no strategic objective for the university's mission.

It was moved by Regent Olivas, seconded by Regent Gonzales, to approve the Waiver and Discharge of Right of Repurchase for Property Located at 2495 S. Locust St., Las Cruces (0.6894-acre tract), NM, as presented. Approved 4-0 via roll call vote.

2. **MOU ratification for increased tuition support to the Graduate Students, General Counsel Lisa Henderson**

General Counsel Henderson presented an MOU to increase graduate tuition scholarships from 6 credit hours to 9 credit hours.

The estimated cost is approximately \$730,000 to \$750,000 per academic year, funded via appropriations and "Instruction and General" (I&G) funds.

The increase aligns with R1 institution standards and improves recruitment competitiveness.

It was moved by Regent Gonzales, seconded by Regent Romero, to approve the ratification of the MOU for increased tuition support to Graduate Students, as presented. Approved 3-0, with Regent Olivas abstaining.

G. Closed (Executive) Session

- 1. Waiver and Discharge of Right of Repurchase for Property Located at 2495 S. Locust St., Las Cruces (1.0616 acre tract tract), NM pursuant to NMSA Section 10-15-1 H(8) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act**
- 2. *Attorney-Client Communications re: Threatened Litigation in which NMSU may become a Participant in accordance with NMSA Section 10-15-1 H(7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act.***

Chair Devasthali moved that the Board of Regents go into closed meeting to discuss Waiver and Discharge of Right of Repurchase for Property Located at 2495 S. Locust St., Las Cruces, the 1.0616 acre tract, pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1 H(8) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act and to discuss Attorney-Client Communications concerning Threatened Litigation in which NMSU may become a Participant in accordance with NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1 H(7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act.

The motion was seconded by Regent Gonzales. Approved 4-0 by roll call vote.

H. Return to Open Session

- 1. Action, if any, on the Waiver and Discharge of the Right of Repurchase Discussed in Closed Session.**

The Board returned for closed session, and Board of Regents Chief of Staff, Adam Cavotta, read:

“The Board of Regents of New Mexico State University held a closed meeting today, Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 9:34 AM. The closed meeting was called to discuss the Waiver and Discharge of Right of Repurchase for Property Located at 2495 S. Locust St., Las Cruces, the 1.0616 acre tract, pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1 H(8) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act and to discuss Attorney-Client Communications concerning Threatened Litigation in which NMSU may become a Participant in accordance with NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1 H(7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act. Those Board members who were present, please certify that only matters of that nature were discussed.”

Regent Gonzales: Yes

Regent Olivas: Yes

Regent Saucedo: Absent

Regent Romero: Yes

Regent Devasthali: Yes

Chair Devasthali moved that the Board take no action on the 1.0616 acre parcel at this time and refer the matter to the Regents' Real Estate Committee.

Seconded by Regent Romero. Approved 4-0 by roll call vote.

I. **Adjournment, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali**

Before adjourning, Regent Gonzales reported that NMSU representatives defeated the UNM (Lobos) Senate 37-27 in a recent game, raising \$26,000 for cancer research.

Chair Devasthali moved to adjourn, seconded by Regent Gonzales. The meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM following a unanimous voice vote.

DRAFT



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # E-1

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: **Sylvia Y. Acosta, Ph.D.**
CEO
NMSU Foundation Inc.

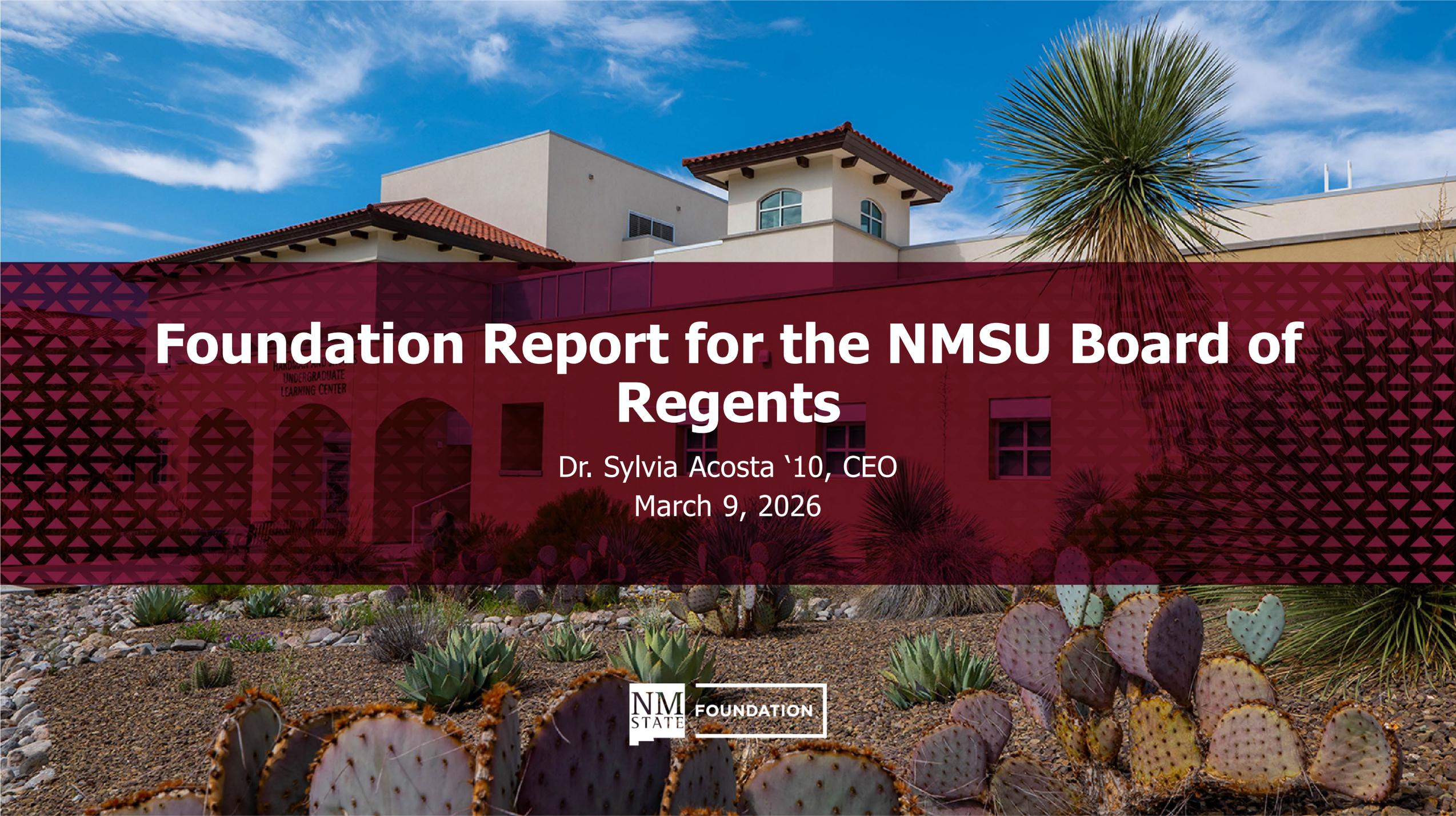
Agenda Item: Report from NMSU Foundation Inc.

Requested Action of the Board of Regents: None. Information only.

Executive Summary: This is a quarterly report provided to the Board of Regents from NMSU Foundation Inc.

References:
See attached report.

Prior Approvals:
N/A



Foundation Report for the NMSU Board of Regents

Dr. Sylvia Acosta '10, CEO
March 9, 2026

The Foundation Fundraising Report

Fundraising to
Date:

**As of March 2nd*

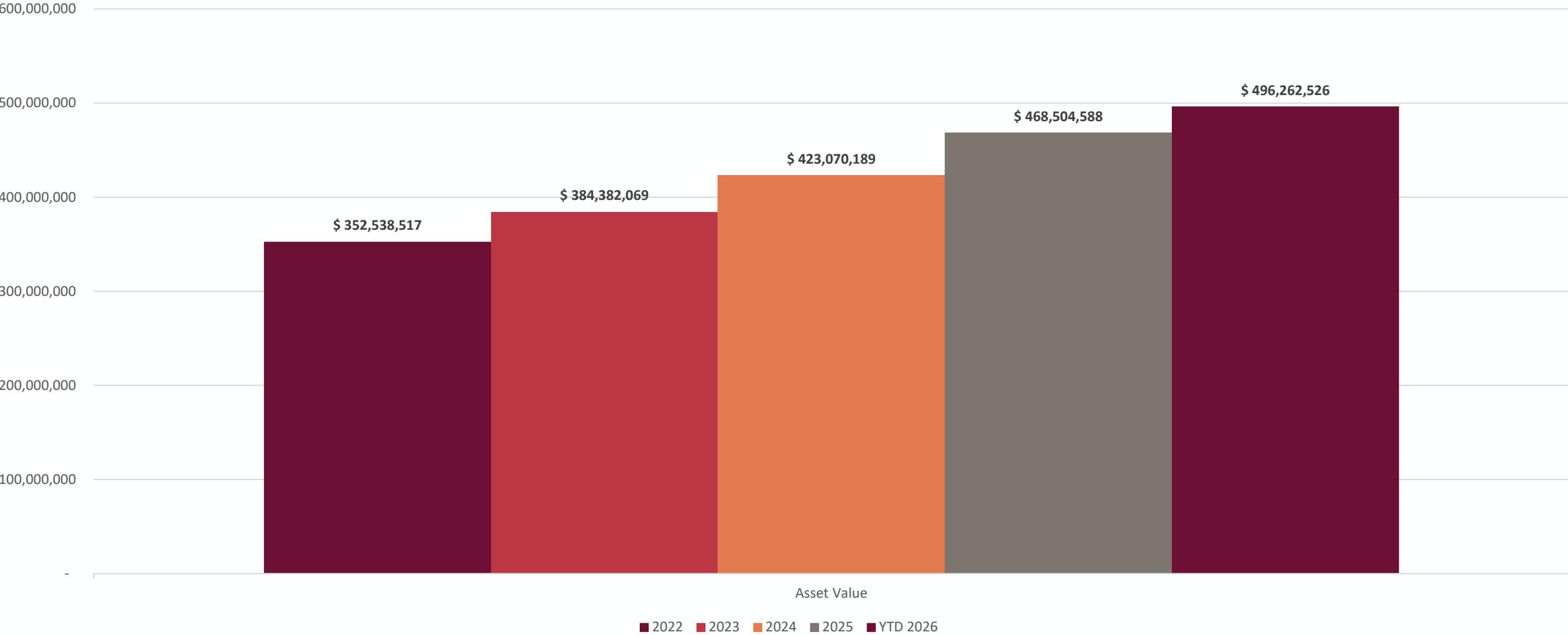
• **\$18,557,100!**

Assets Under
Management
**As of January 31st*

• **\$496,262,526**

AUM Growth Over Last 5 Years

Asset Growth - 2022 to 2026



Foundation Staffing Update

Loren
Maybrier

- AVP of Philanthropy starts on March 9th

Christine
Trujillo

- Philanthropy Officer, Athletics

The Foundation Alumni Events

Las Cruces
Game Day
Aggie Mixer

NMSU Day –
Santa Fe Aggie
Mixer

NMSU
Baseball
Home Opener

NYC
Penthouse
Watch Party

All Things
Athletics
Webinar



NMSU Day in Santa Fe



Upcoming Alumni and Foundation Events

San Diego Alumni Mixer

- March 26th

Grad Fair

- March 26th

1888 Minutes of Giving

- April 21st – 22nd

Foundation Spring Board Meeting

- April 22nd – 24th

Houston Alumni Mixer

- April 23rd



Thank you!

Dr. Sylvia Y. Acosta '10
CEO, NMSU Foundation





New Mexico State University Foundation Update

Dr. Sylvia Y Acosta '10

03/09/26

Foundation Fundraising Report

The NMSU Foundation raised **\$18,557,100** as of March 2nd, achieving 76% of its annual goal, putting it ahead of schedule and aligned to reach our total fundraising goal for the year.

The Foundation's Assets Under Management has also grown substantially shown it's growth to \$496,262,526, placing it on track to cross the \$500M threshold which places the University and Foundation in a amazing place recognizing it is above the median of \$200M range found from Commonfund and NACUBO reports, and placing us on track to become a near peer for many other Land Grant Institutions.

Foundation Staffing Update

After the promotion of Debra Marks to the Vice President of Philanthropic Giving and Alumni Relations, the Foundation continued focusing on filling the AVP of Philanthropy and the Athletics Philanthropy Officer roles. The Foundation, in its search, had candidates for both meeting with the teams they would be supporting and or leading. The Foundation is happy to announce that Loren Maybrier will be starting with the Foundation on March 9th as the AVP of Philanthropy. Loren comes to the Foundation from the University of Texas at San Antonio, where he previously served as the Director of Development. Loren has previously worked with the Foundation as the Program Center Manager for the previous Aggie Pride Call Center in 2015. He is thrilled to be coming back to NMSU and looks forward to making an impact through philanthropy.

The Foundation is also happy to announce that Christine Trujillo has started as the Foundation's Philanthropy Officer for Athletics. Christine is a proud Aggie Alumni and athletics supporter and is joining the Foundation after a career with Dell Technologies as their Large Enterprise Account Executive, where she led strategic account management for State of New Mexico agencies, Higher Education and K-12 education institutions, and healthcare organizations.

Foundation Alumni Events

The Foundation in alignment with its mission to continue alumni outreach, from the Las Cruces Game Day Mixer, NMSU Day in Santa Fe, NMSU Baseball Home Opener, a watch party in NYC, and our very first Always an Aggie Webinar.

- Las Cruces Game Day Aggie Mixer – 105 attendees
- NMSU Day – Santa Fe Aggie Mixer – 277 attendees
- NMSU Baseball Home Opener – 41 attendees
- NYC Penthouse Watch Party – 23 attendees
- All Things Athletics Webinar – 86 viewers

NMSU Day In Santa Fe

During the 2026 NMSU Day in Santa Fe, held February 9–10, the Foundation participated in a series of engagements designed to highlight and strengthen the collaborative efforts between the Foundation and the University. Throughout the event, the Foundation showcased its ongoing commitment to advancing philanthropy and supporting institutional priorities. Activities included hosting an alumni engagement table in the Capitol rotunda and attending key Roundhouse events celebrating NMSU’s statewide impact.

In coordination with the NMSU Office of Government Relations, the Foundation also facilitated meetings for Foundation leadership, President Ferme, and distinguished alumnus Kevin Johnson, former CEO of Starbucks. These meetings provided opportunities to engage with key legislators, including Representative Nathan Small, Charles Sallee, and Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, to discuss shared priorities and opportunities for continued support of NMSU.

On the Fundraising front, the Foundation hosted a Kitchen Table lunch that had local Foundation Board members and Regents from NMSU interacting with a group of our donors. Also, the Foundation host a Kitchen Table Dinner, generously supported by Kevin and Maureen Crawford, creating an informal setting for meaningful conversation and connection among Aggie alumni and stakeholders.

Upcoming Alumni Events:

- San Diego Alumni Mixer – March 26th
- Grad Fair – March 26th
- 1888 Minutes of Giving – April 21st – 22nd
- Foundation Spring Board Meeting – April 22nd – 24th
- Houston Alumni Mixer – April 23^d



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # E-2

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: Winnie (Yu-Feng) Lee, Ph.D.
Interim Director and CEO
Arrowhead Center Inc.

Agenda Item: Report from Arrowhead Center Inc.

Requested Action of the Board of Regents: None. Information only.

Executive Summary: This is a quarterly report provided to the Board of Regents from the Arrowhead Center Inc.

References:
See attached report.

Prior Approvals:
N/A

Arrowhead Center, Inc.
Interim CEO Report
March 9, 2026

1.0 State of the Corporation

Leadership & Strategic Alignment:

Due to the resignation of Dana Catron, Dr. Yu-Feng (Winnie) Lee has been selected to serve the organizations as interim NMSU Arrowhead Director, as of January 16, 2026, and interim ACI CEO and interim Board President, elected by the ACI Board of Directors as of February 5, 2026.

The VP RCED position has not yet been posted with possible posting to occur in the latter part of 2026.

2.0 Arrowhead Park

Early design and estimating work, combined with industry input for what will provide the most efficient, productive facility, identified that current funding for the Soundstage project is not sufficient to complete the build. In a conversation with Senator Steinborn and Representative Small, a suggestion was made to reach out to key stakeholders with a request for supplemental funding resulting in pre-commitment letters from both the county and city, as well as a commitment from NMSU President Ferme, with each entity providing \$1.3 million to complete the build. With the supplemental funding later in March, the interior finish requirements will be able to be completed to ready the facility for production.

With regard to infrastructure, we are pleased to report that the multi-purpose trail along Arrowhead Drive, funded by NMDOT, will begin construction in March 2026 and complete in approximately August 2026. This project will be an enhancement to safety for the Park's foot and bicycle traffic.

3.0 Intellectual Property Protection and Commercialization

Commercialization activity at NMSU continues to grow, driven by a steady increase in disclosures, patent filings, and licensing activity. NMSU can be characterized as high research volume with low levels of translation and commercialization. Funding limitations addressed below remain an issue.

Patent Activity: In CY 2025, nine inventions were disclosed, accompanied by the filing of eight provisional patent applications, eight utility patent applications, and one international filing. Eight patents were awarded this year, and four were abandoned, bringing the number of active patents to 56, with 31 more pending. A list of 2025 Issued patents is provided below:

- Patent US 12,229,302 B1 *Revocable and traceable blockchain rewrites using attribute-based cryptosystems* awarded 2/18/2025. Inventors Gaurav Panwar, Roopa Vishwanathan, and Satyajayant Misra.
- Patent US 12,284,227 B1 *Scalable auditability of monitoring process using public ledgers* awarded 4/22/2025. Inventors Gaurav Panwar, Roopa Vishwanathan, and Satyajayant Misra.
- Patent US 12,334,954 B1 *Threshold-based min-sum algorithm to lower the error floors of quantized low-density parity-check decoders* awarded 6/17/2025. Inventors Homayoon Hatami, David Mitchell, Daniel Costello, and Thomas Fuja, in conjunction with University of Notre Dame.
- Patent US 12,390,934 B2 *Systems and methods for robotic sensing, repair and inspection* awarded 8/19/2025. Inventors Hamidreza Marvi, Ehsan Dehghan-Niri, and Mahdi Ilami, in conjunction with Arizona State University.
- Patent US 12,431,913 B1 *Dynamic predictive sampling and processing* awarded 9/30/2025. Inventor Wei Tang.
- Patent US 12,436,664 B1 *Method and apparatus for automatically updating a user interface* awarded 10/7/2025. Inventors Tianna Zambrano and Joan E. Wilson.

- Patent US 12,497,746 B2 *Laterally expanded capacity-enhanced piles and anchors* awarded 12/16/2025. Inventors Peter Zelkowski, Paola Bandini, and Craig M. Newtonson.
- Patent US 12,509,435 B2 *Compounds for selective binding to estrogen receptors alpha/beta relative to GPER/GPR30 and methods of treating disease states and conditions mediated through these receptors* awarded 12/30/2025. Inventors Eric Prossnitz, Jeffrey Arterburn, and Cristian Bologna, in conjunction with UNM Rainforest Innovations.

Commercialization & Licensing Activity: CY 2025, there are nine revenue producing licenses in place, with most recent addition at the close of CY 2025 with a license of the MARS (multi-authority attribute-based encryption) software licensed to an international partner Cyber Catch, Inc. This is a shared invention between NMSU Computer Science (Arts and Sciences) and Computer and Electrical Engineering (Engineering). The inventor teams are working with the licensee on development and expect to receive funding for additional support.

Two license negotiations underway to include:

- Agricultural Contaminant Detection system, an emerging technology with food safety and bio-security applications, for license to corporation which funded research.
- Pecan Root Stock license for commercial sales

Material Transfer Agreements: In CY 2025, three revenue generating Material Transfer Agreements have been executed, all of which are onion cultivars from Dr. Chris Cramer and include:

- Plennegy (Pty) Ltd. Research Division, South Africa
- Enza Zaden Research, Central Valley, CA
- Southwest Agri-Seeds, LLC, Las Cruces, NM

The IP Office continues to advance and support commercialization efforts by leveraging other Arrowhead programs, various lab-to-market partnerships, including support to faculty and staff start-up companies. A growing number of new revenue stream opportunities using NMSU IP are being evaluated.

Despite strong momentum, NMSU Arrowhead's IP Office remains under significant resource constraints. The current institutional allocation – \$143,850 for attorney expenses and \$95,926.63 for staffing (FTE and fringe) – falls far short of the \$447,642 projected for FY25, and an 87% increase over current funding is needed to sustain essential operations. Currently, NMSU covers only 46.3% of IP office staff salaries, leaving the remaining 53.7% to be paid from NMSU Arrowhead's operational budget, with the IP Compliance Specialist position entirely unfunded institutionally. With rising activity levels, including increased filings, and licensing negotiations, the interim NMSU Arrowhead Director will work with the interim VP RCED to develop a comprehensive IP strategy and budget that aligns with NMSU's priorities and long-term vision. Securing expanded institutional support will be critical to protecting and commercializing NMSU's innovation pipeline, generating licensing revenue, and strengthening New Mexico's innovation economy.



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # E-3

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: **Scott Eschenbrenner**
President
Aggie Development Inc.

Agenda Item: Report from Aggie Development Inc.

Requested Action of the Board of Regents: None. Information only.

Executive Summary: This is a quarterly report provided to the Board of Regents from Aggie Development Inc.

References:
See attached report.

Prior Approvals:
N/A



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # G-1

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: Lisa Henderson, J.D.
University General Counsel

Agenda Item: 2026 Annual Open Meetings Notice Resolution

Requested Action of the Board of Regents: Approval of 2026 Annual Open Meetings Notice Resolution as presented

Executive Summary:

As required by the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, the attached Open Meetings Notice Resolution establishes the public notice to be given prior to the Board's meetings. The attached resolution is identical to the Board's Resolution 2025-01, adopted last March.

Notices for meetings are distributed to the news media and posted on the NMSU Regent's website ten days in advance for regular meetings, three days in advance for special meetings, and 24 hours or more, if feasible, for emergency meetings. Meeting agendas are also made available to the public by posting them on the NMSU Regents' website, at least 72 hours in advance of regular and special meetings, and concurrent with the notice for emergency meetings. If an emergency meeting is called that is not as a result of a declared state or federal emergency, a report will also be sent to the Office of the Attorney General.

References:

NM Open Meetings Act §10-15-1 D.

Prior Approvals:

N/A

Resolution No. 2026-01

REGENTS OF NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY ANNUAL OPEN MEETINGS NOTICE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Open Meetings Act of the State of New Mexico, NMSA 1978, Sections 10-15-1 to -10-15-4 (2013) requires reasonable notice to the public in advance of conducting meetings of a quorum of the members of the Board of Regents held for the purpose of discussing or adopting any proposed resolution, rule, regulation, or other formal action; and

WHEREAS, the Open Meetings Act requires the Regents to determine at least annually what constitutes reasonable notice of its public meetings;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Regents of New Mexico State University (“NMSU”), that compliance with the following requirements shall constitute reasonable notice:

1. Meeting Notice Content: NMSU must cause each meeting notice to indicate the meeting date, time, and location, including the city and campus (as applicable), building name, and address, and notice if the meeting will occur electronically.
2. Meeting Notice Method: NMSU will post meeting notices on the [NMSU Regents' webpage located on NMSU.edu](#). In addition, NMSU must transmit each meeting notice to any licensed broadcast station and newspapers of general circulation that have made written requests for notification of meetings within the previous 12 months. NMSU requires each such request to be directed to ucomm@nmsu.edu.
3. Meeting Notice Timing: NMSU must provide advance notice and an agenda for each meeting as follows:
 - a. Regular Meeting Notice - NMSU must provide notice of each regular meeting (scheduled at least quarterly) at least ten days in advance of the meeting date. NMSU must post the regular meeting agenda on the NMSU Regents' website at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.
 - b. Special Meeting Notice - NMSU must provide notice of each special meeting at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting date. NMSU must post the special meeting agenda on the NMSU Regents' website at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.
 - c. Emergency Meeting Notice - NMSU must provide notice of an emergency meeting - called in the case of any unforeseen circumstance that demands immediate attention to protect the health, safety and property of citizens, or to protect the university from substantial financial loss - 24 hours in advance, unless threat of personal injury, property damage or threat of financial loss requires less notice. NMSU must post the emergency meeting agenda on the NMSU Regents' website at the same time that it posts the notice of emergency meeting.

4. Report of Emergency Meeting: No later than 10 days after taking action on an emergency matter, the Board of Regents shall report to the Office of the New Mexico Attorney General the action taken and the circumstances creating the emergency, unless there has also been a declaration of a state or national emergency, in which case no report is required.

5. Meeting Accessibility: In addition to the information specified above, NMSU must cause all notices of open meetings to include the following language:

"If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the meeting, please contact the Office of the Regents' at (575) 646-5997 at least three days prior to the meeting, or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, may also be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the Office of the Regents at (575) 646-5997 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed."

6. Closed/Executive Session: The NMSU Regents may close a meeting to the public and meet in executive session only if the subject matter to be discussed is expressly excepted from public disclosure under the Open Meetings Act, Subsection 10-15-1.H.

a. If any Regent proposes to close the meeting for executive session during an open meeting a motion for closure is required stating the specific provision of law authorizing the closed meeting and the subject matter to be discussed. The motion for executive session must be approved publicly by a majority vote of the quorum. NMSU must record in the minutes the vote of each individual member on the motion proposing closure. The Board of Regents may discuss in the closed meeting only those subjects specified in the motion.

b. If a closed meeting is proposed when the Board is not presently convened in an open meeting, the closed meeting shall not be held until NMSU has posted public notice required for a special meeting, stating the specific provision of law authorizing the closed meeting and the subject matter to be discussed.

c. Following completion of any closed meeting, NMSU must cause the minutes of the public meeting that was closed, or the minutes of the next public meeting if the closed meeting was separately scheduled, to state whether the matters discussed in the closed meeting were limited only to those specified in the motion or the meeting notice for the special meeting.

d. Except as may be provided by Subsection 10-15-1.H of the Open Meetings Act, the NMSU Regents are required to cast their votes in an open meeting prior to taking any action on items discussed in a closed meeting.

ADOPTED by the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University, the 9th day of March, 2026, at its regular annual meeting held in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Ammu Devasthali, Chair, NMSU Board of Regents



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # G-2

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By:
Mónica Torres, Ph.D.
Chancellor, NMSU Community Colleges

Agenda Item:

Confirmation of DACC Spring 2026 Honorary Degree Recipient Selection

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

Approval of Spring 2026 Honorary Degree Recipient for DACC

Executive Summary:

DACC is nominating Royal Jones to be 2026's recipient of DACC's Honorary Degree. The candidate has demonstrated significant contributions to DACC, the local community, and the state.

References:

RPM 18.00 Advancement

<https://rpm.nmsu.edu/title-18/18-00.html>

ARP 18.05 Honorary Degree Awards

<https://arp.nmsu.edu/chapter-18/18-05.html>

ARP 18.10 Namings and Other Honorific Recognition

<https://arp.nmsu.edu/chapter-18/18-10.html>

Prior Approvals:

Doña Ana Community College Executive Committee, 2/11/2026

Agenda Item Approved By:

Mónica F. Torres, Ph.D.
Chancellor, NMSU Community Colleges

2/16/26

Date



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # G-3

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By:

Scott Eschenbrenner
Special Assistant to the President

Agenda Item:

City of Las Cruces Right of Way Easement – Natural Gas Pipeline

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

City of Las Cruces Right of Way Easement – Natural Gas Pipeline based on the terms stated in the Executive Summary.

Executive Summary:

This is an easement between the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University and the City of Las Cruces (CLC). This Right of Way Easement started in 1997, and expired in 2017, after a 20-year initial term. This Right of Way Easement is for the natural gas pipeline that serves NMSU Central Plant. This easement shall exist for the use and purpose aforesaid for as long as said easement shall not be abandoned. Should the natural gas pipeline, at any time, be discontinued by non-use, the City shall provide to the Property Owner written notice of non-use and the parties will both execute and record with the County Clerk an agreement to the abandonment of the natural gas pipeline without removal of the gas line and termination of the easement. This easement extends to Standley, Research, Wells, Williams, Gregg and Sweet Streets.

References:



2026 Grant of ROW
Utility Easement NM

Prior Approvals:

Regents Real Estate Committee approval on 2/23/2026 by email vote.

CORRECTION
DESCRIPTION OF A 12-FOOT WIDE NATURAL GAS EASEMENT
May 9, 1997

A corrected description for that easement previously filed in Book 26, Pages 314-20, of the Doña Ana County records, and being a 12-foot wide strip of land on the main Las Cruces campus of New Mexico State University (NMSU) being in Section 28, Township 23 South, Range 2 East, N.M.P.M. of the U.S.R.S. Surveys, within the Doña Ana Bend Colony Grant, and lying in portions of the Standley Drive, Research Drive, Wells Street, Williams Avenue, Gregg Street, and Sweet Avenue and being 6.00 feet on either side of the following described centerline:

BEGINNING at a point in the Tortugas Arroyo, adjoining Standley Drive, and lying in a previously established easement from NMSU to the City of Las Cruces filed in Book 223, pages 801-6, and Book 229, pages 920-2, and having New Mexico State Plane Coordinates (Central Zone, NAD 83) of N/S = 463752.75 and E/W = 1488361.67.

THENCE N. 55° 25' 20" W., 118.10' to a point in Standley Drive;

THENCE along the southerly side of Standley Drive S. 77° 50' 50" W., 596.46' feet to an angle point;

THENCE continuing along said street S. 82° 59' 50" W., where at 85.86 feet an easement from NMSU to El Paso Electric Company filed in Book 219, pages 815-6, crosses said street, a distance of 247.90 feet to an angle point;

THENCE continuing along said street S. 77° 50' 50" W., 372.00 feet to an angle point;

THENCE 73° 12' 40" W., along said street 47.46 feet to an angle point;

THENCE S. 77° 50' 50" W., 257.82 feet to a point in the southeasterly corner of the intersection of Standley Drive and Research Drive;

THENCE along the easterly side of Research Drive N. 11° 52' 00" W., 1047.49 feet to a point on the northerly side of the intersection of Research Drive and Wells Street;

THENCE along the northerly side of Wells Street, 6.00 feet south of the gutter lip, S. 77° 47' 20" W., 555.94 feet to a point in the northeasterly corner of the intersection of Wells Street and Williams Avenue;

THENCE along the easterly side of Williams Avenue, 6.00 feet west of the gutter lip, N. 12° 01' 40" W., 814.40 feet to a point in the northeasterly corner of the intersection of Williams Avenue and Gregg Street;

THENCE along the northerly side of Gregg Street S. 78° 07' 20" W., 742.52 feet to a point in the northeasterly corner of Gregg Street and Sweet Avenue;

THENCE along the easterly side of Sweet Avenue N. $11^{\circ} 48' 00''$ W., 928.39 feet to an angle point;

THENCE crossing said street S. $78^{\circ} 26' 35''$ W., 51.17 feet to a point on the easterly side of a 9.00 feet by 16.00 feet regulator station site said point having New Mexico State Plane Coordinates of N/S = 465967.43, E/W = 1484879.09;

THENCE around said regulator site the following courses and distances S. $11^{\circ} 51' 25''$ E., 8.50 feet to a point;

THENCE S. $78^{\circ} 08' 45''$ W., 9.00 feet to a point;

THENCE N. $11^{\circ} 51' 25''$ W., 16.00 feet to a point;

THENCE N. $78^{\circ} 08' 45''$ E., 9.00 feet to a point;

THENCE S. $11^{\circ} 51' 25''$ E., 7.50 feet to aforesaid point on the easterly side of the regulator site for a total area of 1.604 acres, more or less. The preceding bearings and distances are grid referenced to the New Mexico State Plane Coordinate System, Central Zone, delta alpha negative $0^{\circ} 15' 30''$, combined grid to ground factor of 1.0003. Subject to all easements and reservations of record. Plat and field notes by NMSU Physical Plant Department.



Owen G. Lockwood, NMPS #6550

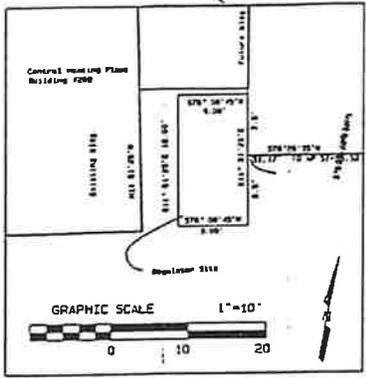
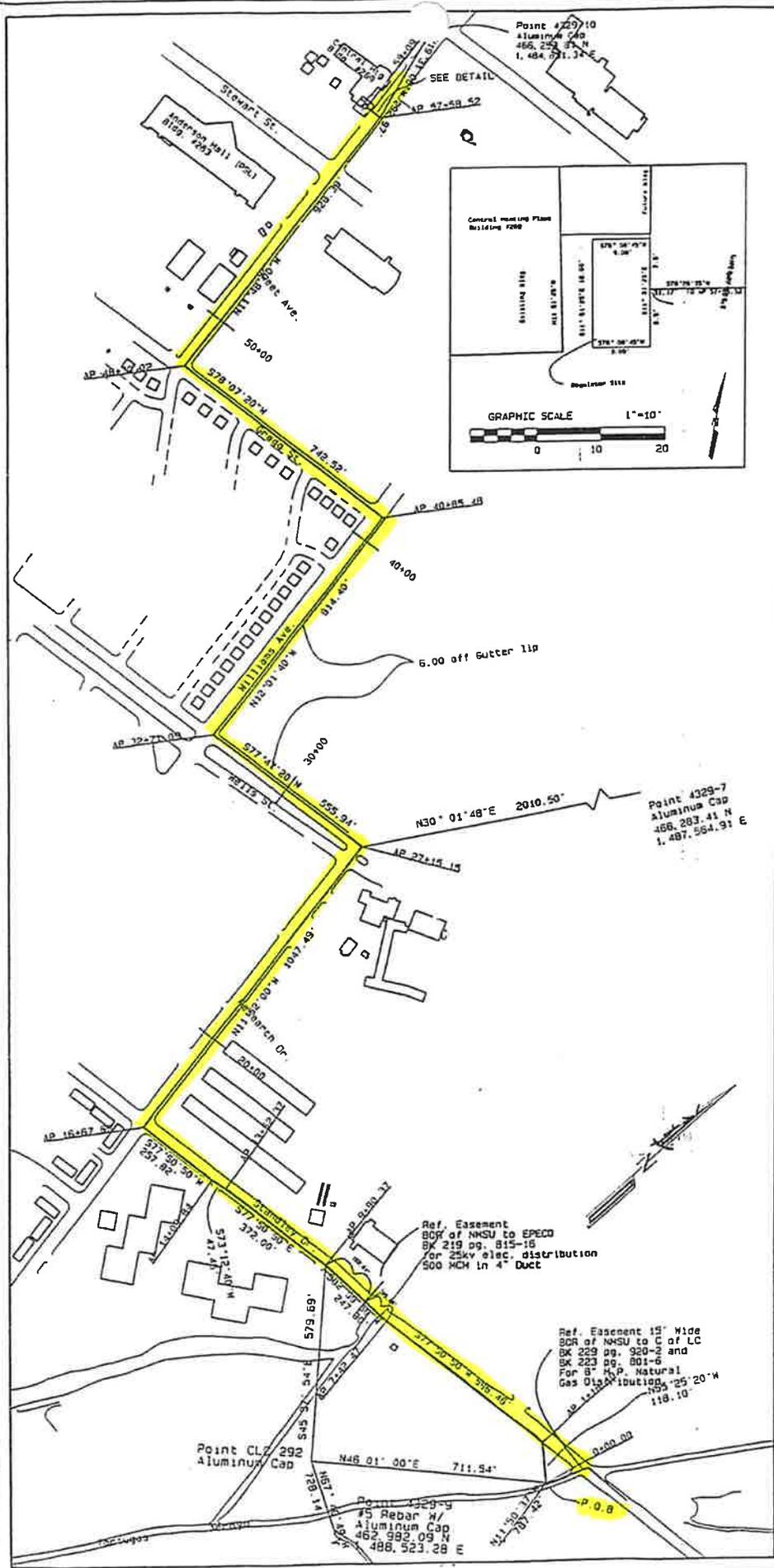


PLAT OF SURVEY OF A 12 FOOT WIDE UNDERGROUND NATURAL GAS PIPELINE EASEMENT

A 12 foot wide strip of land on the main Las Cruces campus of New Mexico State University in Section 28, T.23S., R.2E., N.M.P.M of the U.S.R.S surveys in N.M.S.U., Dona Ana County, New Mexico, August 30, 1995.

Area of Easement 1.604 Acres.

CORRECTING a previous survey dated 15 - 30 Aug. 1995 and filed in book 26 pages 214 - 20 of the Dona Ana County Records.



NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE COORDINATES

P. O. B.: 463,752.75N 1,488,361.67E

NOTE: ALL COORDINATES, BEARINGS AND DISTANCES ARE IN THE NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM (CENTRAL ZONE, NAD83). GRID DISTANCE X 1.0003 = GROUND DISTANCE Delta Alpha = -00° 15' 30"

Surveyor's certificate.

This is to certify that I am a registered land surveyor, that this plat was prepared from field notes of an actual survey made by me or under my direction and that it is true and correct, meeting the minimum requirements of the standards for land surveys in New Mexico as adopted by the New Mexico State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

25 Nov. 95
Date of Survey

Open Lockwood
Open Lockwood - PS No. 6550
New Mexico State University



Point	North	East
AP 0+00.00	463752.75	1488361.67
AP 1+18.10	463819.78	1488264.43
AP 7+42.47	463694.21	1487661.34
AP 9+30.37	463663.99	1487435.29
AP 13+62.37	463585.87	1487071.62
AP 14+09.84	463571.96	1487026.19
AP 16+67.65	463517.68	1486774.14
AP 27+15.15	464542.79	1486558.75
AP 32+71.09	464425.21	1486015.39
AP 40+85.48	465221.73	1489845.68
AP 48+30.02	465068.39	1485117.10
AP 57+58.52	465977.88	1484929.22
AP 58+09.58	465967.43	1484879.09





BLACKHAM, ROMAN, GREINER
AND ASSOCIATES, INC.
ENGINEERING - PLANNING - SURVEYING

March 15, 2011

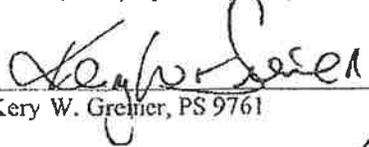
**DESCRIPTION OF A NEW 20' WIDE CITY OF LAS CRUCES
NATURAL GAS PIPELINE EASEMENT**

A strip of land, 20 feet wide, being 10' to each side of the following described centerline, situate within projected Section 28, T.23S., R.2E. N.M.P.M. and being more particularly described as follows, to wit;

Beginning at Engineers Station 92+67.28, WHENCE NGS Station Reilly (PID-AI5445) bears N 53°10'45" W., 4812.54 feet

THENCE from the point of beginning N.77°25'48"E., 1938.05 feet to Engineer's Station 112+05.33 on the west right of way line of Triviz Drive for the end of this centerline; Whence NMSH&TD Monument #3210635002 (NGS Station: PID-CX.1668) bears S.13°59'38" E., 6349.11 feet;

Description prepared by Kery W. Greiner, PS 9761.


Kery W. Greiner, PS 9761

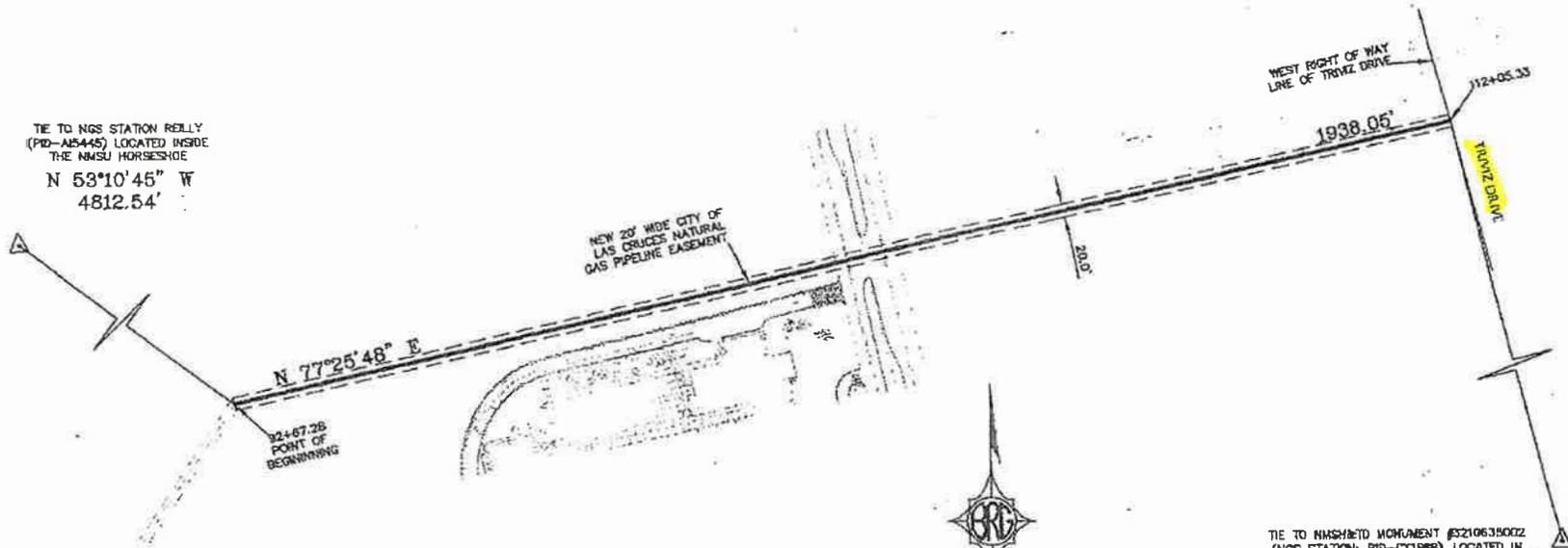
3-15-11
Date

10-69des(1).doc



PLAT OF SURVEY OF A NEW 20 FOOT WIDE CITY OF LAS CRUCES NATURAL GAS PIPELINE EASEMENT,
 LOCATED IN PROJECTED SECTION 28, T.23S., R.2E., N.M.P.M.
 WITHIN LANDS OF NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY, DONA ANA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
 SCALE: 1"=200' MARCH 15, 2011

TO NGS STATION REELLY
 (PID-415445) LOCATED INSIDE
 THE NMSU HORSESHOE
 N 53°10'46" W
 4812.54'



N 77°25'48" E

92+67.28
 POINT OF
 BEGINNING

NEW 20' WIDE CITY OF
 LAS CRUCES NATURAL
 GAS PIPELINE EASEMENT

20.0'

WEST RIGHT OF WAY
 LINE OF TRIVIZ DRIVE

1938.05'

112+05.33

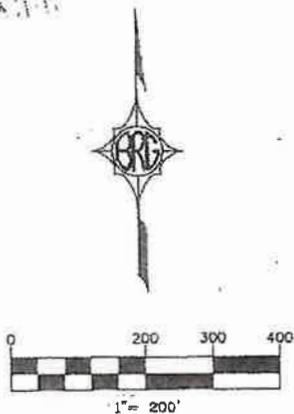
TANZ DRIVE

SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATION

I, KERY W. GREINER, A NEW MEXICO PROFESSIONAL SURVEYOR, CERTIFY THAT I CONDUCTED AND AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS SURVEY, THAT THIS SURVEY IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF AND THAT THIS SURVEY AND PLAT MEET THE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR SURVEYING IN NEW MEXICO.

Kery W. Greiner
 KERY W. GREINER, PS 9761

3-15-11
 DATE



TO NMSU MONUMENT #5210635002
 (NGS STATION: PID-CX1888), LOCATED IN
 THE MEDIAN ON THE SOUTH END OF THE
 OVERPASS BRIDGES OF INTERSTATE 10
 AND INTERSTATE 25
 S 13°59'38" E
 6349.11'

BRG BLACKHAM, ROMAN, GREINER
 AND ASSOCIATES, INC.
 ENGINEERING - PLANNING - SURVEYING
 2523 MEDARK DR., LAS CRUCES, NM 88005 • (575) 625-2278 • (575) 623-9518 (FAX)
 PROJECT #10-69



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # G-4

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By:

Scott Eschenbrenner
Special Assistant to the President

Agenda Item:

El Paso Electric Easement – Office of Emergency Management Building

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

El Paso Electric Easement – Office of Emergency Management Building based on the terms stated in the Executive Summary.

Executive Summary:

This is a new easement between the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University and El Paso Electric (EPE). This EPE Easement is for the Office of Emergency Management that is currently under construction on Tortugas Trail near the Golf Course/President’s House. The exact location of this easement is still being determined.

The following language is included:

"At Grantor's request, Grantee agrees to terminate, if at the time of the request, the Easement has not been in use for at least six consecutive months."

References:



DN00076537 -
EASEMENT PACKET.p

Prior Approvals:

Regents Real Estate Committee approval on 2/23/2026 by email vote.

OVERHEAD & UNDERGROUND EASEMENT
EASEMENT

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF DONA ANA

Work Request: DN00076537

For one dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, **THE REGENTS OF NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY**, hereinafter called Grantor, grants unto El Paso Electric Company, hereinafter called Grantee, its successors and assigns, whose address is P.O. Box 982, El Paso, Texas 79960, the perpetual right, privilege, authority and easement to enter and erect, construct, operate, remove, inspect, access, and maintain a line of poles at any time with any and all necessary cables, lines, wires, crossarms, guys, and anchors, for an above ground electric distribution and/or transmission system together with an underground electric distribution system, including transformers (conventional or padmount), ducts, conductors, conduits, fixtures, pullboxes, manholes, handholes, service facilities transformers, vaults and any other usual appurtenances, pertaining thereto, together with the overhang of service wires, with the right of access, ingress, and egress, thereto for the installation, construction, operation, inspection, repair, maintenance, replacement, renewal or removal thereof, for the distribution and/or transmission of electricity, for any and all purposes, including communications, for which same is or may hereafter be used, over, upon and along the following described premises and the adjoining roads, streets and highways, in the county named above, to wit:

A portion of **SECTION 27, T.23S, R.2E, N.M.P.M., DONA ANA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO** as shown on the attached Exhibit A through Exhibit C and made a part hereof,

with the right to trim any trees and flora along and around said lines and electrical equipment so as to keep the lines and electrical equipment cleared, the right to erect and set the necessary brace poles, anchors and guy wires, and to do anything proper and necessary to operate and maintain same.

The authority granted herein includes the right to permit the attachment of the cables of any other company.

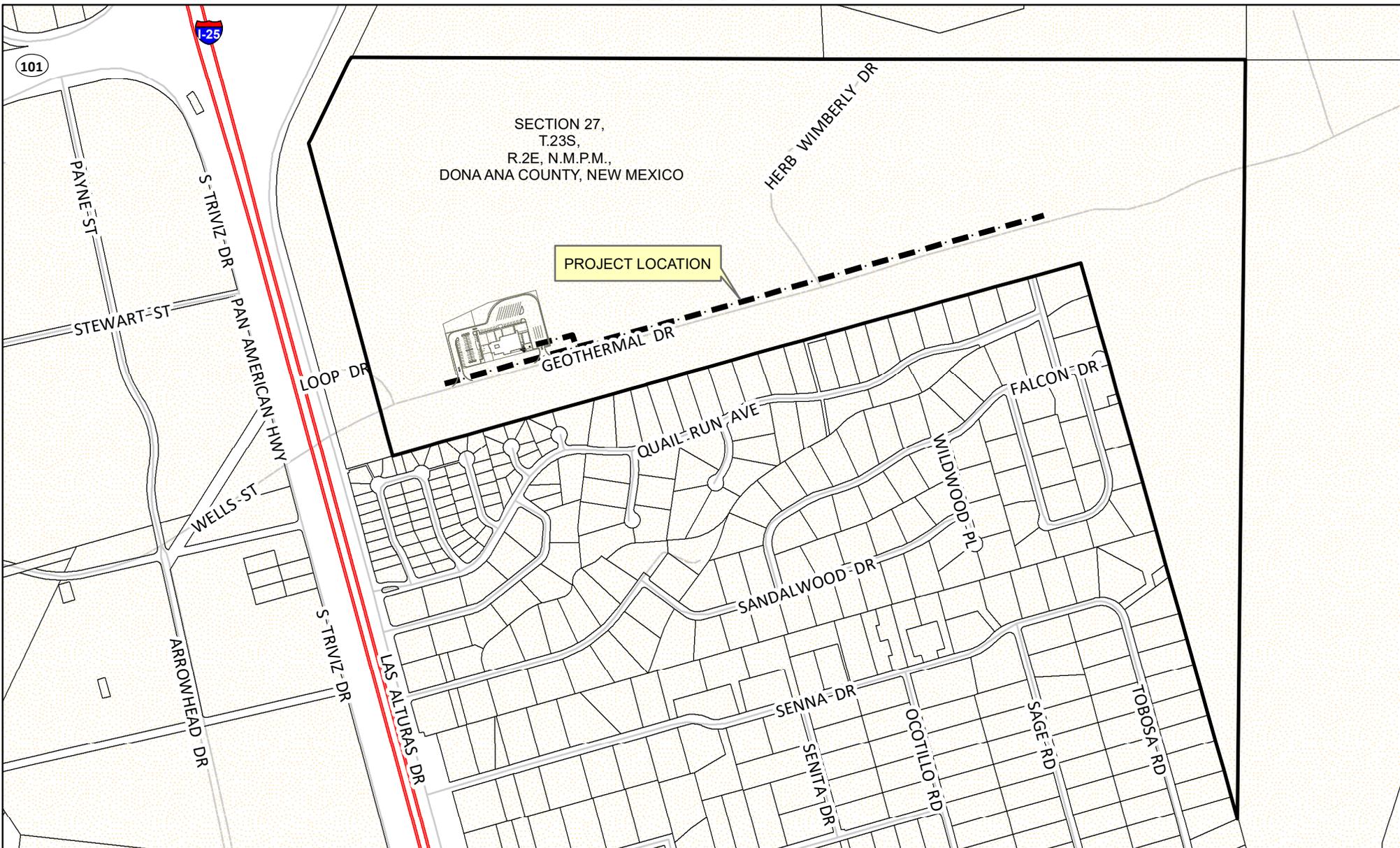
Buildings and structures of a permanent nature, including but not limited to fences, boundary walls, walkways and landscaping that obstruct access to or safe operational clearances from Grantee's electrical equipment; will not be built on or over the easement, or under any overhead electric lines, except with the prior written consent of Grantee.

At Grantor's request, Grantee agrees to terminate, if at the time of the request, the Easement has been not been in use for at least six consecutive months.

This Easement is effective upon the date it is executed by Grantor as stated in the Acknowledgement of Grantor's execution.

[Signatures on following page.]

EXHIBIT "A"



SECTION 27,
T.23S,
R.2E, N.M.P.M.,
DONA ANA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

PROJECT LOCATION

LEGEND (NOT ALL SYMBOLS APPLY)

	PADMOUNT TRANSFORMER		UNDERGROUND EASEMENT
	ANCHOR EASEMENT		OVERHEAD EASEMENT
	SWITCH GEAR		OVERHEAD/UNDERGROUND EASEMENT
			EXISTING POWERLINE



NOT TO SCALE

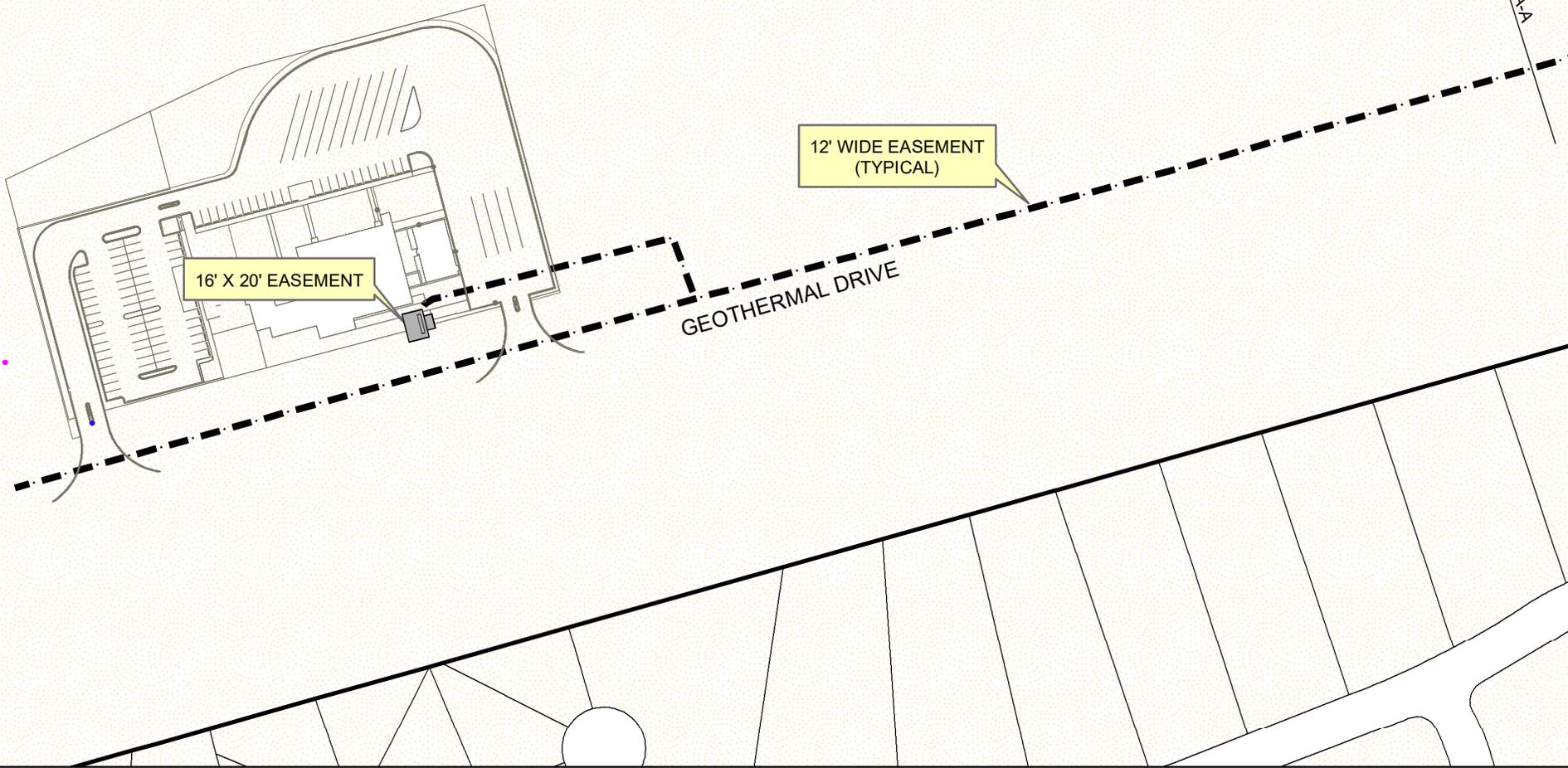


EL PASO ELECTRIC

EXHIBIT "B"

SECTION 27,
T.23S,
R.2E, N.M.P.M.,
DONA ANA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

MATCHLINE A-A



NOT TO SCALE

WORK ORDER(S): DN00076537

LEGEND (NOT ALL SYMBOLS APPLY)			
	PADMOUNT TRANSFORMER		UNDERGROUND EASEMENT
	ANCHOR EASEMENT		OVERHEAD EASEMENT
	SWITCH GEAR		OVERHEAD/UNDERGROUND EASEMENT
			EXISTING POWERLINE



EL PASO ELECTRIC

DATE: 2/6/2026

EXHIBIT "C"

SECTION 27,
T.23S,
R.2E, N.M.P.M.,
DONA ANA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

MATCHLINE A-A

12' WIDE EASEMENT

GEOHERMAL DRIVE

CONDOR STREET

QUAIL RUN AVENUE



NOT TO SCALE

WORK ORDER(S): DN00076537

LEGEND (NOT ALL SYMBOLS APPLY)

	PADMOUNT TRANSFORMER		UNDERGROUND EASEMENT
	ANCHOR EASEMENT		OVERHEAD EASEMENT
	SWITCH GEAR		OVERHEAD/UNDERGROUND EASEMENT
			EXISTING POWERLINE



EL PASO ELECTRIC

DATE: 2/6/2026



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # G-5

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: Scott Eschenbrenner
Interim Associate Vice President

Agenda Item:

DACC Electric Boilers Conversion

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

Approval of DACC Electric Boilers Conversion

Executive Summary:

The DACC Electric Boilers Conversion project will replace the aging steam heating system at the Espina campus by decommissioning existing steam and condensate infrastructure and installing new electric boilers, upgraded pumps, controls, and electrical switchgear to provide reliable primary heat and domestic hot water.

References:

N/A

Prior Approvals:

Regent Financial Strategies, Performance, and Budget Committee held on 3/3/2026

DACC ELECTRIC BOILERS CONVERSION

Presented to the Board of Regents
March 9, 2026

FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Berta Zubiante
575.646.2199
bzubiante@nmsu.edu

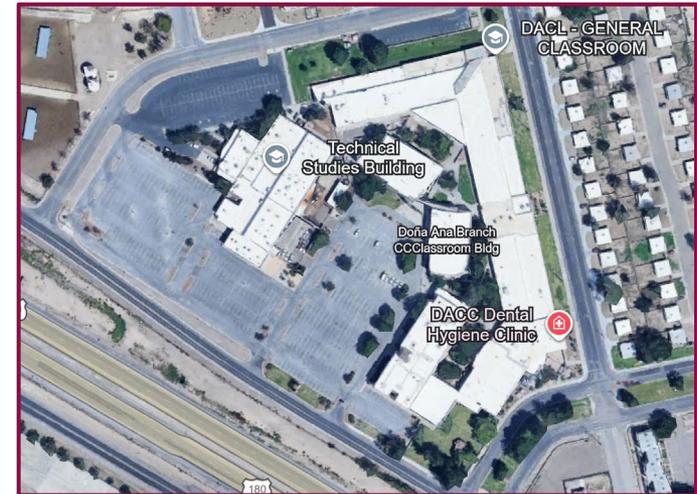
Jose Loera
575.646.5013
jloera@nmsu.edu

NM
STATE

BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®
New Mexico State University

Facility Information

Property Profile	Type
Current Use	Classroom, Offices, Labs
Year Built	1978
Building Size	203,498 SF



DACC Espina Campus

Project Rationale

The DACC Espina campus currently operates on a steam heating system nearing the end of its service life and need of replacement.



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®

Existing Conditions



Heating Infrastructure



Electrical Infrastructure



Heating Infrastructure

Scope of Work

Project Budget: \$1,475,000

- The project will remove the existing steam and condensate systems, including heat exchangers, regulating stations, condensate control and return equipment, and associated controls.
- Steam and condensate mains will be decommissioned from the NMSU Utility system.
- New electric heating boilers, variable-speed primary pumps, and related controls will be installed for primary heat and domestic hot water.
- The building's electrical switch gear will be upgraded.

Project Schedule

Project Stages	Date
Start of Design	October 2025
Completion of Design	April 2026
Start of Construction	May 2026
Completion of Construction	March 2027

Approvals

Committee Name	Date
Regents Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee	March 3, 2026
Board of Regents	March 9, 2026
Higher Education Department	April 8, 2026



Funding Source \$1,475,000

Year	Funding Type	Funding Source	Amount
FY26	General Obligation Bond HB450	State Appropriations	\$1,475,000

One million four hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$1,475,000) to plan, design, construct and improve infrastructure, including the steam system, at the Espina campus of Dona Ana Community College of New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, Dona Ana County



Budget Breakdown

Description	Funding Total	Percentages
Building Cost		
Mechanical	\$722,750	49%
Electrical	\$221,250	15%
Special Systems	\$295,000	20%
Construction Contingency	\$147,500	10%
Professional Fees		
Project Administration	\$88,500	6%
Design Fees		
Total	\$1,475,000	100%





Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # G-6

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: Scott Eschenbrenner
Interim Associate Vice President

Agenda Item:

Piñon Hall Roof Repair

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

Approval of Piñon Hall Roof Repair

Executive Summary:

The Piñon Hall Roof Replacement project addresses severe roof deterioration and active water intrusion by fully removing and replacing the existing roofing system to prevent further interior damage and extend the building's service life.

References:

N/A

Prior Approvals:

Regent Financial Strategies, Performance, and Budget Committee held on 3/3/2026

PINON HALL ROOF REPLACEMENT

Presented to the Board of Regents
March 9, 2026

FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Berta Zubiante
575.646.2199
bzubiante@nmsu.edu

Jose Loera
575.646.5013
jloera@nmsu.edu



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®
New Mexico State University

Facility Information

Property Profile	Type
Current Use	Student Housing
Year Built	2006
Building Size	89,368 SF
Construction Type	Metal/Wood Frame, Stucco



Pinon Hall

Project Rationale

- Roof has severe damage, causing water intrusion, resulting in extensive interior damage
- Roof is reaching life expectancy and in need of immediate replacement

Existing Conditions



Pinon Hall Roof

Existing Conditions



Pinon Hall – Active Water Intrusion and Building Envelope Deterioration

Scope of Work

Project Budget \$ 1,420,000

- Design for new roof system
- Removal and disposal of old roofing system and associated rooftop equipment
- Installation of new roofing system to include replacement of damaged decking as needed, metal edge flashings, drains, and downspouts
- Repairs have been contracted in conjunction with NMHED emergency processes.



Project Schedule

Project Stages	Date
Start of Design	January 2026
Completion of Design	February 2026
Start of Construction	February 2026
Completion of Construction	June 2026

Approvals

Committee Name	Date
Regents Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee	March 3, 2026
Board of Regents	March 9, 2026
Higher Education Department	April 8, 2026



Funding Source \$1,420,000

Year	Funding Type	Funding Source	Amount
FY17	Revenue Bond	NMSU Central Plant Fund	\$1,420,000

Budget Breakdown

Description	Funding Total	Percentages
Building Cost		
General	\$1,123,139	79%
Construction Contingency	\$112,223	8%
Professional Fees		
Architect/Engineering	\$99,437	7%
Project Administration	\$85,200	6%
Total	\$1,420,000	100%





Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # G-7

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: Ross Justus
University Controller

Agenda Item:

Disposition and Deletion of Capital Property

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

Approval to dispose of and delete capital property from inventory.

Executive Summary:

The property disposition reports present tangible personal property on the capital assets list identified for the disposition and deletion from the university capital inventory.

References:

Please see the following summary and detail capital property summary and detail reports.

Prior Approvals:

Regent Financial Strategies, Performance, and Budget Committee held on 3/3/2026

NMSU Capital Property Disposition Report - Summary
As of 2/12/2026

Categories	Count	Total Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Net Book Amount
Obsolete Equipment	33	\$ 557,908.40	\$ 557,908.40	\$ -
Surplus Vehicle	4	215,645.26	213,378.64	2,266.62
Surplus Equipment	6	67,513.00	66,679.62	833.38
Worn out Vehicle	20	367,651.26	366,251.81	1,399.45
Worn out Equipment	1	15,799.00	15,799.00	-
Unusable Vehicle	16	230,645.98	208,543.13	22,102.85
Unusable Equipment	8	105,658.78	105,658.78	-
Grand Total	88	\$ 1,560,821.68	\$ 1,534,219.38	\$ 26,602.30

#	Department	Barcode	Description	MANUFACTURER/MAKE/MODEL/SERIAL_NUM_VIN	ACQUISITION DATE	Total Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Net Book Amount	Disposal Type
1	KRWG TELEVISION	U433705	Network Switch Catalyst 3750X 12 Port GE SFP IP	CISCO/NETWORK SWITCH/WS-3750X-12S-E/FD01724P181	8/7/2013	7,840.00	7,840.00	-	Obsolete Equipment
2	IT COMPUTER SYSTEMS	U438716	GPU Compute Node IBM NeXtScale nx360 M5	LENOVO/SERVER/NX360M5/06FFTEM	9/29/2015	14,700.66	14,700.66	-	Obsolete Equipment
3	IT COMPUTER SYSTEMS	U441049	Lenovo NeXtScale Compute Nodes	LENOVO/COMPUTER NODE/NX360M5/J10L6CN	7/20/2016	7,793.04	7,793.04	-	Obsolete Equipment
4	IT COMPUTER SYSTEMS	U441050	Lenovo NeXtScale Compute Nodes	LENOVO/COMPUTER NODE/NX360M5/J10L6CP	7/20/2016	7,793.04	7,793.04	-	Obsolete Equipment
5	IT COMPUTER SYSTEMS	U441051	Lenovo NeXtScale Compute Nodes	LENOVO/COMPUTER NODE/NX360M5/J10L6CT	7/20/2016	7,793.04	7,793.04	-	Obsolete Equipment
6	IT COMPUTER SYSTEMS	U441052	Lenovo NeXtScale Compute Nodes	LENOVO/COMPUTER NODE/NX360M5/J10L6CX	7/20/2016	7,793.04	7,793.04	-	Obsolete Equipment
7	IT COMPUTER SYSTEMS	U441053	Lenovo NeXtScale Compute Nodes	LENOVO/COMPUTER NODE/NX360M5/J10L6CR	7/20/2016	7,793.04	7,793.04	-	Obsolete Equipment
8	IT COMPUTER SYSTEMS	U441054	Lenovo NeXtScale Compute Nodes	LENOVO/COMPUTER NODE/NX360M5/J10L6CV	7/20/2016	7,793.04	7,793.04	-	Obsolete Equipment
9	IT COMPUTER SYSTEMS	U441055	Lenovo NeXtScale Compute Nodes	LENOVO/COMPUTER NODE/NX360M5/J10L6CW	7/20/2016	7,793.04	7,793.04	-	Obsolete Equipment
10	IT COMPUTER SYSTEMS	U442939	## 546543U ## Lenovo NeXtScale nx360 M5 2x2	LENOVO/COMPUTE NODES/NX360/5465AC1 J11K26W	7/6/2017	8,659.92	8,659.92	-	Obsolete Equipment
11	IT COMPUTER SYSTEMS	U442940	## 546543U ## Lenovo NeXtScale nx360 M5 2x2	LENOVO/COMPUTE NODES/NX360/5465AC1 J11K6BC	7/6/2017	8,659.92	8,659.92	-	Obsolete Equipment
12	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U408299	Adaptive security appliance PN ASA5540AIP20K9	CISCO/ADAPTIVE SECURITY APPLIANCE/ASA5540S5M20/JMX1008K	3/22/2006	15,371.93	15,371.93	-	Obsolete Equipment
13	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U419892	Switches Catalyst 3750E 24 10 100 1000 PLUS 2 10GE x2	CISCO/CATALYST SWITCH/3750E/FD131008V094	4/7/2009	5,791.95	5,791.95	-	Obsolete Equipment
14	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U421165	Router Cisco ASR1006 Chassis Dual P S 1 O Bun	CISCO/ROUTER/ASR1006/FOX-1330GMA2	9/8/2009	161,196.40	161,196.40	-	Obsolete Equipment
15	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U421644	Switch Nexus 5010 Storage Lab Bundle	CISCO/SWITCH/C5010P/SSI133107Y2	11/9/2009	12,760.00	12,760.00	-	Obsolete Equipment
16	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U421650	Switch Nexus 5010 Storage Lab Bundle	CISCO/SWITCH/C5010P/SSI132908W7	11/9/2009	12,760.00	12,760.00	-	Obsolete Equipment
17	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U426124	Adaptive Security Appliance ASA 5400 with	CISCO/ADAPTIVE SECURITY APPLIANCE/ASA5540-BUN-K9/JMX1452U	1/5/2011	10,366.95	10,366.95	-	Obsolete Equipment
18	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U426125	Adaptive Security Appliance ASA 5400 with	CISCO/ADAPTIVE SECURITY APPLIANCE/ASA5540-BUN-K9/JMX0939J	1/5/2011	10,366.95	10,366.95	-	Obsolete Equipment
19	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U430358	Catalyst 4500 X 32 Port 10G IP Base	CISCO/NETWORK SWITCH/C4500X32SFP/JAE161800AE	5/9/2012	23,520.00	23,520.00	-	Obsolete Equipment
20	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U432068	Cisco 2911 UC Bundle PVDM3 16 UC License PAK	CISCO/ROUTER/2911 UC BUNDLE/FTX1637A11	1/8/2013	8,847.50	8,847.50	-	Obsolete Equipment
21	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U432069	UCS C220 M3 SFF w o CPU mem HDD PCIe PSU	CISCO/SERVER/NA/FCH1646V0EG	1/8/2013	12,149.75	12,149.75	-	Obsolete Equipment
22	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U432070	UCS C220 M3 SFF w/o CPU mem HDD PCIe PSU	CISCO/SERVER/NA/FLY1612001X	1/8/2013	12,149.75	12,149.75	-	Obsolete Equipment
23	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U432497	Citrix Netscaler	CITRIX/NETSCALER/NA/F79C426TAC	12/20/2012	33,226.35	33,226.35	-	Obsolete Equipment
24	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U432498	Citrix Netscaler	CITRIX/NETSCALER/NA/F967T26T3P	12/20/2012	33,226.35	33,226.35	-	Obsolete Equipment
25	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U433095	Router Software and Hardware Bundle	CISCO/ROUTER/3925-3945 SPE/FTX1719AHXK	5/24/2013	10,473.30	10,473.30	-	Obsolete Equipment
26	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U435192	Network Switch Catalyst 3750X 24 Port GE SFP IP	CISCO/NETWORK SWITCH/WS-C3750X-24S-FD01734Z25Z	4/1/2014	9,020.00	9,020.00	-	Obsolete Equipment
27	IT TELECOMM_NETWORK_CUST SUPPORT	U444159	## BE7H-M4-K9 ## Cisco Business Edition 7000H Svr	CISCO/SERVER/7000H/FCH2127V0FS	7/24/2017	20,534.44	20,534.44	-	Obsolete Equipment
28	PSL TELEMETRY MISSILE SYSTEMS	U200529	ANALYZER LOGIC	TEKTRONIX/1240/B080867	2/1/1985	13,550.00	13,550.00	-	Obsolete Equipment
29	PSL TELEMETRY MISSILE SYSTEMS	U200665	OSCILLOSCOPE	TEKTRONIX/2440/B011966	3/1/1990	8,322.00	8,322.00	-	Obsolete Equipment
30	PSL TELEMETRY MISSILE SYSTEMS	U200690	ANALYZER WAVE	HEW PACK//3581A/1351A04492	6/1/1990	7,241.00	7,241.00	-	Obsolete Equipment
31	PSL TELEMETRY MISSILE SYSTEMS	U200716	SWITCH CONTROL UNIT	HEW PACK//3488A/2719A22151	11/1/1990	5,071.00	5,071.00	-	Obsolete Equipment
32	PSL TELEMETRY MISSILE SYSTEMS	U201130	RECORDER DATA	HEW PACK//E9813B/US39000389	4/13/2000	30,489.00	30,489.00	-	Obsolete Equipment
33	ARTS & SCIENCES DIV HEAD BUDGET	U410949	TRAVELMASTER OYSTER L535 ACOUSTICAL SHELL SET SERIES 64	TRAVELMASTER/ACOUSTICAL SHELL SET/64SERIES L535/064A159B5	1/24/2007	7,062.00	7,062.00	-	Obsolete Equipment
34	NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTUR	U406313	2006 #715 International Large Scale 7600 G62559	INTERNATIONAL/TRUCK/7600/1HTWYAHT06J187396	6/29/2005	151,819.00	151,819.00	-	Surplus Vehicle
35	CLAYTON LIVESTOCK RES CTR	U429565	TOYOTA 2007 TRUCK DONATION G85035	TOYOTA/2007 TRUCK G85035/TUNDRA/5TFBV5810X029147	8/1/2011	34,000.00	31,733.38	2,266.62	Surplus Vehicle
36	CLAYTON LIVESTOCK RES CTR	U323051	TRUCK FEED 1988 G07194	G.M.C./CV6/1GDL7D1B1J/V523396	5/12/1988	19,276.00	19,276.00	-	Surplus Vehicle
37	CLAYTON LIVESTOCK RES CTR	U402880	UTILITY VEHICLE 2003 GM0597	POLARIS/A04RD50AA/AXARD50A84D165026	10/16/2003	10,550.26	10,550.26	-	Surplus Vehicle
38	CLAYTON LIVESTOCK RES CTR	U323065	LOADER FEED	CASE//1845C/17956606	10/5/1987	16,430.00	16,430.00	-	Surplus Equipment
39	CLAYTON LIVESTOCK RES CTR	U328813	TANK STORAGE FAT 8' X 20' SPLIT 1 OF 2	///	8/28/1996	6,370.00	6,370.00	-	Surplus Equipment
40	CLAYTON LIVESTOCK RES CTR	U328817	TANK STORAGE FAT 8' X 20' SPLIT 2 OF 2	///	8/28/1996	6,370.00	6,370.00	-	Surplus Equipment
41	CLAYTON LIVESTOCK RES CTR	U331356	GRINDER FEED ELEC	FARMHAND//NA/F880B1117	4/1/1980	8,633.00	8,633.00	-	Surplus Equipment
42	CLAYTON LIVESTOCK RES CTR	U429043	Hay Grinder Haybuster H 1000	HAYBUSTER MFG/HAY GRINDER/H-1000/8402026	11/29/2011	12,500.00	11,666.62	833.38	Surplus Equipment
43	AG SCIENCE CTR AT ARTESIA	U331161	CHAMBER GROWTH REACH IN PERCIVAL	PERCIVAL///	12/18/1997	17,210.00	17,210.00	-	Surplus Equipment
44	ADMIN FLEXIBLE	U333841	VAN PASSANGER MINI 2002 G53317	CHEVROLET/VENTURE/1GNDX03E62D296195	7/2/2002	21,849.00	20,449.55	1,399.45	Worn out Vehicle
45	DONA ANA HEADSTART PGM	U303382	SEDAN 4DR FORD TAURUS 1999 G39805	FORD//TAURUS/1FAP5P3U1XG182106	1/29/1999	15,659.00	15,659.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
46	DONA ANA HEADSTART PGM	U303389	VAN PASSENGER 1992 G08608	FORD//AEROSTAR/1FMDA11UNXN260078	1/8/1993	13,121.00	13,121.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
47	DONA ANA HEADSTART PGM	U303394	VAN PASSENGER ASTRO 8 PASSENGER 1999 G82739	CHEVROLET//ASTRO VAN/CM11006/1GNDM19W5XB160951	3/24/1999	18,688.00	18,688.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
48	DONA ANA HEADSTART PGM	U303401	VAN PASSENGER 1994 G08807	CHEVROLET//CM11006/1GNDM19Z28R155871	1/27/1994	15,301.00	15,301.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
49	DONA ANA HEADSTART PGM	U303405	SEDAN 4DR 1994 G08808	OLDSMOBILE//CIERA/1G3AG55M9R6359026	1/27/1994	12,097.00	12,097.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
50	DONA ANA HEADSTART PGM	U330262	MINI VAN 2002 G52515	CHEVROLET//1UM16/1GNDX03E62D216877	1/17/2002	20,306.00	20,306.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
51	FS VEHICLE MECHANICS	U323318	TRUCK PICKUP 1/2 TON 1992 G07124	CHEVROLET//1GCGC24K9NE227646	7/21/1992	13,179.00	13,179.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
52	FS VEHICLE MECHANICS	U323880	TRUCK BUCKET 1986 G08697	CHEVROLET//C70/1G8H7D1F6GV101487	11/4/1993	13,000.00	13,000.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
53	FS VEHICLE MECHANICS	U334849	TRUCK TRACTOR 1992 G31178	INTERNATIONAL//F94002HFSHCARINC056148	6/20/1996	34,000.00	34,000.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
54	FS VEHICLE MECHANICS	U404211	TRUCK PICKUP 3/4 TON 2004 02323G	FORD//F325/1FTWF32S44ED82163	8/18/2004	19,931.00	19,931.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
55	FS ELECTRICIANS	U408261	2006 Ford Freestar Cargo Van VEHICLE 02312G	FORD//VAN VEHICLE/2006 FREESTAR A546/2FTZA54696BA31979	1/10/2006	14,390.00	14,390.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
56	FS PAINTERS	U322011	TRUCK PICKUP 1 TON 1991 G83449	CHEVROLET//CC30903/1GCHC34K1ME194585	6/24/1991	15,029.00	15,029.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
57	FS PAINTERS	U322031	VAN CARGO MID SIZE 2001 FORD G47872	FORD//A544/2FTZA54421B853719	3/20/2001	18,288.60	18,288.60	-	Worn out Vehicle
58	FS PAINTERS	U324555	TRUCK CARGO 2 TON ISUZU 1998 02322G	ISUZU//NPREFI4KLC4B1R9XJ000920	1/5/1999	31,204.66	31,204.66	-	Worn out Vehicle
59	FS PAINTERS	U325093	TRUCK PICKUP 1/2 TON 2001 02318G	FORD//F150/1FTRX17W51NB71267	6/27/2001	20,154.00	20,154.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
60	FS STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE	U325079	TRUCK PU 3/4 TON 1999 02299G	CHEVROLET//CC25953/1GCGC29U1XE239867	6/24/1999	21,495.00	21,495.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
61	FS STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE	U325663	TRUCK TRACTOR 1988 G08876	KENWORTH//W923/1NKWL29X4J511678	2/1/1995	28,500.00	28,500.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
62	FS STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE	U405930	TRUCK PICKUP 1/2 TON 2005 02297G	FORD//F150/1FTFF15ZSLB32956	5/12/2005	13,759.00	13,759.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
63	FS SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING	U333799	TRUCK PICKUP 1/2 TON 1995 G51067	FORD//F150/1FTFF15ZSLB32956	9/23/2002	7,700.00	7,700.00	-	Worn out Vehicle
64	LIBRARY	U438964	Imaging Center Scanner Bookee 4V2	BOOKEYE//IMAGING CENTER/4VR/BE4-SGS-V2-0007323226AD	10/22/2015	15,799.00	15,799.00	-	Worn out Equipment
65	BIOLOGY	U432836	John Deere XUV 550 S4 Green and Yellow	JOHN DEERE/UTILITY VEHICLE/XUV550/1M0550FBHC020370	6/5/2013	8,231.42	7,133.88	1,097.54	Unusable Vehicle

#	Department	Barcode	Description	MANUFACTURER/MAKE/MODEL/SERIAL_NUM_VIN	ACQUISITION DATE	Total Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Net Book Amount	Disposal Type
66	FS VEHICLE MECHANICS	U412518	GOLF CART 2007 CLUB CAR CARRYALL 295 4X4	CLUB CAR/2007 GOLF CART/295/RC0748-843631	7/25/2007	12,516.60	12,516.60	-	Unusable Vehicle
67	FS FACILITIES MAINTENANCE	U440028	R16RTA57A1 Ranger XP570 Green	POLARIS/RANGER/XP570/3NSRTA576GG533386	3/22/2016	13,841.65	9,227.80	4,613.85	Unusable Vehicle
68	FS CUSTODIAL SERVICES	U402822	UTILITY VEHICLE	TORO//G7277/240000327	6/25/2004	7,549.63	7,549.63	-	Unusable Vehicle
69	FS ELECTRICIANS	U446373	Polaris 570 Utility Vehicle	POLARIS/UTILITY VEHICLE/570 RANGER/3NSCA57XKE744952	8/22/2019	11,939.64	4,775.88	7,163.76	Unusable Vehicle
70	FS GROUNDS	U334850	TRUCK DUMP 2000 G49259	INTERNATIONAL/DUMP TRUCK #G49259/470/LHTSCAAP7YH314715	7/10/2001	68,300.00	68,300.00	-	Unusable Vehicle
71	FS GROUNDS	U406275	UTILITY VEHICLE	CLUB CAR/CLUB CAR G06702/294/GC0452-469325	6/29/2005	11,243.40	11,243.40	-	Unusable Vehicle
72	FS PAINTERS	U440027	R16RTA57A1 Ranger XP570 Green	POLARIS/RANGER/XP570/3NSRTA57XGG817474	3/22/2016	13,841.65	9,227.80	4,613.85	Unusable Vehicle
73	FS STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE	U440029	R16RTA57A1 Ranger XP570 Green	POLARIS/RANGER/XP570/3NSRTA571GG533389	3/22/2016	13,841.65	9,227.80	4,613.85	Unusable Vehicle
74	FS ELECTRICIANS	U328723	ELECTRICAL GENERATOR 15000 WATT WITH	NA//NA/NA	9/1/2000	7,295.00	7,295.00	-	Unusable Equipment
75	FS ELECTRICIANS	U424512	GNE AWP 36 DC 36ft	GENIE/GNE AWP SCISSOR LIFT/AWP-36S/AWP10-68164	7/6/2010	9,140.63	9,140.63	-	Unusable Equipment
76	FS GROUNDS	U420037	MOWER Private Donation from Sodexo	DIXIE CHOPPERS/MOWER/LP3000/7072808	12/17/2008	12,363.25	12,363.25	-	Unusable Equipment
77	FS GROUNDS	U420038	MOWER Private Donation from Sodexo	DIXIE CHOPPERS/MOWER/LP3000/7072809	12/17/2008	12,363.25	12,363.25	-	Unusable Equipment
78	FS GROUNDS	U421599	Turf Sweeper SODEXHO DONATION	TORO/TURF SWEEPER/TURF SWEEPER/07053-270000254	7/1/2007	14,522.04	14,522.04	-	Unusable Equipment
79	FS GROUNDS	U423744	Polaris Ranger NMSU06780 G06780	POLARIS/UTILITY VEHICLE/RANGER/4XARB50A382378795	7/1/2006	5,662.70	5,662.70	-	Unusable Vehicle
80	FS GROUNDS	U423745	Polaris Ranger NMSU06780 G06781	POLARIS/UTILITY VEHICLE/RANGER/4XARB50A482380152	7/1/2006	5,662.70	5,662.70	-	Unusable Vehicle
81	FS GROUNDS	U423748	Polaris Ranger NMSU06449 G06449	POLARIS/UTILITY VEHICLE/RANGER/4XARB50A792710447	7/1/2007	6,345.12	6,345.12	-	Unusable Vehicle
82	FS GROUNDS	U321484	TRACTOR INDUSTRIAL	INTL HARVESTER/385/B001746	6/30/1986	8,939.00	8,939.00	-	Unusable Vehicle
83	FS GROUNDS	U335049	FORKLIFT	JOHN DEERE//486E/T0486EX834898	1/6/2003	16,175.00	16,175.00	-	Unusable Vehicle
84	FS GROUNDS	U423818	Toro 200 Sprayer Sprayer will attach to Truckster	TORO/200 SPRAYER/TOR200/100326	4/13/2010	6,850.00	6,850.00	-	Unusable Equipment
85	FS PAINTERS	U424500	Ranger 800 Crew Green GM1120	POLARIS/RANGER/800/4XAWH76A3A2157577	6/15/2010	13,675.82	13,675.82	-	Unusable Vehicle
86	FS MECHANICAL	U321485	VALVE OPERATOR TRUCK MTD	WACHS//TMY/17295	6/28/1996	12,880.00	12,880.00	-	Unusable Vehicle
87	FS STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE	U421598	Sweepter Model 810 SODEXHO DONATION	TENNANT/SWEEPER/810/810-4008	7/1/2007	37,800.00	37,800.00	-	Unusable Equipment
88	ENTOMOLOGY PLANT PATH AND WEED SCI	U433331	Hewlett Packard Designjet T790PS 44in Plotter	H.P./DESIGN JET PLOTTER/T790PS 44/CN31UDHO2X	5/30/2013	5,324.61	5,324.61	-	Unusable Equipment
Total						<u>1,560,821.68</u>	<u>1,534,219.38</u>	<u>26,602.30</u>	



**Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page**

Agenda Item # G-8

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: Dr. Sylvia Acosta
Chief Executive Officer, NMSU Foundation

Agenda Item:

Philanthropic naming of Motion Capture Lab located in Milton Hall, Room #189, the **“Kevin Andrew Long Motion Capture Lab”**

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

Approval of the naming of the Motion Capture Lab, Room #189, in Milton Hall, the **“Kevin Andrew Long Motion Capture Lab”**

Executive Summary:

The NMSU Foundation, in partnership with Dr. Enrico Pontelli, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is seeking approval to establish the **“Kevin Andrew Long Motion Capture Lab”**. The naming of the motion capture lab is in recognition of a gift of **\$210,000** to support the Creative Media Institute’s Motion Camera Lab at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

References:

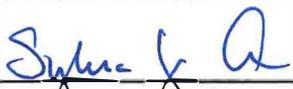
Please see: Naming Committee Approval, Presidents' Cabinet Approval, and the Naming Agreement.

Prior Approvals:

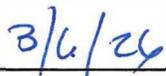
Approved by: The College of Arts and Sciences, the NMSU Foundation, the NMSU Naming Committee, and the NMSU President's Cabinet

Agenda Item Approved By:

Each office may determine required signatures (if any). All items will be routed to the President's Office.



 Dr. Sylvia Acosta
 Chief Executive Officer, NMSU Foundation



 Date



BE BOLD. Shape the future.

MEMORANDUM

TO: NMSU Naming Committee

FROM: Sylvia Acosta Ph.D., CEO NMSU Foundation 

DATE: January 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Naming and Physical signage for the Motion Capture Lab

In December of 2025 the John and Susan Long established the Kevin Andrew Long Memorial Motion Capture Lab Fund with a gift of \$210,000 to establish the Kevin Andrew Long Motion Capture Lab located in Milton Hall, room #189 (approximately 768 sq ft).

The corresponding physical space will be named the Kevin Andrew Long Motion Capture Lab, subject to approval by the University Naming Committee and NMSU Board of Regents. Pending the University Naming Committee approval, signage leading into and within the Motion Capture Lab will read "Kevin Andrew Long Motion Capture Lab".

Sign placement will be managed by Enrico Pontelli, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, in partnership with NMSU Facilities and the NMSU Architect's office. Signage will serve both as a form of donor recognition as well as an aide to visitors in locating the Lab.

The Foundation in partnership with the NMSU College of Arts and Sciences is seeking approval to move forward with the proposed signage to recognize the generous contribution of John and Susan Long.

Reference Documents



New Mexico State University
Naming Opportunity Approval Form

Submitted by: Dr. Enrico Pontelli

Date: 01/07/26

Description of what is to be named:

Motion Capture Lab, Milton Hall, Room #189

Proposed name:

Kevin Andrew Long Motion Capture Lab

Justification for naming (select as appropriate):

Gift [checked]

In Honor Of [unchecked]

Gift Amount: \$ 210,000

Schedule of Payments for Pledge:

Pledge Payments Complete

Additional Information:

The NMSU Foundation in partnership with the NMSU College of Arts and Sciences is seeking approval to name the Motion Capture Lab in Milton Hall as the "Kevin Andrew Long Memorial Motion Capture Lab" as recognition for a generous gift of \$210,000 received in December 2025. The Lab is located in Milton Hall, room #189 and is approximately 768 sq ft.

Approval Signatures

Enrico Pontelli [Signature]

Digitally signed by c42709bd-f7e3-4b17-9a42-188de739fec2
Date: 2026.01.07 14:37:54 -07'00'

01/07/26

Dean of requesting unit (if applicable)

Date

[Blank signature and date fields]

Vice President of requesting office (if applicable)

Date

Ready to make an impact through a named fund or facility? Please contact the NMSU Foundation by calling 575-201-9023 to get started.

Digital vote - Naming Committee Approval

Id	Start time	Completion time	Email	Name	Do you approve of the John and Susan Long Naming for the "Kevin Andrew Long Memorial Motion Capture Lab" at Milton Hall?	Do you approve of the Shari Jones Naming for the "Shari Jones Conference Room" at the Pan Am Center?
1	1/30/2026 9:53	1/30/2026 9:54		kevco@nmsu.edu	Yes	Yes
2	1/30/2026 9:54	1/30/2026 9:54	rkoodali@nmsu.edu	Ranjit Koodali	Yes	Yes
3	1/30/2026 9:54	1/30/2026 9:54		epontell@nmsu.edu	Yes	Yes
4	1/30/2026 9:55	1/30/2026 9:55		jauregui@nmsu.edu	Yes	Yes
5	1/30/2026 10:29	1/30/2026 10:29		ashenbau@nmsu.edu	Yes	Yes
6	1/30/2026 11:14	1/30/2026 11:14	phame@nmsu.edu	Phame Camarena	Yes	Yes
7	1/30/2026 11:26	1/30/2026 11:26	rmarlatt@nmsu.edu	Richard Marlatt	Yes	Yes
8	1/30/2026 11:43	1/30/2026 11:43		rolflo@nmsu.edu	Yes	Yes



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: INSERT DATE, 2025
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item #G-9

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: Dr. Sylvia Acosta
Chief Executive Officer, NMSU Foundation

Agenda Item:

Philanthropic naming of Conference Room 253A in the Pan American Center, the **“Shari Jones Conference Room”**

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

Approval of the naming of Conference Room 253A in the Pan American Center Library, the **“Shari Jones Conference Room”**

Executive Summary:

The NMSU Foundation, in partnership with NMSU Athletics, is seeking approval to establish the **“Shari Jones Conference Room”**. The naming of the conference room is in recognition of a gift of **\$40,000** to support the renovations to the men's basketball locker room and additional renovations to the Pan American Center.

References:

Please see: Shari Jones Naming Memo, Shari Jones Naming Opportunity Form, Naming Committee Approval, Presidents' Cabinet Approval, and the Naming Agreement.

Prior Approvals:

Approved by: NMSU Athletics, the NMSU Foundation, the NMSU Naming Committee, and NMSU Presidents Cabinet

Agenda Item Approved By:

Each office may determine required signatures (if any). All items will be routed to the President's Office.



Dr. Sylvia Acosta
Chief Executive Officer, NMSU Foundation



Date



BE BOLD. Shape the future.

MEMORANDUM

TO: NMSU Board of Regents

FROM: Joe Fields, Director of Athletics

DATE: January 7, 2025

SUBJECT: Philanthropic Naming of Conference Space in Pan American Center.

The NMSU Department of Athletics in partnership with the NMSU Foundation is seeking approval to name a conference room in the Pan American Center “Shari Jones Conference Room”, as recognition for a gift pledge of \$40,000 to support renovations of the Men’s Basketball Locker Room and additional renovations to the Pan American Center. The Shari Jones Conference Room will be located in the Pan American Center, room 253A.

The conditions of this naming opportunity have been discussed and approved by the Department of Athletics, the NMSU Naming Committee and the NMSU Foundation and are outlined in the signed gift agreement with the donor, Foundation, and Department of Athletics. Shari Jones has completed her pledged payments.

If this naming is approved by the Board of Regents, the naming will be publicly announced at a formal dedication of the conference room. The Department of Athletics and the University Architects office will work on the details of name placement and design.

Reference Documents



New Mexico State University
Naming Opportunity Approval Form

Submitted by: Joe Fields

Date:

Description of what is to be named:

Pan American Center, Conference Room, Room #253A

Proposed name:

Shari Jones Conference Room

Justification for naming (select as appropriate):

Gift []

In Honor Of []

Gift Amount: \$ 40,000

Schedule of Payments for Pledge:

Pledge Payments Complete

Additional Information:

The NMSU Department of Athletics in partnership with the NMSU Foundation is seeking approval to name a conference room in the Pan American Center "Shari Jones Conference Room", as recognition for a gift pledge of \$40,000 to support renovations of the Men's Basketball Locker Room and additional renovations to the Pan American Center.

Approval Signatures

[Signature]

Dean/Director of requesting unit (if applicable)

1/8/26

Date

[Signature]

Vice President of requesting office (if applicable)

[Signature]

Date

Ready to make an impact through a named fund or facility? Please contact the NMSU Foundation by calling 575-201-9023 to get started.

Digital vote - Naming Committee Approval

Id	Start time	Completion time	Email	Name	Do you approve of the John and Susan Long Naming for the "Kevin Andrew Long Memorial Motion Capture Lab" at Milton Hall?	Do you approve of the Shari Jones Naming for the "Shari Jones Conference Room" at the Pan Am Center?
1	1/30/2026 9:53	1/30/2026 9:54		kevco@nmsu.edu	Yes	Yes
2	1/30/2026 9:54	1/30/2026 9:54	rkoodali@nmsu.edu	Ranjit Koodali	Yes	Yes
3	1/30/2026 9:54	1/30/2026 9:54		epontell@nmsu.edu	Yes	Yes
4	1/30/2026 9:55	1/30/2026 9:55		jauregui@nmsu.edu	Yes	Yes
5	1/30/2026 10:29	1/30/2026 10:29		ashenbau@nmsu.edu	Yes	Yes
6	1/30/2026 11:14	1/30/2026 11:14	phame@nmsu.edu	Phame Camarena	Yes	Yes
7	1/30/2026 11:26	1/30/2026 11:26	rmarlatt@nmsu.edu	Richard Marlatt	Yes	Yes
8	1/30/2026 11:43	1/30/2026 11:43		rolflo@nmsu.edu	Yes	Yes



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # H-1

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By:

David G. Ortiz Cansenco, Ph.D.
Academic Department Head
Rick Marlatt, Dean of the College of HEST

Agenda Item:

Computational Social Science – Doctor of Philosophy

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

Approval of the Computational Social Science – Doctor of Philosophy program proposal as presented.

Executive Summary:

The Computational Social Science Doctor of Philosophy proposed program is a multidisciplinary doctoral program designed to provide students with a rigorous program of study that blends knowledge in the social sciences with methodological knowledge in machine learning, artificial intelligence, and advanced statistical modeling to study social phenomena in large and/or messy sources of data. This is a 54 credit, dissertation based, Ph.D. proposal.

National employment forecasts data science as one of the fastest growing fields and federal agencies and legislators have prioritized the AI and data science education pipeline. The ultimate goal of the academic program is to entice students to stay in New Mexico and to train them for jobs that are heavily in demand at our national labs, health sciences fields, and AI fields.

The degree will be housed within the Department of Sociology (HEST) and will have affiliated faculty in Computer Science, Psychology, Geography and Environmental Studies, Management, Public Health Sciences, and Applied Statistics. Currently, no other New Mexico Higher Ed Institutions have a Ph.D. in Computation Social Science or Data Science. UTEP does have a Data Science Ph.D., as well as the University of Arizona. NMSU currently offers a Data Analytics master's degree and the department anticipates the program being a feeder into the Ph.D. level.

The program does have commitment for six 0.5 FTE Graduate Assistantships that will be devoted to the Ph.D. The Sociology department has successfully received external federal grants to fund research assistants and feel that can continue to obtain funding to sponsor an additional cohorts of students. In addition to the Graduate Assistantships and Research Assistants, the Department of Sociology has hired a tenure-track assistant professor of Sociology that has an expertise in computational methods. The department does not anticipate any additional resources are needed for the initial cohort of the Ph.D. program.

References:

See attached the academic program proposal, presentation, and supplemental materials.

Prior Approvals:

The Computational Social Science - Doctor of Philosophy proposal was submitted previously in the 2024 PIM approval but was declined at UPAC. The proposal has achieved prior approvals (PIM approval path) in this cycle including:

Student Records Office (Gabrielle Martinez) - July 2, 2025

HEST College (Rebecca Palacios) - July 3, 2025

Graduate Dean (Ranjit Koodali) - July 8, 2025

University Program Approval Committee (UPAC) (Joe Lakey) – September 9, 2025*

Office of the Provost (James McAteer) – October 27, 2025

Office of the President (Marissa Yniguez) – October 28, 2025

Regents Student Success Committee - February 25, 2026

**The UPAC Committee initially declined the proposal at their August 21, 2025, meeting. The Sociology department worked with the committee chairs to make updates to the proposal to address the committee's concerns and the proposal was returned to the committee to be voted on and approved via email.*

Ph.D. Program in Computational Social Science

Marshall A. Taylor, Ph.D.

David G. Ortiz, Ph.D.

Rick Marlatt, Ph.D.



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.[®]
Department of Sociology

Description

Blends disciplinary knowledge in:

- Sociology
- Psychology
- Public Health Sciences
- Geography
- Management

With methodological knowledge in:

- Machine Learning
- Artificial Intelligence
- Advanced Statistical Modeling

To produce graduates prepared to address critical problems of social and human importance for the state, region, and beyond in the modern digital age.



Problem: NM “Brain Drain”

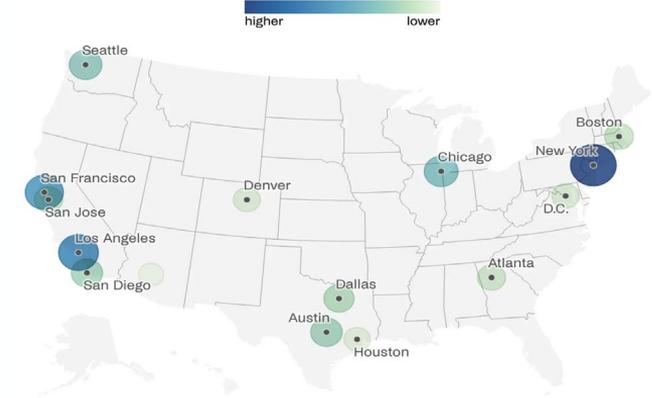
High educational out-migration

Solution

- Develop programs that are enticing to 21st-century students from both an educational and workforce development standpoint
- Data Science careers are among the fastest-growing nationally and regionally

Which cities are candidates in the West applying to?

Top 15 cities by application volume



Are more applications submitted in or out of state?



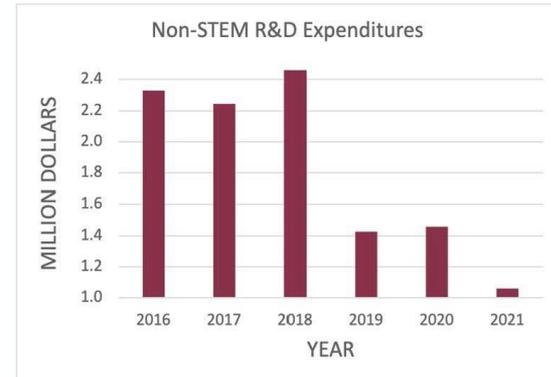
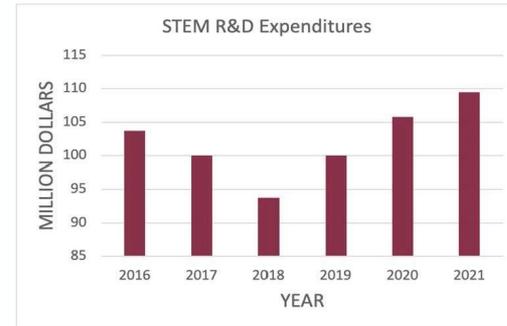
Problem: Lack of Social Science PhD Programming*

Can impact current and future Carnegie status

Solution

- Offer social science Ph.D. programs that:
 - Align with funding priorities
 - Can help address complex societal challenges
 - Have high workforce potential
 - Government
 - Health
 - Non Profit
 - Industry Sectors

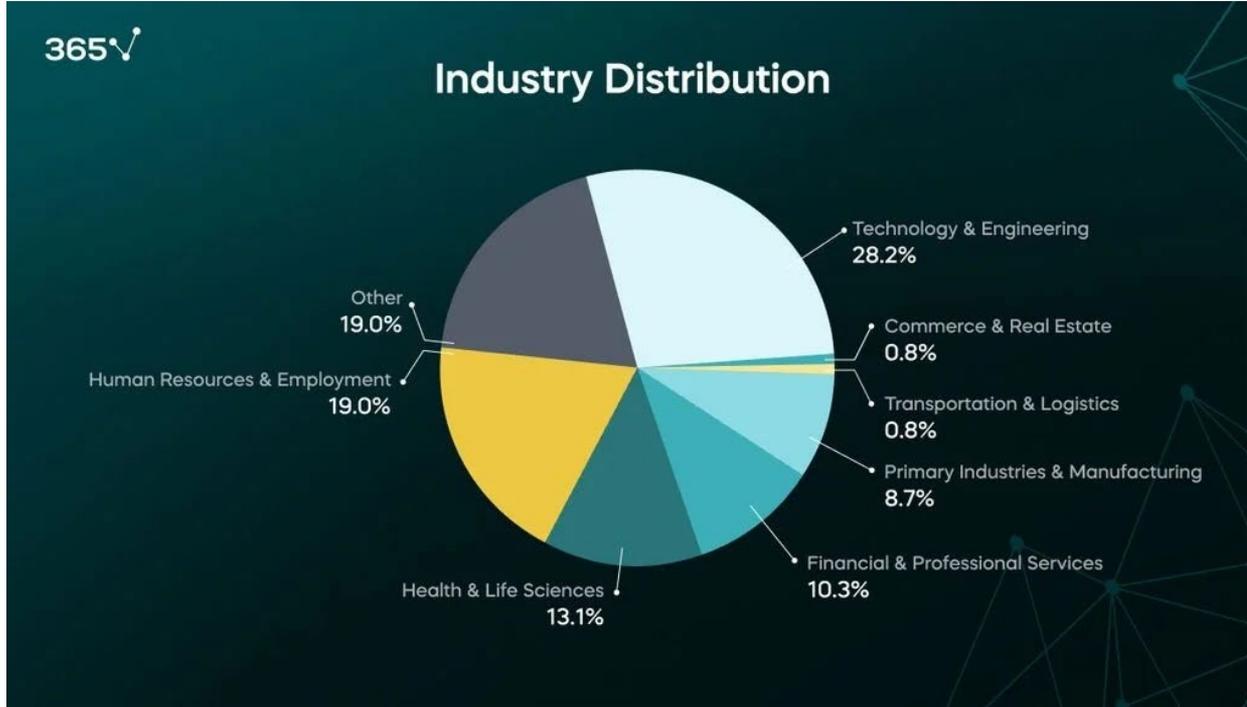
*Aligns with previous strategic plan (LEADS 2025, 2.2)



Economic Impact

	Dollar Figure	Percent Increase from NM Median Household Income
Median Household Income, NM (2024)	\$67,816	–
Median Annual Salary, Data Scientist w/ 1-3 yrs exp (2024)	\$160,994	137%
Average Annual Salary, Data Scientist in NM (2024)	\$121,418	79%

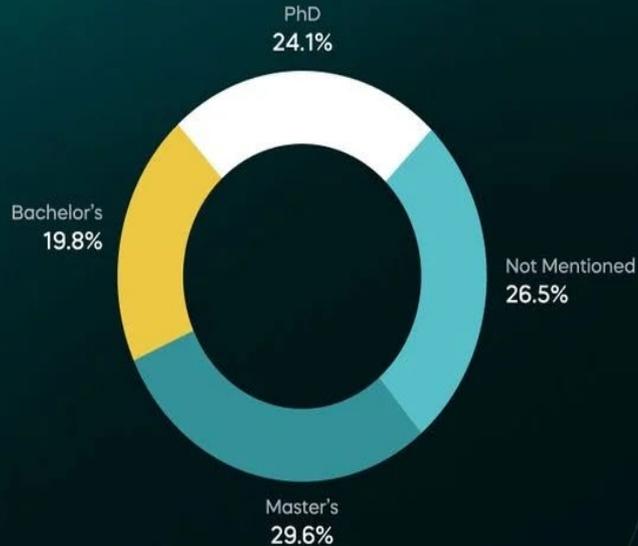
Data Scientist Job Market



NMDWS projects

some of the largest % growth in employment between 2022-2032 in tech/science, health, & commerce sectors

Required Education Level



- About **one quarter** of these job opportunities **require a Ph.D.** degree.

Market: Las Cruces 225-Mile Radius*

Criterion

Student Demand

New student enrollment volume

New student enrollment volume YoY change

Completion volume YoY change

Percentile

89



91

95

98

89th percentile in student demand in the Las Cruces area market

*Gray and Associates Data



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.[®]
Department of Sociology

Budget and Current Support

No new resources needed!

Existing Support

- Employer support
- NMSU Support
 - Graduate assistantships fully covered
 - 27 faculty
 - Leadership
 - Affiliated department support



Computational Social Science: Strategic Value

Strong alignment with:

- labor market demand,
- external funding opportunities, and
- state workforce priorities

High return on minimal investment through:

- workforce readiness
- ROI research competitiveness, and
- community impact

Current student interest:

- Multiple current MA students and alumni in Sociology, Data Science, and other disciplines have expressed interest in enrolling



Thank You

Marshall A. Taylor, Ph.D.

Department of Sociology

mtaylor2@nmsu.edu

David G. Ortiz, Ph.D.

Department of Sociology

dgortiz@nmsu.edu

Rick Marlatt, Ph.D.

College of HEST

rmarlatt@nmsu.edu



1038: COMPUTATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE - DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

In Workflow

1. Student Records Office - Programs (gdmart@nmsu.edu)
2. HE Academic Dean (rpalacio@nmsu.edu)
3. Graduate Dean (rkoodali@nmsu.edu)
4. UPAC - Chair (jlakey@nmsu.edu)
5. Provost (lnr@nmsu.edu; mcateer@nmsu.edu; cecimh@nmsu.edu)
6. President (jbannist@nmsu.edu; myniguez@nmsu.edu; ferm4363@nmsu.edu)
7. Board of Regents (cavotta@nmsu.edu)
8. Graduate School - Council of Deans (rkoodali@nmsu.edu)
9. Student Records Office - HED (gdmart@nmsu.edu)
10. Student Records Office - CIP (gdmart@nmsu.edu)
11. MA HLC (cecimh@nmsu.edu)
12. Student Records Office (gdmart@nmsu.edu)

Approval Path

1. Mon, 01 Jul 2024 22:39:31 GMT
Gabrielle Martinez (gdmart): Approved for Student Records Office - Programs
2. Tue, 16 Jul 2024 16:46:33 GMT
ppost: Approved for HE Academic Dean
3. Tue, 16 Jul 2024 16:57:24 GMT
Ranjit Koodali (rkoodali): Approved for Graduate Dean
4. Wed, 04 Dec 2024 16:19:11 GMT
Joe Lakey (jlakey): Rollback to Initiator
5. Tue, 01 Jul 2025 23:25:56 GMT
Gabrielle Martinez (gdmart): Approved for Student Records Office - Programs
6. Tue, 01 Jul 2025 23:34:18 GMT
Rebecca Palacios (rpalacio): Approved for HE Academic Dean
7. Wed, 02 Jul 2025 00:14:01 GMT
Ranjit Koodali (rkoodali): Rollback to Initiator
8. Wed, 02 Jul 2025 23:09:53 GMT
Gabrielle Martinez (gdmart): Approved for Student Records Office - Programs
9. Thu, 03 Jul 2025 14:02:56 GMT
Rebecca Palacios (rpalacio): Approved for HE Academic Dean
10. Tue, 08 Jul 2025 13:45:16 GMT
Ranjit Koodali (rkoodali): Approved for Graduate Dean
11. Fri, 05 Sep 2025 16:26:20 GMT
Joe Lakey (jlakey): Approved for UPAC - Chair
12. Mon, 27 Oct 2025 22:47:25 GMT
James Mcateer (mcateer): Approved for Provost
13. Tue, 28 Oct 2025 17:00:42 GMT
Marissa Yniguez (myniguez): Approved for President

New Program Proposal

Date Submitted: Wed, 02 Jul 2025 01:10:55 GMT

Viewing: 1038 : Computational Social Science - Doctor of Philosophy

Last edit: Thu, 04 Sep 2025 23:28:01 GMT

Changes proposed by: David Ortiz Canseco (dgortiz)

Submission Information

The Degree Type will factor into the level and the submissions that must occur for HED and HLC.

- Community College Types: Applied Associate Degree, Associate Degree, Certificate, Concentration
- Main/Global Campus Undergrad Types: Bachelor's Degree, Concentration, Minor
- Main/Global Campus Graduate Types: Master's Degree, Doctoral Degree, Certificate, Concentration, Minor

Degree Type

Doctoral Degree

The Degree Title dropdown has all existing degree titles in Banner, if you do not see the one you are looking for you will select "Other" then in the New Degree Title box you will type out the official title of the degree (as you would want it to appear on a students record, transcript, and/or diploma).

Degree Title

Doctor of Philosophy

Academic Level

Graduate

The Catalog Title will be what is displayed in the catalog page. The standard format is Major (Concentration) - Degree Title. (I.e., Mathematics (Secondary Education) - Bachelor of Science. Note: If there is no concentration you would just list the Major - Degree.

Catalog Title

Computational Social Science - Doctor of Philosophy

College

Health/Education/Social Transformation

Campus

Main Campus

Department

Sociology

Effective Catalog

2025-2026

If opting for a Global program, specify "Global Campus" under campus type. You must have a Program Proposal on file with Global Campus prior to submission of a new Global program. Contact Global Campus for more information.

Program Teaching Modality

Traditional-Face to Face

CIP Code

301701 - Behavioral Sciences.

Normal or typical length of time for students to complete the program (in years)

3-5

Curriculum Information**Program Learning Outcomes**

	Learning Outcomes
Outcome 1	The student will plan and carry out a research-focused curriculum in computational social science that will culminate in a Ph.D. dissertation. The dissertation will showcase the student's mastery of all facets of the research process, including identification of a research question/problem/gap, conceptualization, theory-building and/or theory-testing, study design, data analysis, and communication.
Outcome 2	The student will demonstrate advanced knowledge in a variety of methods and analytical approaches in computational social science—including (but not limited to) natural language processing, social network analysis, simulation modeling, statistical analysis, data mining, machine learning, and data visualization—and showcase the ability to clearly communicate this knowledge both verbally and in writing.
Outcome 3	The student will demonstrate advanced sociological theory and research design knowledge and the ability to incorporate computational methods/techniques into social science research projects.

List of academic departments/units and or institutions involved in the delivery of courses**Department/Unit**

Department of Sociology

Department of Computer Science

Department of Psychology

Department of Geography and Environmental Studies

Department of Public Health Sciences

Department of Management

The Course Requirements, need to be in the standard format for the catalog because this piece of the form will be imported directly onto the catalog page. See the Student Records Website for a guide. The total number of credits at the bottom of the course list will be the "official" total for the degree. Please make sure it adds up correctly.

Course Requirements

Description

The Doctor of Philosophy program in Computational Social Science (CSS) is designed to give students a rigorous program of study that blends disciplinary knowledge in the social sciences with methodological knowledge in machine learning, artificial intelligence, and advanced statistical modeling to study social phenomena in large and/or messy sources of data. Graduates will be equipped with not only cutting-edge methodological and technological skills traditionally isolated to computer science, information science, and computer engineering departments, but also with critical in-depth knowledge of science-backed understandings of social processes and the sociological, psychological, behavioral, and cultural theories necessary to contextualize and hypothesize about those processes.

Prefix	Title	Credits
Core Course Requirements:		9
SOCI 5110	Perspectives on Sociology ¹	3
SOCI 5166	Seminar in Contemporary Theory ¹	3
SOCI 5163	Issues in Advanced Quantitative Analysis ¹	3
Select One Programming Course:		3
CSCI 4520	Python Programming I ¹	3
CSCI 4530	R Programming I ¹	3
Required Methods Courses:		6
SOCI 5150	Seminar in Social Networks	3
SOCI 5155	Seminar in Text Analysis for the Social Sciences	3
Required Dissertation Preparation Course:		3
SOCI 6998	Dissertation Research Design in CSS ⁵	3
Select Two Methods Electives Courses:		6
SOCI 5153	Seminar in Sociological Research	3
SOCI 5157	Seminar in Qualitative Research Methods	3
SOCI 5158	Seminar in Visual Ethnographic Methodology	3
SOCI 5160	Seminar in Data Visualization	3
PSYC 5110	Quantitative Methods in Psychology I	3
PSYC 5120	Quantitative Methods in Psychology II ²	3
PSYC 5210	Computer Methodology	3
CSCI 5140	Database Management Systems I	3
CSCI 5415	Introduction to Data Mining	3
CSCI 5420	Applied Machine Learning I	3
GEOG 542	Programming for GIS	3
GEOG 571	Cartography and GIS	4
GEOG 578	Fundamentals of GIS	4
GEOG 585	Spatial Analysis and Modeling	3
MGMT 660	Research Design and Methodology	3
PHLS 5250	Evaluative Approaches in Public Health	3
Select Three Content Electives Courses:		9
SOCI 5170	Seminar in Individual and Society	3
SOCI 5175	Seminar in Symbolic Interaction	3
SOCI 5270	Seminar in Sex and Gender	3
SOCI 5310	Seminar in Community Development	3
SOCI 5315	Seminar in Public Sociology	3
SOCI 5317	Seminar in Social Transformation	3
SOCI 5320	Seminar in Social Movements and Activism	3
SOCI 5325	Seminar in Digital Media and Activism	3
SOCI 5335	Seminar Environmental Sociology	3
SOCI 5337	Seminar in Human Society and the Environment	3
SOCI 5410	Seminar in Race and Ethnic Relations	3
SOCI 5415	Seminar in Social Stratification	3

SOCI 5420	Seminar in Sociology of Latinos/as in the United States	3
SOCI 5430	Seminar in International Migration	3
SOCI 5440	Seminar in Sociological Perspectives on the U.S.-Mexico Border	3
SOCI 5450	Seminar in Power and Politics in the United States	3
SOCI 5455	Seminar in Inequality and Public Policy	3
SOCI 5460	Advanced Issues in Globalization	3
SOCI 5510	Issues in Social Deviance	3
SOCI 5515	Sociology of Organizations	3
SOCI 5555	Advanced Sociology of Education	3
SOCI 5610	Seminar in Popular Culture	3
SOCI 5630	Seminar in Culture and Social Life	3
SOCI 5640	Seminar in Sociology of Digital Media	3
SOCI 5991	Special Research Problems ³	1-3
SOCI 5996	Graduate Special Topics ⁴	3
PSYC 520	Learning and Memory	3
PSYC 522	Sensation and Perception	3
CSCI 5405	Artificial Intelligence I	3
CSCI 5250	Human-Centered Computing	3
CSCI 5750	Artificial Intelligence II	3
MGMT 503	Organizational Behavior and Management Processes	3
MGMT 650	Seminar in Organizational Behavior	3
PHLS 5110	Community and Psychosocial Aspects of Public Health	3
PHLS 5160	Public Health Policy Analysis	3
PHLS 5620	Cross-Cultural Aspects of Health	3
PHLS 5640	Rural Health Issues	3
PHLS 5660	U.S.-Mexico Border Health Issues	3
PHLS 5670	American Indian Health	3
Dissertation Coursework (18 credits)		18
SOCI 7000	Dissertation	1-15
Total Credits:		54

¹ To be taken within the first 27 hours of graduate credit.

² Requires PSYC 5110 Quantitative Methods in Psychology I.

³ May be repeated for up to 6 credits.

⁴ May be repeated for up to 9 credits.

⁵ The purpose of this course is to give the students opportunities to learn about the structure of dissertations and making the leap from "knowledge consumer" to "knowledge producer." It serves as preparation work for their dissertation proposal and proposal defense which occur in the Spring semester after this course is taken.

The Road Map, need to be in the standard format for the catalog because this piece of the form will be imported directly onto the catalog page. See the Student Records Website for a guide. All courses and the total number of credits at the bottom of the roadmap should match the Course Requirements list.

Road Map

Road Map

This road map assumes the student is attending the program full-time (9 credit hours per semester). This roadmap reflects a student following the recommended timeline for completing the program in three years. A student completing their degree in four/five years would follow the same roadmap but with more dissertation credits.

First Year

		Credits
Fall		
SOCI 5110	Perspectives on Sociology	3
SOCI 5155	Seminar in Text Analysis for the Social Sciences	3
Content Elective		3
Credits		9

Spring

SOCI 5166	Seminar in Contemporary Theory	3
SOCI 5163	Issues in Advanced Quantitative Analysis	3
CSCI 4530	R Programming I	3
Credits		9

Second Year

Fall		
SOCI 5150	Seminar in Social Networks	3

SOCI 6998	Dissertation Research Design in CSS	3
Content Elective		3
Credits		9
Spring		
Methods Elective		3
Methods Elective		3
Content Elective		3
Credits		9
Third Year		
Fall		
SOCI 7000	Dissertation	9
Credits		9
Spring		
SOCI 7000	Dissertation	9
Credits		9
Total Credits		54

Year 1 benchmarks

Fall semester: Pass the qualifying examination, scheduled by the CSS program coordinator and evaluated by the CSS executive committee. For students who enter with a master's degree or equivalent from another university, or another department, the qualifying examination should be taken before completing one semester of graduate work. For students who earn their master's degree at New Mexico State University and will continue in the same department, the department may allow the master's final examination to serve as the doctoral qualifying examination or may require a separate examination. File the Doctoral Qualifying Exam form with the Graduate School.

Spring semester: Choose an advisor from the list of core faculty. If the advisor is a Computational Social Scientist (CSS), the student can choose any other faculty to be part of their doctoral committee. If the advisor is either a Social Scientist (SS) or a Computational Scientist (CS), then the student will need to pick a second reader that is a CSS faculty. This CSS second reader will serve as a co-chair to the student's dissertation. This is to ensure that the student will have at least one member of their committee who is an expert on computational social science. Each affiliated faculty is classified as CSS, SS, or CS for the purposes of the PhD program.

Year 2 benchmarks

Fall semester: Assemble the doctoral committee in collaboration with the advisor and begin crafting the dissertation topic. Schedule the comprehensive examination for the spring semester. A complete draft of the dissertation proposal is the final deliverable of SOCI 6998.

Spring semester: Pass both the written and oral components of the comprehensive examination, as evaluated by the student's doctoral committee. Committee evaluations of the dissertation proposal document serves as the written comprehensive examination. The comprehensive oral examination will consist of two parts: an oral defense of the dissertation proposal, and answers to oral questions covering general CSS subject areas not necessarily specific to their dissertation research. These two components of the oral comprehensive exam occur at the same time, and are evaluated by the student's doctoral committee. The subject matter component of the oral examination determines a student's grasp of essential concepts relevant CSS and the student's ability to project beyond existing knowledge. Any student who fails the comprehensive examination may be either (1) terminated from the program, or (b) take the exam a second time at least one semester later, pending approval of the CSS executive committee and approval of the Graduate School dean. The student is terminated from the program if the second comprehensive examination is not satisfactory. Summer semester: Advance to candidacy. File the Program of Study and Committee for Doctoral Students form with the Graduate School.

Year 3 benchmarks

Fall semester: None.

Spring semester: Schedule and hold the final dissertation oral examination ("defense") with the student's doctoral committee. File the Doctorate of Philosophy Examination with the Graduate School at least 10 working days before the date of the exam.

Since some students might require more than three years for degree completion (depending on, e.g., the scale of their dissertation project), funding considerations for the fourth and fifth years will be made on a case-by-case basis.

The admission requirements are needed if the program has a specialized admission process that exceeds the campus requirements for either the Undergraduate or Graduate admission standards.

• For graduate programs, the Graduate School asks for the following information (Provide a summary of the documents and specific information each student will need to provide to be considered for the program): Description, Statement of Purpose/Letter of Interest; Specialty Letter of Interest; Resume; Writing Sample; GRE; GMAT; Special Questions (if yes, what questions need to be answered); Letters of Recommendation (how many are required); NMSU Faculty Representative (if yes, how many); Foreign Language; WES Evaluation; Special License or Verifications (what license/verification)

Admission Requirements

Entry into the CSS PhD program requires a masters degree in a social science, computer/information science, or related discipline.

To apply for admission to the Computational Social Science (CSS) Program applicants must meet the following criteria and submit the following through <https://apply.nmsu.edu/apply/>:

- Application form and fees.
- A master's degree in a social science, computer/information science, or related discipline.
- Graduate cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- A record of professional, ethical, and collegial behavior.
- Official graduate transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
- A well written statement of purpose from the candidate addressing graduate school objectives and interests.

Failure to meet any of the above criteria may result in the student not being accepted into our program. However, in cases when an otherwise outstanding student does not meet the GPA requirements, the student may be accepted provisionally into the program.

The GRE is not required for admission. Students may be required to take prerequisites prior to gaining admission.

The department admits students for the Fall semester. Priority deadline for application is February 1st for Fall admission.

Students who do not have a relevant Masters degree prior to applying to the CSS PhD program are encouraged to enroll and complete one of the following Masters degrees at NMSU:

- MA in Sociology
- MA in Psychology
- MS in Computer Science
- MS in Applied Statistics
- Master of Data Analytics
- Master of Public Health
- Master of Applied Geography
- Other relevant Masters in the Social and Computational Sciences

Does this program lead to licensure, yes or no?

No

Is credit for prior learning built into the program, if yes explain?

Yes. Incoming students are required to hold a masters degree from an accredited institution in a social science, computer/information science, or related discipline. It is not necessary that incoming students have extensive training in both the social and computational sciences, as the purpose of the program is to give students the skills to systematically blend these knowledge domains. We elaborate on this below.

For students who enter with a master's degree or equivalent from another university, or another department, the qualifying examination should be taken before completing one semester of graduate work. For students who earn their master's degree at New Mexico State University and will continue in the same department, the department may allow the master's final examination to serve as the doctoral qualifying examination or may require a separate examination.

Faculty Members Employed to Teach in the Program

Existing Personnel

Marshall A. Taylor

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

Currently 2-2 with buyouts from grants (2-3 baseline)
 SOCI 5150, SOCI 5155, SOCI 5160, SOCI 5163

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

SOCI 5150, SOCI 5155, SOCI 5160, SOCI 5163 are crosslisted with the MA in Data Analytics program.

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Sociology, University of Notre Dame

This faculty member's expertise is on computational social science. They categorized as a Computational Social Scientist (CSS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Developed and teach SOCI 5150, SOCI 5155, SOCI 5160, SOCI 5163.

Founding member of the Data Analytics Program Steering Committee.

Published a major book on computational text analysis through Oxford University Press that is used in text analysis courses (such as SOCI 5155).

Served as advisor on multiple CSS masters theses.

Served as committee member on multiple CSS-adjacent dissertation committees.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

I am an associate professor of sociology at New Mexico State University, where I am also the lead of the Data Science and Application Center, and PI of the C3 Lab.

My research focuses on questions of cognition and measurement in the sociology of culture. Specifically, I study how social contexts and cognitive structures interface to influence the stability and change of cultural knowledge and how to best measure cultural knowledge in natural language and survey data using computational methods. I have used this guiding interest in culture and cognition to study how journalists respond to innovative protest strategies, the evolution of family metaphors in U.S. State of the Union addresses, the relationship between self-personalization and online negativity for female U.S. congressional candidates, the different moral schemas that consumers use to evaluate the fairness of price changes, how gender biases manifest discursively in student evaluations of teaching, and why and when white nationalist organizations divert attention to the grievances that they do, among other topics in the sociology of culture, politics, and social movements. My research makes use of a wide range of computational and quantitative methods, and I have a particular interest in developing tools for computational cultural analysis—especially (semi)automated text analysis.

My book, *Mapping Texts: Computational Text Analysis for the Social Sciences*, is now available through Oxford University Press and all major booksellers.

My current and forthcoming work can be found in *Sociological Theory*, *Poetics*, *Socio-Economic Review*, *Political Behavior*, *Sociological Forum*, *Journal for the Theory of Social Behaviour*, *Sociological Science*, *Socius*, *American Journal of Cultural Sociology*, *Journal of Computational Social Science*, *Journal for the Theory of Social Behaviour*, *Deviant Behavior*, and the *Stata Journal*, among other peer-reviewed outlets. My research and institution-building work have been funded, in part, by the National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Education, the Center for the Study of Social Movements, the Kellogg Institute for International Studies, and the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts.

I have helped bring in over \$2.7 million in external research funds, in addition to other funds related to data science training.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I have served on at least 5 dissertation committees during my time at NMSU, mostly in Computer Science. I am also currently (or have been) the chair of 5 M.A. theses, have served as a committee member on 9 thesis committees, and been the capstone advisor to 2 Data Analytics students.

Existing Personnel

David G. Ortiz Canseco

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

1-1 (course buyout because Dr. Ortiz is the Faculty Fellow for the Center for Latin American and Border Studies). (2:1 regular load as a Department Head).
SOC 5320, SOC 5325, SOC 5450, SOC 5640.

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

SOC 5320, SOC 5325, SOC 5450, SOC 5640 crosslisted with the MA in Sociology and SOC 5320, SOC 5450 crosslisted with the PhD in Transborder and Global Human Dynamics

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Sociology, University of Notre Dame.

This faculty member's expertise is on computational social science. They categorized as a Computational Social Scientist (CSS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

As a full-time faculty member in the Department of Sociology at NMSU since 2015, Dr. Ortiz Canseco has taught lower and upper-division undergraduate classes, including statistics as well as Masters level graduate seminars with a focus on political sociology, social movements and activism, and digital media. He has served as chair or member of many masters level committees for students completing their thesis in sociology, and as the Graduate Dean's rep for students from other departments, including Anthropology, Communication Studies, History, and Engineering, among others.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

Dr. Ortiz Canseco has published in the areas of social movements, political sociology, culture, social media, stratification and inequalities, Gender and Trans studies, and Latin American and Border Studies. He has also recently moved into publishing in the areas of inequalities and opportunities within STEM education in higher education institutions. He has been senior personnel in several federal research grants including the National Science Foundation's Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation, and the National Science Foundation's Improving Undergraduate STEM Education grant.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

Dr. Ortiz Canseco has 17 years of experience advising graduate student research, including being principal advisor of doctoral interdisciplinary PhD dissertations at Tulane University and of Sociology Masters graduate students at NMSU. He has also consistently involved graduate students in his research and has co-authored with them in scholarly publications. He has served as chair or member of many masters level committees for students completing their thesis in sociology, and as the Graduate Dean's rep for Masters and PhD students from other social science and humanities departments, including Anthropology, Communication Studies, History, and Engineering, among others.

Existing Personnel

David G. LoConto

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-3

5110, 5165, 5170, 5175, 5610

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

5110, 5165, 5170, 5175, 5610 crosslisted with the MA in Sociology

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Sociology, Oklahoma State University

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Director of the Sociology Graduate Program. I served as Department Head for many years. I have taught all of the courses at least once per year and those courses are all in my active research/area of expertise.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

I am a social psychologist in the department. I focus primarily on collective identity as it applies to fandom. Currently, I am developing a model for McFarland Publishing on collective identity as it applies to the fan/anti-fan dichotomy, specifically addressing the process of collective identity, integrating interpretive communities, interpretive strategies, and collective memory. Most of my research I use in-depth interviews, participant observation, and historical analysis. Other substantive areas include popular culture, race/ethnic identity, disability and perception, and early American sociological thought.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

Most of my research advisement involves students who are either doing research on identity of some form (diverse groups), qualitative methods, as well as popular culture topics, or some combination of these. I have advised and served as a committee member on multiple MA theses.

Existing Personnel

Heather Harper

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-3

5155, 5160, 5166, 5450, 5455

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

5155, 5160, 5166, 5450, 5455 crosslisted with the Sociology MA program

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Sociology, University of California, San Diego.

This faculty member's expertise is on computational social science. They categorized as a Computational Social Scientist (CSS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

I have taught a variety computational methods courses at least once per year since my arrival to NMSU and those courses are all in my active research/area of expertise.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

I am a political sociologists who studies policy design and policy development from a cultural perspective. My work primarily employs computational methods such as topic modeling, discourse network analysis, and text decomposition for prediction with the aid of insights and techniques from comparative historical analysis. Past, current, and future projects include, but are not limited to: tracking federal policy idea change using the case of federal gendered pay inequity; predicting the popularity of local tax measures in California; measuring discourse network changes following immigration focusing events in the U.K.; understanding voter preferences for public investments in alternative energies such as carbon conversion; and measuring the relationship between the inconsistency of public health messaging and the spread of misinformation during emergencies.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I have previously been the chair of a sociology M.A. student's thesis project as well as a reader for another M.A. thesis. I am currently serving as the chair and reader for two additional thesis projects.

Existing Personnel

Bertha A. Bermúdez Tapia

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-3

5157, 5158, 5410, 5420, 5430, 5440

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

5157, 5158, 5410, 5420, 5430, 5440 crosslisted with the Sociology MA program and 5420, 5430, 5440 crosslisted with the PhD in Transborder and Human Dynamics

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Sociology, University of California-Boulder.

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

In addition to my instructional duties, I serve as a board member for several organizations. These include the Center for Latin American and Border Studies at NMSU, Solidarity Engineering (an NGO focused on public health protection at the US-Mexico border), and Contexts Magazine, which aims to make advanced social research accessible to general readers. Furthermore, I am a regular mentor for the National Science Foundation's Research Experience for Undergraduates (NSF REU) Collaborative Site Program on Immigration Policy and US-Mexico Border Communities. These roles allow me to integrate practical and research-based experiences into my teaching, enriching the learning environment for my students.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

My work specializes in multiple conceptualizations of violence, immigration, and policies regulating migration and asylum. My areas of research and teaching expertise include international migration, race, and ethnic relations, the social dimensions of immigration policies, U.S.-Mexico border relations, undocumented migration, and qualitative research. I focus on two main areas: the impacts of state power on migrant and border lives, and the production and reproduction of violence, particularly on the U.S.-Mexico border.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I currently serve as the chair of a master's thesis project, where I provide comprehensive guidance on research design, methodology, and analysis. In this role, I mentor the student through each stage of their research, ensuring the development of a robust thesis that meets academic standards. Additionally, I was a committee member for another master's thesis project, offering critical feedback and support, contributing to the student's scholarly growth and the successful completion of their research. My experience in these roles has equipped me with the skills to effectively direct and advise student research, fostering a productive and supportive academic environment.

Existing Personnel

Julie Steinkopf

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-3
5157, 5310, 5315, 5317, 5610

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

5157, 5310, 5315, 5317, 5610 crosslisted with the MA in Sociology

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Sociology, Washington State University.

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Currently Vice-Chair of IRB. I have taught all of the courses at least once per year and those courses are all in my active research/area of expertise.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

My focus is on economic development and community development. I am a qualitative researcher.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I have regularly advised MA students in the Sociology program, and have regularly been a Dean's Rep for Ph.D. students throughout the university. I have also regularly published with MA students in Sociology in peer-reviewed journals.

Existing Personnel

Jim Rice

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-3
5165, 5335, 5337, 5460, 5510, 5515

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

5165, 5335, 5337, 5460, 5510, 5515 crosslisted with the MA in Sociology

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Sociology, Washington State University.

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

My research efforts always inform and contribute to what I present in class. I have taught all of the courses at least once per year and those courses are all in my active research/area of expertise.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

Environmental sociology. In particular, examination of the ways that power and environmental issues intertwine such that some in society disproportionately confront the pollution and contamination of our modern, industrialized way of life.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

Over time, I have served as the chair of a number of MA theses or served as a committee member. Further, I have served as a Dean's rep on numerous occasions for students working on a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation outside the Department of Sociology.

Existing Personnel

Stephanie M. Arnett

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-3
5110, 5153, 5415, 5555

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

5110, 5153, 5415, 5555 crosslisted with the MA in Sociology

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Sociology, University of Notre Dame.

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

I have taught all of the courses at least once per year and those courses are all in my active research/area of expertise.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

My research focuses on the sociology of education, race and ethnicity, and social stratification. Specifically, much of my work focuses on (a) STEM inequalities in higher education and (b) international comparisons, especially in the Latin American region.

My work on STEM inequalities in higher education aims to identify and understand factors that have contributed to successful educational and occupational journeys of minoritized students in New Mexico (and beyond) using a mixed methods approach. My cross-national research examines how family socioeconomic status, school factors, and the structural characteristics of nations interact in order to produce education stratification, and identifying specific contexts that weaken the relationship between social class and academic outcomes. I have helped bring in \$2.5 million in external research funds to NMSU

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I have chaired three MA theses at NMSU, and have served as the second reader on four additional MA thesis committees. In my role as Senior Personnel on the last (five year) phase of the New Mexico Alliance For Minority Participation (NM-AMP) grant, I also supervised twelve NMSU graduate students in conducting research while they worked as graduate Research Assistants. I will continue to engage students in research in my role as co-PI of the recently awarded

Existing Personnel

Sandra Way

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-3

5110, 5163, 5270, 5555

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

5110, 5163, 5270, 5555 crosslisted with the MA in Sociology

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Sociology, The University of Arizona.

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Director of Graduate Studies for the Sociology MA graduate program (2005-2008, 2014-2019). Faculty Fellow working with the Associated Dean of Academic Affairs for the College of Arts and Sciences (2016-2017). NMSU Graduate Faculty 2004-2024. I have taught all of the courses at least once per year and those courses are all in my active research/area of expertise.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

My scholarship focuses on the effects of school organization and climate on students' behavioral and achievement outcomes. As the Co-PI on two NSF grants, I lead a mixed methods study to examine how college experiences shape scientific identity development and STEM educational outcomes for women and underrepresented minority students.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

During the last 20 years, I have served on several graduate committees across the University. This includes serving as the primary research advisor (committee chair) on multiple sociology master's thesis committees and serving as a master's thesis committee member for students in other departments including, communication, criminal justice, geography and government.

I have also served on several PhD dissertation committees for students in departments across NMSU including Chemical Engineering, Marketing, Economics, Psychology, Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Leadership and Administration, Nursing and Counseling Psychology.

I have also supervised several research assistants, both undergraduate and graduate students, funded through 2 NSF grants."

Existing Personnel

Melissa Guynn

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2(fall) & 2(spring) but increasing to 2(fall) and 3(spring) next academic year
PSYC 508, PSYC 531 (occasionally)

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Psychology, University of New Mexico.

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

I supervise undergraduate students' research, serve on our departmental undergraduate curriculum committee, and advise our undergraduate Psychology Club and Psi Chi (international honor society for psychology).

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

I conduct research on human memory. One line of research concerns retrospective memory, or memory for information learned in the past. Another line of research concerns prospective memory, or remembering on one's own (i.e., without an explicit prompt) to perform intended actions.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I conduct research on human memory. One line of research concerns retrospective memory, or memory for information learned in the past. Another line of research concerns prospective memory, or remembering on one's own (i.e., without an explicit prompt) to perform intended actions.

Existing Personnel

Dominic Simon

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-2

PSYC 507, PSYC 508, PSYC 520

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Psychology, University of California, Los Angeles.

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Former Psychology Dept Head

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

What manipulations (schedules & processes) during learning episodes lead to enhanced retention of information.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

Advisor to multiple MA and PhD students. Regular member (inside and outside) of other faculty members' graduate student MA & PhD committees.

Existing Personnel

Huiping Cao

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-2

CS 502, CS 508, CS 519

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Computer Science, The University of Hong Kong.

This faculty member's expertise is on computational science. They categorized as a Computational Scientist (CS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Data analytics program coordinator

ABET assessment committee chair

Department representative working with NMSU Global

From Fall 2024, I may chair the UG committee at the CS department

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

Dr. Cao's research interests are in the general areas of data mining, big data, and applied machine learning. In particular, she is interested in creating effective and efficient computational methodologies for the discovery of useful knowledge from complex data (e.g., sequences and graphs) through pre-defined mining requests or ad-hoc queries. Her work has been sponsored by multiple NSF and DoD awards. She has published more than 50 peer-reviewed research articles in highly competitive venues. Dr. Cao served as Associate Information Director for SIGMOD, a flagship conference in data management, as reviewer for peer-reviewed journals, and as (senior) program committee member for many international conferences.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I have graduated 4 PhD students and more than a dozen master's students. I am advising 5 PhD students and 2 master's students.

Existing Personnel

Christabel Wayllace

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-2
CS 505 Artificial Intelligence I, CS 575 Artificial Intelligence II

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Computer Science, Washington University in St. Louis

This faculty member's expertise is on computational social science. They categorized as a Computational Social Scientist (CSS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

In addition to delivering lectures and guiding students through course materials, I 1) Refined and updated course content to reflect advancements in AI research and industry trends. 2) Provided guidance and mentorship to students interested in undertaking AI research projects. 3) Identified students with problems understanding the concepts and gave them one-to-one sessions in addition to the regular office hours. 4) Organized the first Women in CS gathering for students, faculty, and staff in the department and plan to do it once per semester.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

"The objective of my research lies in studying the influence of human-agent-environment interaction and understanding how this interaction can benefit both humans and AI agents. Currently, I am interested in leveraging intelligent tutor systems, reinforced by reinforcement learning and goal recognition techniques, to enhance agents' interventions or modify environments for the optimal well-being of individuals across various contexts.

I have published papers in conferences such as AAAI, IJCAI, ECAI, and AIED. These publications result from collaborative efforts with researchers from institutions in the United States, Canada, and Israel."

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

"I have gained experience directing and advising student research at various levels throughout my academic journey. During my doctoral studies, I mentored several undergraduate students and co-mentored two PhD students, guiding them through research projects and providing mentorship tailored to their individual needs and aspirations. As a new faculty member, I am continuing the tradition of mentorship. At present, I am actively guiding a diverse group of students, including two undergraduate students, one Master's student, and one PhD student. Over the summer, I will mentor an additional undergraduate student. Moreover, in the upcoming fall semester, I will mentor two more Master's students."

Existing Personnel

Christopher Brown

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

3-2
Geog 585, Spatial Analysis and Modeling

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Geography, San Diego State University.

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

I was co-lead on a new online MS Program in GIS&T that is in the final stages of review with the NM Board of Finance. If we receive approval, I will be the program coordinator.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

Christopher Brown is a Professor in the NMSU Department of Geography and Environmental Studies and was named the Inaugural Faculty Fellow for the Beyond Borders Community of Practice (Beyond Borders) in August of 2020. Brown became interested in U.S.-Mexico border issues while doing his Ph.D. research in the 1990s, and his research agenda is to explore binational water resource issues on the U.S.-Mexico border. In the last 10 years, Brown has expanded his regional focus to include the US-Canada border region. Of special interest to the proposed program, Brown worked with graduate students in the department to develop metrics by which the quality of life of U.S.-Mexico border residents can be measured, specifically developing a human development index for Doña Ana County. In work related to his Beyond Borders efforts, Brown also serves on the Advisory Committee of the NMSU Center for Latin America and Border Studies (CLABS). Past leadership experience also includes providing leadership to the Good Neighbor Environment Board, the Association of Borderland Studies, the Western Social Science Association, and the Ocotillo Institute for Social Justice.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I have advised MS students in our department for the last 25 years, MS and PhD students in the Water Science and Management program for the last 15 years, and PhD students in the New Mexico Doctorate Program in Geography for the last 5 years.

Existing Personnel

Chao Fan

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

3-2

GEOG 598 Programming for GIS

GEOG 578 Fundamentals of Geographic Information Science

GEOG 585 Spatial Analysis and Modeling"

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Geography, Arizona State University

This faculty member's expertise is on computational social science. They categorized as a Computational Social Scientist (CSS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

N/A

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

Dr. Chao Fan is a broadly trained researcher and educator in Geographic Information Science and Technology (GIS&T). Her research focuses on the development and application of geospatial tools to address urban and environmental problems such as climate change, urbanization, urban heat island, urban greening, and land cover land use change. She has worked on research funded by the National Science Foundation, US Department of Agriculture, and US Department of Energy. Her research outcome is published in prominent outlets such as Landscape and Urban Planning, Global Change Biology, and Annuals of the Association of American Geographers.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

Dr. Chao Fan was the academic advisor of one PhD student, who graduated in the summer of 2023. She served/is serving on the thesis committee of two PhD students and two master's students. Additionally, she was an external thesis examiner of a PhD student, who graduated in Fall 2019.

Existing Personnel

Michaela Buenemann

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-3

GEOG 571 Cartography & GIS, GEOG 585 Spatial Analysis and Modeling

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Geography, University of Oklahoma

This faculty member's expertise is on computational social science. They categorized as a Computational Social Scientist (CSS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Graduate program director, Academic department head

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

I study the dynamics of integrated human-environmental systems through mixed-methods research that combines remote sensing, geographic information systems, spatial modeling, and quantitative and qualitative field work. Keywords include remote sensing, GIS, spatial analysis and modeling, human-environment geography, land system science, landscape ecology, landscape epidemiology, drylands.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

Chair on 18 master's and 4 doctoral committees; member on 38 master's and 13 doctoral committees.

Existing Personnel

Shiva Darian

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-2

CS 515 Human-Centered Computing,

I assume I will be teaching some of the following courses as well: Python Programming I (1), R Programming I (1), Database Management Systems I

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Information Science, University of Colorado-Boulder

This faculty member's expertise is on computational social science. They categorized as a Computational Social Scientist (CSS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

N/A

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

I research how nonprofit organizations and their clients as end users of technology. I study how they interact with and understand sociotechnical systems, particularly in the context of advocacy. My research areas are Human-Centered Computing and Informatics, and I use many methods from computational social science in my work.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

N/A, I am incoming faculty in CS.

Existing Personnel

Tuan Le

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-2
CS 508, CS 519

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Computing and Information Systems, Singapore Management University

This faculty member's expertise is on computational science. They categorized as a Computational Scientist (CS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Data Analytics Program Coordinator

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

Dr. Tuan Le is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science at NMSU. Dr. Le's research interests are in data mining and machine learning, with a focus on text mining, visualization, and natural language processing. Dr. Le's research has been published at top conferences and journals and one of them achieved an honorable mention for the outstanding paper award at AAAI 2014. He has served as a program committee member for several prestigious conferences. He has also served on several NSF proposal panels since 2020.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

Dr. Le has been advising 3 Ph.D. students and working with several master's students.

Existing Personnel

Rebecca Palacios

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-2
PHLS 5110, PHLS 5660

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Health Psychology, University of Texas, El Paso

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

U.S. Mexico Border Health Minor in PHS, Coordinator
Health Equity Sciences PhD Program Coordinator

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

Cancer Survivorship, cultural adaptations of evidence based programs

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

Health Equity Sciences PhD Program Coordinator
Research Assistant, Thesis, PhD mentor

Existing Personnel

Karen Kopera-Frye

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-3
PHLS 5670 American Indian Health, PHLS 5640 Rural Health Issues. I also teach in our graduate minor in Gerontology, some of those classes may be added to the list of electives, e.g., Adult Development and Aging

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology, Wayne State University

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Undergrad coordinator of Bachelors in Public Health Program, Elected member of Faculty Senatel have Leadership Committee

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

My research focuses on health inequity among special populations. That is, health behavior and health promotion particularly among Indigenous and Latinx families. I have over 30 years grantsmanship experience. I have a background in gerontology so also some of the gerontology courses in our graduate minor may also count towards this degree, e.g. Adult Development and Aging.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I have mentored graduate students in teaching and research since 1995. I trained grad students to teach Intro to Psychology (my degrees are in Psychology and Public Administration) at Univ. of Akron. Chaired many dissertations in the Applied Cognitive Aging doctoral program there; my mentees going on to work at Centers for Disease Control. I have supervised undergrad to postdoc level at the University of Washington. I will be supervising doc students here in our Health Equity doctoral program in Public Health. In sum, I have extensive experience supervising undergraduate and graduate research.

Existing Personnel

Isabel Latz

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-3
PHLS 5160 Public Health Policy Analysis

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, University of Texas, El Paso

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Retrieving data. Wait a few seconds and try to cut or copy again.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

I am currently a college-track professor but in the past, I focused on associations between social policies and health outcomes, immigration policies and mental health outcomes among Hispanics, and political determinants of health.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I have not served as an advisor in my current role at NMSU yet

Existing Personnel

Dejan Magoc

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-2
PHLS 5110

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, University of Texas, El Paso

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

N/A

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

My main area of research focuses on how we can help people, particularly youth, to be more physically active and eat a healthy diet with a goal to prevent overweight, obesity, and related diseases. To address the prevalence of obesity and related diseases, I have developed several multi-component community-based healthy kids research projects that address the current issues in local schools as part of the afterschool programs. More specifically, the programs tend to integrate lessons and activities designed to help kids incorporate changes into their lives to enhance their health and wellness by encouraging participation in physical activity, healthy diet (e.g., fruits and vegetable intake), and quality of sleep.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

Since I joined NMSU, I have trained, mentored, and supervised 8 students (both graduate and undergraduate). I am currently the thesis committee chair for one of our MPH students.

Existing Personnel

Elizabeth S. England-Kennedy

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-2
SOC1 5157 and 5158, SOC1 5270, SOC1 5337, and PHLS 5110, 5620, 5640, and 5660

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

N/A

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in Medical Anthropology, The University of Arizona

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Community Health Major Coordinator (RIC), Department Liaison Writing in the Disciplines Program (RIC), School Nurse Teacher Certification Program Administrator (RI), Academic Support/Disability Support Services Director (Antioch College)

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

Focus on marginalized populations and health equity. One Health and Culture of Health approaches. Homelessness, behavioral health, TB (especially in dairies), mosquito abatement, vector-borne infectious disease and the overlaps between these. Mixed methods approach with an emphasis on qualitative and visual.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

4 papers with students, 5 additional in progress. 1 thesis (current), supervise 1 PhD student (in progress), 1 DNP student (completed). 6 poster presentations with students, 1 conference presentation with student. Currently leading a team of students in developing community workshops, overseeing project on resource development for County Extension Agents.

Existing Personnel

Becky Pearson

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

1-1
HESC 6250 and possibly others

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

PHLS 1110H (Personal Health) for the Honors college, prepared to teach most other courses

Description of academic qualifications

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Doctorate in Health Sciences from University of Arkansas, MPH from NMSU, 15 years as a full-time faculty member in an undergraduate PH program; skilled at student voice focused assessment and instructional evaluation, learning-centered approaches, including innovative practices around grading and student inclusion

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

15 years as a teaching-focused faculty member with an interest in program design and evaluation and successful record of community-engaged, IRB-approved, course-based projects at the undergraduate level (that would be relevant for/easily translate to PhD level projects)

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

social/structural determinants and social norms emphasis, with particular interest in food- and nutrition-related justice/sovereignty, community capacity, and development of organizational/volunteer competence surrounding structurally focused initiatives; increasing focus on SOTL and faculty development-related scholarship

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

have chaired/directed theses at the Honors undergraduate level, as well as MPH level; have facilitated course-based projects as described above, with resulting subsets of students successfully pursuing campus and conference presentations as well as publication

Existing Personnel

Carol Flinchbaugh

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

1-1
MGMT 650 and MGMT 503

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

I also teach MGMT 645, Seminar in Human Resource Management, another required seminar for our Management PhD Program.

Description of academic qualifications

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

I received my PhD in Organizational Behavior at the University of Kansas. Currently, I am a Professor of Management and Interim Department Head. Before moving in the Department Head role in April 2024, I spent two years and six months as the interim Associate Dean at the NMSU Graduate School. I currently at the President of the Western Academy of Management (WAM), a regional affiliate of the International Academy of Management (AOM).

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

I have been the instructor of record for the following courses:

§ MGT 503 – Organizational Behavior and Management Processes (NMSU)

§ Fall 2015, Spring 2016*, Summer 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017*, Summer 2017*, Spring 2018*, Spring 2019*

§ MGT 650 – Doctoral Seminar in Organizational Behavior (NMSU)

§ Spring 2020*

§ MGT 645 – Doctoral Seminar in Human Resource Management (NMSU)

§ Spring 2017, Spring 2024

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

During my time at NMSU, 50% of my allocation of effort has been allotted to Scholarship and Creative activity, emphasizing Boyer's "scholarship of discovery." My research stream employs an interactionist perspective examining contextual and personal influences on employee well-being, stress, and performance. Specific contextual variables of interest include HR practices and procedures, leadership, non-standard work arrangements, and the impact of HR systems on employee experiences.

I have published 24 articles in peer-reviewed academic journals, 14 of which former NMSU doctoral students were co-authors. The quality of my research is reflected by nine (9) A-level publications (1 is an A+) as ranked by the ABCD list, and I am the first author on two of the A journals. The CoB uses the ABCD journal ranking list for journal quality. 22 publications are included in peer-reviewed journals that are part of the ABDC journal list. The other two are American Psychological Association publications; one journal is ranked 13/80 in applied psychology journal rankings. My research has been cited 920 times.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

My secondary emphasis in the scholarship of discovery is consistent with the department's granting Ph.D. program. I am passionate about teaching students about the design and ethical aspects of research and helping them develop as scholars. Aligned with this, I have chaired seven (7) Ph.D. students' dissertation committees (one in progress) and worked on scholarly research projects with 18 different current or former NMSU Ph.D. students. All 6 out of 7 of my advisees have secured tenure-track faculty roles at AACSB accredited universities, including the University of San Diego, Indiana State University, University of Northern Colorado, and schools in the University of Texas and University of California State Systems. The other student is currently at NMSU in a visiting professor role due to her partner's faculty position at NMSU.

Existing Personnel

Charlotte Gard

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

2-2

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

I teach courses in the following programs: Master of Science in Applied Statistics (A ST 554, A ST 555, A ST 598), Master of Business Administration (A ST 512), and Master of Data Analytics (A ST 511, A ST 555, A ST 598). Beginning in Fall 2024, I will teach courses in the Ph.D. in Applied Statistics program (A ST 665, A ST 700).

Description of academic qualifications

I am an Associate Professor in Applied Statistics and Stan Fulton Chair in Business, currently finishing my twelfth year at New Mexico State University (NMSU). As a collaborative biostatistician, I work with researchers internal and external to NMSU on projects related to breast cancer risk prediction, mammographic breast density, and maternal and child health. I currently have 51 peer-reviewed publications, which have gathered over 1900 citations (h-index = 22, i-10 index = 27, <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=OmmtQW0AAAAJ&hl=en>). I have been continuously funded via one or more National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding mechanisms since September 2018 with a total level of effort ranging from 12.5 to 35%. I have twice been recognized for my high-quality teaching, winning NMSU's Patricia Christmore Faculty Teaching Award in 2014 and the Donald C. Roush Award for Teaching Excellence in 2019. In the past twelve years, I have supported numerous student research endeavors, having directed (or, in one case, co-directed) the research of 14 graduate students of applied statistics and six graduate students of data analytics and served on more than 80 graduate committees. I co-led in the development of a proposal for a Ph.D. in Applied Statistics degree, which was approved by the New Mexico Board of Finance in May 2022.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Director of Ph.D. in Applied Statistics Program, which launches in Fall 2024.

This faculty member's expertise is on computational social science. They categorized as a Computational Social Scientist (CSS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

I am an Associate Professor in Applied Statistics and Stan Fulton Chair in Business, currently finishing my twelfth year at New Mexico State University (NMSU). As a collaborative biostatistician, I work with researchers internal and external to NMSU on projects related to breast cancer risk prediction, mammographic breast density, and maternal and child health. I currently have 51 peer-reviewed publications, which have gathered over 1900 citations (h-index = 22, i-10 index = 27, <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=OmmtQW0AAAAJ&hl=en>). I have been continuously funded via one or more National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding mechanisms since September 2018 with a total level of effort ranging from 12.5 to 35%. I have twice been recognized for my high-quality teaching, winning NMSU's Patricia Christmore Faculty Teaching Award in 2014 and the Donald C. Roush Award for Teaching Excellence in 2019. In the past twelve years, I have supported numerous student research endeavors, having directed (or, in one case, co-directed) the research of 14 graduate students of applied statistics and six graduate students of data analytics and served on more than 80 graduate committees. I co-led in the development of a proposal for a Ph.D. in Applied Statistics degree, which was approved by the New Mexico Board of Finance in May 2022.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I am an Associate Professor in Applied Statistics and Stan Fulton Chair in Business, currently finishing my twelfth year at New Mexico State University (NMSU). As a collaborative biostatistician, I work with researchers internal and external to NMSU on projects related to breast cancer risk prediction, mammographic breast density, and maternal and child health. I currently have 51 peer-reviewed publications, which have gathered over 1900 citations (h-index = 22, i-10 index = 27, <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=OmmtQW0AAAAJ&hl=en>). I have been continuously funded via one or more National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding mechanisms since September 2018 with a total level of effort ranging from 12.5 to 35%. I have twice been recognized for my high-quality teaching, winning NMSU's Patricia Christmore Faculty Teaching Award in 2014 and the Donald C. Roush Award for Teaching Excellence in 2019. In the past twelve years, I have supported numerous student research endeavors, having directed (or, in one case, co-directed) the research of 14 graduate students of applied statistics and six graduate students of data analytics and served on more than 80 graduate committees. I co-led in the development of a proposal for a Ph.D. in Applied Statistics degree, which was approved by the New Mexico Board of Finance in May 2022.

Existing Personnel

James Bishop

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

3-2

MGMT 660

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

n/a

Description of academic qualifications

Ph.D. in business management, Ph.D. minor in statistics

This faculty member's expertise is on social science. They categorized as a Social Scientist (SS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

N/A

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

Research focuses on employee attachment (commitment) 124 journal articles/book chapters (including 32 with doctoral students).

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

Served on 18 doctoral dissertation committees.

Existing Personnel

Toni Rouhana

FTE

1.0

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

Currently 2-2 (2-3 baseline)

SOCI 5150, SOCI 5153, SOCI 5155, SOCI 5160, SOCI 5163

Description of academic qualifications

PhD. in Sociology from University of California, Santa Cruz

MA in Computer Engineering from Antonin University, Zahle, Lebanon

This faculty member's expertise is on computational social science. They categorized as a Computational Social Scientist (CSS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

I have taught courses in statistical methods, GIS, Methods, Programming, Scripting for the Web, PHP, Social Theory, and Social Movements, among others.

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

My interdisciplinary research agenda explores the weaponization of collective identities in the Middle East. Using the tools of decolonial studies, contentious politics, civil war studies, sectarianism studies, and media studies, I center the everyday negotiations of the meaning-making of these identities to highlight their relational dynamic nature, which affects and is affected by conflict dynamics and processes.

I have developed innovative methods in computational social science, which I call ethnographically informed machine learning. I use supervised and unsupervised machine learning techniques in combination with decolonial ethnographic approaches to give context and a nuanced understanding of the weaponization of collective identities online and their embodiment offline.

I have published several peer-reviewed articles and co-authored a book on these subjects.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

In my current position at the University of York, I have provided feedback to both Masters and Doctoral students.

Existing Personnel

Michael Hout

FTE

1

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

0

Description of academic qualifications

I received a bachelor's of psychology (with a minor in neuroscience) from the University of Pittsburgh. I also received a master's and PhD in cognitive psychology from Arizona State University.

This faculty member's expertise is on computational social science. They categorized as a Computational Social Scientist (CSS) for the purposes of this PhD program.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

I was a faculty member in Psychology from 2013 - 2024. I am currently the Associate Dean of Research at the College of HEST

For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

My research interests fall under the broad heading of visual cognition, including research into visual attention and memory, and computational models of both. My other research interests include (but are not limited to): development of alternative methods for collecting similarity data (e.g., for use in multidimensional scaling models), similarity as a psychological construct, and the development of new methodologies, research tools (e.g., software, databases), and tutorials. My primary work focuses on memory and attention, with an emphasis on human visual processing. In my research, I employ converging techniques; specifically, I combine standard behavioral measurements (e.g., reaction time, similarity ratings) with more sensitive experimental techniques (e.g., eyetracking, tDCS), physiological indexes (e.g., pupillometry, heart rate), advanced statistical procedures (e.g., multidimensional scaling), virtual reality, and computational modeling. My immediate goals involve conducting theory-driven experiments that investigate decision-making in visual search, with the long-term aim of establishing computational models of the underlying cognitive processes. This theoretical aim is coupled with more applied goals, in particular learning how to alleviate problems that plague professional visual searchers, such as medical and security screeners, and search and rescue personnel.

For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

I am the Director of the Discovery Scholars Program (and was Associate Director for many years). I was the Graduate Program Director in Psychology. I have had many master's students and PhD student in my lab, in addition to undergraduates enrolled in Discovery Scholars, Honors thesis capstones, and other programs.

Documentation of department faculty support

Sociology Department Letter of Support_CSS.pdf

Gray Associates Data

Grays Data CSS PhD.pdf

NM Higher Education Department**Describe your institution's plan for periodic evaluation of program effectiveness. Include criteria that will be used to determine effectiveness.**

The Computational Social Science (CSS) Ph.D. program will be administratively housed in the New Mexico State University ("NMSU") Department of Sociology with affiliated faculty in Computer Science, Psychology, Geography and Environmental Studies, Management, Public Health Sciences, and Applied Statistics. The program will have an executive committee composed of at least one faculty member in each of the participating departments who will have five core responsibilities: (1) managing admissions, (2) reviewing and evaluating the qualifying examinations, (3) making any necessary curricular revisions, (4) fielding student grievances/concerns, and (5) devising and implementing program assessment plans for annual departmental reviews and institutional accreditation purposes for the NMSU Office of Assessment. The executive committee will also take on ad-hoc duties, such as assisting participating departments with incorporating the CSS program into strategic planning documents.

Criteria for assessing program effectiveness will be similar to those for other Ph.D. degrees at NMSU: namely, post-graduation placements, research products, credit hour production, retention rates, graduation rates, and post-graduation earnings potential (evaluated using Gray Associates data with the program CIP code), among others.

The proposed program must meet one or more specified needs within the state or region. Clear and convincing evidence must be provided of the reality and extent of such need.

Data show that New Mexico institution graduates are leaving New Mexico for work, and recent graduates are not coming to New Mexico (Handshake Insights n.d.). Contextualizing these education-work pipeline trends within conversations on the incoming "demographic cliff" in New Mexico, and it is clear that New Mexico institutions of higher education need to focus on new

programming that can simultaneously entice students to come to school in the state and position them to get high-quality work in the state.

Data science is one such path forward because of national labor market trends, funding trends among federal agencies, and opportunities for state workforce development. First, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics expects data science (of which CSS is a subdiscipline) to grow more than almost any other career between now and 2029 (Davenport and Patil 2022).

Second, NMSU's growing expertise in data science aligns with many federal agency priorities. The National Science Foundation, for example, recognizes the demand for data science training and has poured considerable funds and resources into supporting the development of data science infrastructure at universities for workforce development.

Finally, state policymakers and job producers have recognized the importance of emerging data science and artificial intelligence in New Mexico's workforce development. Senators Martin Heinrich and Ben Ray Luján successfully appropriated \$750,000 from the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education for fiscal year 2022 to fund an artificial intelligence educational pipeline initiative from elementary and secondary education through postsecondary education that will better equip schools to position their students for high-demand in-state careers. Many of New Mexico's national labs also boast artificial intelligence, machine learning, and other data science-related work among their institutional strengths and/or priority areas, including in social science-related areas—Sandia National Labs, for example, does relevant work in their Applied Information Sciences program. Further, New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions Employment Projections data (NMDWS) suggest that the information, healthcare and social assistance, accommodation, and professional/scientific/technical services industries are each expected to see some of the largest percent growths in employment between 2020 and 2030 in the state. Each of these industries employs data scientists/computational social scientists. For example, a computational social scientist may work for an analytics-oriented healthcare company like Cardinal Health to oversee the development and implementation of new “practice analytics” platforms that help medical professionals operate more robust local practices in the state.

The return on investment for CSS graduates is considerable. The median annual salary for data scientists with 1-3 years of experience to be \$160,994 as of April 2024 (Glassdoor). The 2022 median household income in 2022 in NM is \$59,726 (ACS 2022)—62.9% lower than the median annual total salary for a data scientist with 1-3 years of work experience. The NM-specific data science estimate is also significantly higher than the median household income in NM. According to ZipRecruiter, the average salary for a data scientist in Las Cruces is \$121,418—106% greater than the NM median household income.

*References available upon request.

If the program fills a regional workforce need, describe collaboration between your institution and regional employers in the program development.

Dr. Marshall Taylor began developing the proposed program after researching the non-academic workforce and earnings potential for social science programs that explicitly commit to computational training. The need for the program was further cemented after a meeting with Sandia representatives showed that there is interest in graduates with this type of training at national labs in New Mexico.

The program has received strong support from regional employers, as shown in our letters of support from Sandia Labs and Electronic Caregiver. As Sandia's letter notes:

“[T]he effort closely aligns with our support of DOE's strategic initiatives in data science and its application. Sandia Labs believes collaborating with New Mexico State University in this effort through its DOE-funded research will enhance CSS training in New Mexico and provide an opportunity to attract both in-state and out-of-state students to the state for their education, also providing them with a skillset that translates to quality, high-paying in-state jobs with great upward career mobility. The program that's being proposed by this NMSU group is uniquely positioned to address critical state needs: brain drains, demographic cliffs, and increasing workforce needs.”

Electronic Caregiver draws particular attention to the role that CSS graduates can play in the healthcare industry—a priority issue area for both Senators Heinrich and Ray Luján as well as a component of Governor Lujan Grisham's 2024 legislative priorities. As they note in their letter:

“The CSS program's emphasis on comprehensive training in both theoretical and practical aspects of data science—particularly in healthcare analytics—aligns with ECG's strategic employee need and our mission to deliver an AI-everywhere healthcare experience via technology and analytics. ... ECG is confident this Ph.D. program being established at NMSU will not only address critical workforce needs for ECG, but it will also contribute to helping mitigate brain drain and demographic challenges faced by New Mexico businesses.”

As these letters show, CSS graduates will make meaningful contributions to New Mexico's workforce and community thriving.

Identify where similar degree programs are offered by other public higher education institutions in New Mexico.

New Mexico has no Ph.D. in Computational Social Science—or anything similar (e.g., Data Science). Currently, NMSU offers a masters degree in Data Analytics, and UNM offers a specialization or post-degree certificate in Data Science through their Center for Advanced Research Computing (CARC). It is projected that the NMSU Data Analytics masters program will be a major feeder program into

the CSS Ph.D., based on sentiments gathered from data analytics program cohort members, which are the marked rise in sociology graduate minors from the data analytics program. The CSS Ph.D. program will also appeal to New Mexico students who might otherwise apply to traditional social science Ph.D. programs but who also want training in machine learning, artificial intelligence, and other technologies that can lend themselves to better job placement outside of academia.

The closest regional parallels to the proposed CSS Ph.D. program are the Data Science Ph.D. at The University of Texas at El Paso (“UTEP”) and the Ph.D. in Statistics and Data Science at The University of Arizona (“U of A”). Neither of these programs offers training in social science or integrating data science with social science. Further, the UTEP program is housed in their Department of Mathematical Sciences and has fairly high admissions requirements: namely, calculus I, II, and III; matrix algebra, and statistical inference, among others. The U of A has similar minimum admissions requirements, including three semesters of calculus and linear algebra. The end result of these barriers to entry is that students from non-mathematics backgrounds are either discouraged from applying to these programs or given low odds of admission without first fulfilling remedial coursework. These barriers for social science students entering the data science world are a significant detriment to local, regional, and national workforce development, given the proliferation of computational social science career opportunities at technology firms (e.g., Microsoft, Snapchat, Meta, Google), research think-tanks (e.g., Pew and NORC), and at New Mexico labs and research institutes interested in people analytics (e.g., Cardinal Health, Presbyterian Healthcare Services, and Jornada Experimental Range) shows that students from non-mathematics backgrounds can nonetheless learn data science and use them to make meaningful community impacts. The NMSU Data Analytics masters program has similarly low (to non-existent) mathematics entry requirements as the CSS program, and it has fared very well in terms of growing enrollment since its first cohort in 2019.

The growing national interest in CSS has manifested most clearly in the form of graduate-level specializations, minors, and certificates. For example, the University of California San Diego offers a Ph.D. specialization in CSS to complement its social science Ph.D. programs, and the University of California Davis provides a “designated emphasis” in CSS for students in select “traditional” Ph.D. programs. Northeastern University offers a graduate minor in CSS. The University of Massachusetts offers a master’s in Data Analytics and Computational Social Science (DACSS) but no Ph.D. program.

George Mason University offers a Ph.D. in CSS, and Carnegie Mellon University provides a similar Ph.D. in programming (in “Societal Computing”). However, these schools’ East Coast locations pose little competition. NMSU, then, stands to be the western anchor for CSS programming.

If similar programs are offered at other public higher education institutions in New Mexico, provide a rationale for offering an additional program.

There are no comparable programs in the state of New Mexico. This is a unique program that will put New Mexico State University at the forefront of innovation that would fulfill the workforce needs of the State and beyond.

Enrollment and Graduation Projections

Student Type	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
New Students	5	0	5	0	5
Continuing Students	0	5	5	5	5
Graduates	0	0	0	5	5

Annual Retention Rate Target (%)

100

Target 100% Graduation Rate (%)

100

Target Job Placement Rate (%)

100

Describe the faculty resources that are needed to initiate the program. Will any additional faculty be needed?

In addition to the faculty resources outlined in the proposal, we would also like to illustrate the institutional commitments of graduate assistant funding which will offset the costs of delivering this program, support the students who the program admits, and increase faculty-graduate student engagement in the department. These institutional commitments are in place and have been assigned to the Department of Sociology as the administrative home of the program. Part of these commitments include six 0.5 FTE graduate assistantships that will be devoted to the CSS program. The CSS PhD program faculty and administrative home will also remain acutely aware of any and all future graduate assistant funding opportunities and calls for nominations that may come from Graduate School or other sources both internal and external. The Department of Sociology has a strong recent track record of receiving external federal grants that fund research assistants (RAs). As of the 2025-2026 academic year, the Sociology faculty will be responsible for at least 6 RAs funded through external grants, each with full tuition coverage and health insurance. Dr. Marshall Taylor, for example, funds one 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #2247689, one 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #2308358, and, along with Dr. Heather Harper, funds another two 0.5 FTE RAs through NSF award #2346727. Dr. Sandra Way funds one 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #1953466, and Dr. Stephanie Arnett funds another 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #2408898. Finally, Dr. Harper has another award with the Department of Energy that includes funds for two more GAships. Altogether, the Department of Sociology alone can

contribute enough GAships through externally sponsored projects to cover the equivalent of more than another full cohort. We fully anticipate the Sociology faculty will continue to secure external GA funds.

The Department of Sociology hired a new tenure-track assistant professor of Sociology with expertise in computational methods that started in Fall 2025. This new faculty member is part of this PhD program and adds to our already large Departmental contingent of faculty that have computational methods expertise. We anticipate this new faculty member will contribute to securing external GA funds, as they have an excellent track of grant funding. These commitments are currently in place and the CSS PhD program requires NO additional expenses at this time for the initial cohort of the CSS PhD program. Currently the AI Institute is conducting a tenure-track assistant professor faculty cluster search. Three positions are being advertised and Sociology is one of the areas that is highlighted in the advertising. If one of these positions ends up being a Sociology faculty, this will further strengthen our faculty resources. And even if one of these positions is NOT in Sociology, the faculty in these three positions will be likely to become part of the CSS PhD program, given their expertise. So, that will add a significant amount of faculty to our program in excess of what is needed. The CSS Ph.D. program is designed to leverage pre-existing courses at NMSU.

Describe the library and other academic support resources that are needed to initiate the program. What, if any, additional resources will be needed?

No additional resources are needed to initiate the program.

The NMSU Library System maintains R1-level access to electronic and physical resources for social and computational research, including access to the top peer-reviewed journals in those fields. When publications are unavailable, the Library's Information Delivery Services offers fast and efficient interlibrary loans. The Library also maintains several special collections—e.g., the Political Papers Collections, Western Women Collection, and New Mexico Fiction Collection, among many others—that can be of significant use for student dissertation projects.

Describe the physical facilities of the institution that will be used for the first five years of the program. Will additional space or modifications of existing space be required within the first five years of program operation.

The CSS Ph.D. program will be administratively housed in the NMSU Department of Sociology, which is on the second floor of Science Hall on the NMSU main campus. The program will use existing facilities and resources on campus. The only facilities requested are an expansion of offices for the Department of Sociology, which is currently at capacity (i.e., there are no unused faculty offices). We therefore request additional office space in Science Hall—two for new faculty and one or two for Ph.D. graduate assistants.

NMSU is well positioned in terms of existing facilities and resources to support the CSS Ph.D. program. NMSU facilities and resources that this program will leverage include but are not limited to:

Institute for Applied Practice in AI and Machine Learning
 Data Science and Application Center
 Research Cores Program
 Discovery High Performance Computing Cluster
 Culture, Cognition, and Computation (C3) Lab
 Play & Interactive Experiences for Learning (PiXL) Lab
 Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD) Research Lab
 Knowledge Representation, Logic, and Advanced Programming (KLAP) Lab
 Networks and Systems Optimization Lab (NSOL)
 Programming Languages, Environments, and Software Engineering (PLEASE) Lab
 Center for Latin American and Border Studies
 Borderlands and Ethnic Studies Research Center
 Southwest and Border Cultures Institute
 Domenici Institute
 Southwest Institute for Health Disparities Research
 CALIBER Lab
 Vision Sciences and Memory Lab
 Spatial Applications Research Center
 Water Resources Research Institute
 NM-INBRE
 Addison Care Virtual and Augmented Reality Lab
 Center for Border Economic Development
 Center for Supply Chain Entrepreneurship
 Crimson Research and the Southwest Institute for Health Disparities Research
 Glass Family Research Institute for Early Childhood Studies
 Southwest Outreach Academic Research Evaluation and Policy Center
 STEM Outreach Center

Describe the institution's equipment and technological resources needed for the first five years of the program? What, if any, additional equipment will be needed?

A dedicated office for Ph.D. graduate assistants with a desk and computer workstation for each GA would be ideal. The following software would be ideal for those office workstations:

Open source (free):

R
Python
iTerm2
Cyberduck
RStudio
PyCharm
JupyterLab
VS Code
Tensor Flow
MySQL
Sequel Pro
TeXShop
OpenBLAS
Docker

Proprietary:

Stata
Qualtrics licenses

Describe any other operating resources needed to initiate the program.

No additional departmental resources are needed to initiate the CSS doctoral program.

Are there existing external facilities that will be used? Have agreements been established to ensure use of the those facilities?

Not Applicable

Provide a clear analysis of the projected cost of the proposed program and the sources of funding that will support it for the first five years that the program will be offered. Include a discussion how any of the needed resources discussed in your attachment. This should be completed in collaboration with your institution's financial office.

program_costs_first_5_years.xlsx
REVISED_program_costs_first_5_years.xlsx

Letters of Support

Sandia National Laboratories Support Letter_CSS.pdf
Geography and Environmental Sciences Support Letter.pdf
Department of Computer Science letter of Support_CSS.pdf
Psychology Department Support Letter_CSS.pdf
Public Health Sciences Department Support Letter_CSS.pdf
NMSU Graduate School Dean Letter of Support_CSS.pdf
NMSU Research Cores Program Letter of Support_CSS.pdf
NMSU Vice President for Research Letter of Support_CSS.pdf
Sociology Department Letter of Support_CSS.pdf
Dean of HEST Support Letter_CSS.pdf
Mangement Department Support Letter_CSS.pdf
ECG Letter of Support_CSS.pdf
LANL Letter of Support.pdf
Dona Ana Health and Human Services Support Letter_CSS.pdf
Emergence Health Network CSS PhD Letter of Support.pdf
Letter of support CSS_CCA.pdf
AI Institute_DeanPontelli_Letter of Support_CSS.pdf
Updated Dean of HEST Support Letter_CSS.pdf

Accreditation

Is the program seeking specialized accreditation?

No

Is specialized accreditation required for licensure or practice in the program?

No

Has the program already obtained the appropriate specialized accreditation? If so, attach a copy of the letter from the agency granting accreditation?

No

If the program has not yet obtained accreditation but has begun the process of seeking or plans to seek specialized accreditation, specify the name of the agency and provide the time-line for completing the process.

Not Applicable

If the program does not plan to seek specialized accreditation, provide a rationale for not-seeking accreditation here. (if there is not a specialized accrediting organization for this program, indicate so as your rationale).

Computational Social Science Ph.D. programs are interdisciplinary and, like virtually all other social science Ph.D. programs, do not have accrediting agencies.

If the program includes any of the following, explain how it will ensure that student work and levels of knowledge competencies achieved will be comparable to those achieved through traditional formats: (Award credit for prior learning; use of compressed time frames; use of on-line deliver; inclusion of accelerated formats; or other approaches to learning.)

Not Applicable

Will the program be part of a contractual or consortial arrangement (yes/no, explain)?

No

If the program is planning any involvement by external organizations (other than from accredited higher education institutions) in the key operations as identified below, provide the information as requested.

Type of Involvement	Name of External Organization	Percent of Involvement
Recruitment and admissions of students	N/A	0

Briefly describe the planning process for determining the need for this new program, including the role of faculty in the planning and approval process.

NMSU has been making concerted and strategic efforts to grow its data science (i.e., artificial intelligence and machine learning) capacity for some years now, as evidenced by the new Data Analytics masters program, the new Data Science and Application Center, and the identification of “AI and Machine Learning” as one of the core areas of institutional research strength by the Office of the Vice President for Research, Creativity, and Economic Development. Coinciding with these initiatives is the focus on growing Ph.D. programming and research expenditures in the social sciences, laid out in the university’s LEADS 2025 strategic plan. The combination of these two factors—growing data science and social science capacities—led faculty in the Department of Sociology to think about how the department might leverage the intersection of these two interdisciplinary fields (i.e., the emerging field of Computational Social Science). These conversations first manifested in hiring a tenure-track computational sociologist in the Fall 2019 and another in the all 2022. Since then, these faculty have helped grow the research expenditures in the department considerably.

Given the documented growth that the computational element brought to the department and the request for more interdisciplinary graduate programming from executive and college-level leadership, faculty began brainstorming a potential interdisciplinary Ph.D. in CSS in the 2022 school year. Since that time, the College of HEST Dean’s Office has put its full support behind the proposal under the guidance of Dr. Phillip Post, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs.

To assess interest in other departments—including the affiliated departments listed in this proposal (Computer Science, Psychology, Geography and Environmental Studies, Management, and Public Health Sciences)—the program development team led by Drs. Marshall Taylor and David Ortiz fielded a survey with prospective affiliate faculty in other departments to assess interest in cross-listing courses, serving on dissertation committees, and chairing dissertation committees. This step was vital to ensure an interdisciplinary curriculum. Importantly, between Sociology and the affiliated departments, the CSS program has representation in multiple NMSU colleges, namely, the College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation; the College of Arts and Sciences; and the College of Business.

Describe the process for assessing and improving student learning in the proposed program.

The CSS graduate program coordinator will be responsible for writing an annual evaluation of academic progress with input from the CSS executive committee and doctoral adviser where necessary. Criteria for satisfactory progress through the program will include course performance, timeliness of reaching program milestones (e.g., scheduling and passing the qualifying and written/oral comprehensive exams, dissertation writing progress, and oral dissertation defense), and participation in program activities. The CSS graduate program coordinator and CSS executive committee will be responsible for undertaking a yearly Bloom assessment of these annual evaluations—in conjunction with annual course evaluations administered by the university—to consider where and when program learning outcomes should be modified. The program coordinator and executive committee will report these outcomes yearly to the NMSU Office of Assessment.

Learning outcome #1 will be assessed using a standardized rubric modeled to evaluate student performances on coursework, qualifying exams, written/oral comprehensive exams, and final oral dissertation defenses.

Learning outcomes #2 and #3 will be assessed using the yearly outcomes of both the written and oral components of the comprehensive examination and the final oral dissertation defense.

Describe the process for assessing and improving student persistence and completion, in the new program.

The CSS program coordinator, with input from the executive committee and doctoral adviser, where necessary, will write an annual evaluation of academic progress for each student in the program. Criteria for satisfactory progress through the program will include course performance, timeliness of reaching program milestones (e.g., scheduling and passing the qualifying and written/oral comprehensive exams, dissertation writing progress, and oral dissertation defense), and participation in program activities. The purpose of these evaluation letters is to highlight what the student is doing well, where they need improvement, and what the next milestones for which they should be preparing—all to give the student the necessary information and guidance to persist through and complete the program.

If any of the institution's accreditation relationship (including other regional, specialized, or national accrediting agencies) are currently under or recommended for a negative status or action (e.g., withdrawal, probation, sanction, warning, show-cause, etc.)

Not Applicable

If the institution is undergoing or facing substantial monitoring, special review or financial restrictions from the U.S. Department of Education or other federal or state government agencies.

Not Applicable

If the institution's senior leadership or board membership has experienced substantial resignations or removals in the past year.

The NMSU executive leadership has experienced several changes over the last few years. In this past year specifically, a new provost (Dr. Alan Shoho) was hired in Summer 2023. Dr. Shoho retired before the end of the Spring 2024 semester. NMSU currently has Dr. Lakshmi Reddi (dean of the College of Engineering) serving as the interim provost. NMSU also has a president—Dr. Valerio Ferme, effective 2025.

Dr. Ranjit Koodali was appointed Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Provost of International Affairs during the 2023-2024 academic year.

Dr. Yoshitaka Iwasaki resigned as Dean of the College of HEST in 2024. Currently, Dr. Alexa Doig (Director of the School of Nursing) serves as the current interim Dean of the College of HEST. A search for the permanent Dean of the College of HEST is currently underway. The new Dean is expected to start their position effective Fall 2025.

We have letters of support for this PhD program from the former Dean and the current interim Dean of the College of HEST.

If the institution is experiencing financial difficulty through conditions, such as, a currently declared state of exigency, a deficit of 10% or more, a default or failure to make payroll during the past year, or consecutive deficits in the two most recent years.

Not Applicable

Institution Specific Information Area**Primary target audience for the program (e.g., full#time, part#time, traditional college age, working adults, transfer students, military personnel, or particular ethnic group)**

The program will appeal to students interested in combining social science with data science—an emerging field called Computational Social Science (CSS). The current Data Analytics masters program at NMSU has already become a feeder program into the Sociology graduate minor, and the Department of Sociology's current CSS courses—which are among the top credit hour producers outside of large seat capacity introductory courses—are popular with Data Analytics and Computer Science graduate students. These trends—coupled with vocal interest among NMSU Sociology masters students—indicate that both the Data Analytics and Sociology masters programs will be significant feeders into the CSS Ph.D. program. Further, the NMSU Sociology Program in conjunction with the AI Institute are currently preparing a proposal for an AI + Sociology Masters program that would also likely become a feeder program for the CSS PhD. As such, we anticipate interest from a mix of social science and computer/information/data/engineering science.

The program will also be of interest to students interesting in entering the emerging Data Science workforce, especially those professions dealing with modeling and predicting human behavior and social systems—for example, complex systems scientists, user experience (“UX”) researchers, big data analysts for governmental and private entities, social network scientists, and intelligence analysts, to name a few.

How does the proposed program align with the department, college and university mission?

The university's strategic plan is LEADS 2025. Implementation and assessment of the strategic plan follows a nested structure, where each department and college are expected to draft plans that align with LEADS 2025.

LEADS 2025 comprises six goals: (1) enhance student success and social mobility; (2) elevate research and creativity; (3) amplify extension and outreach; (4) build a robust university system; (5) build an online global campus; and (6) build, elevate, and strengthen sustainable systemwide equity, inclusion, and diversity practices (leads2025.nmsu.edu). The proposed CSS Ph.D. program most clearly aligns with goal 2—especially objective 2.2, to “intentionally grow humanities, social sciences, and creative arts to achieve comprehensive excellence in research and creative activity” (leads2025.nmsu.edu/goal-2). Importantly, the CSS program can address all four current priorities under goal 2: grow non-STEM research expenditures, increase Ph.D. offerings in the social sciences, grow

STEM research expenditures, and increase the number of postdoctoral fellows and research staff. Because CSS is simultaneously a social science and a data science field, CSS faculty, staff, and students are strategically positioned to leverage both STEM and non-STEM extramural funding opportunities. This is particularly important for a social science program since traditional social science programs are often only positioned to go after smaller external funding sources (e.g., the NSF Sociology Program or most other programs within the NSF SBE Directorate).

Because CSS is both a social science and a data science field, the program can also help grow one of the university's goal areas (LEADS 2025, goal 2), while also contributing to research areas in which the university already claims an institutional strength. For example, one of the core areas of institutional research strengths listed on the Office of the Vice President for Research, Creativity, and Economic Development's website is "Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning." This priority area is key to the workforce development of the University and the State of New Mexico. The CSS program will further solidify the university's identity of excellence in the areas of A.I. and machine learning, but also help bolster the need to grow the social science landscape at NMSU to the level necessary to be a top-tier Carnegie R1 institution.

The blending of data science and social science also fits the mandate for the new NMSU Institute for Applied Practice in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, which received \$2 million from the state, as well as funds from the NMSU Foundation's 1888 Minutes of Giving and matching funds from the NMSU President's Office. As the institute's name suggests, a core goal of this center is to "[d]evelop solutions that address societal and environmental challenges, making a tangible difference in the lives of individuals around the globe" (Baumann 2025). The AI Institute supports the CSS PhD program as part of their institution-building efforts on AI research and education (see the AI Institute's letter of support attached).

NMSU is laying out a path to not just be a major regional, national, and global player in AI, machine learning, and data science, but also to be an institution that is known for focusing on how these advancements can be used as tools to solve real-world problems. We see the CSS program as an example of this sort of applied data science.

*References available upon request.

Discuss how admissions criteria and strategies will recruit a diverse student body?

The social sciences are increasingly diverse disciplines. According to 2023 membership data from the American Sociological Association (ASA) about 62% of ASA student members identify as women and 5.1% as nonbinary (ASA 2023a). ASA is also a majority-minority organization in terms of student membership, with students identifying as white making up about 43.1% of the total. Importantly, a cross-tabulation of gender identity by race-ethnicity (person of color and not person of color) shows that the largest student group is women of color, who make up about 38.4% of the student ASA membership. This growth in representation among women of color is a longitudinal trend, with the percentage growing consistently since 2014 (ASA 2023b). More broadly, the social and behavioral sciences account for the largest percentage of Hispanic, Black/African American, and American Indian/Alaskan Native graduate students at the doctoral level (14%, 10%, and 0.7%, respectively, as of 2021) (NCSES 2023, pp. 64-66). Social sciences also account for the highest rate of doctorates conferred to persons with disabilities in the United States as of 2021 (NCSES 2023, p. 56).

We expect the increasing diversity of the social science study body nationally to translate into a diverse CSS student body, especially given similar trends in the NMSU Sociology masters program.

We also expect a diverse study body because we anticipate many program students coming from NMSU, a federally recognized Hispanic-serving institution (HSI) and Minority-Serving Institution (MSI). As of Fall 2023, Hispanic students make up about 57.6% and women about 58.5% of the main campus student body (NMSU 2023). In fact, the Department of Sociology's Masters Program already attracts a very diverse student body. In terms of gender, it is currently composed of 61% women, 36% men and 3% Non-binary. And in terms of race and ethnicity, the student body is currently 53% non-white (37% Hispanic, 9% African American, 7% two or more races/ethnicities), 43% white, and 4% that do not identify their race/ethnicity.

Additionally, given the large representation of women in the social sciences workforce and the simultaneously low representation of women in the non-social science STEM workforce (65% versus 35%; NGCP 2024), the CSS program can transform the STEM workforce by blending these two disciplines.

Regarding program efforts to ensure a diverse student body, the CSS executive committee will create email lists of program contacts to a diverse set of institutions and deliver promotional materials to that list. Further, once the program is approved, the committee will apply to list the program as a Western Regional Graduate Program (WGRP) through the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) to lower tuition for out-of-state students. We will also strive to diversify the faculty of the program so that students can be assured that their instructors reflect their own cultural backgrounds.

Another important matter related to student recruitment is how we will ensure that incoming students have the necessary predoctoral training to be successful in the CSS Ph.D. program. As stated earlier, incoming students are required to hold a masters degree from an accredited institution in a social science, computer/information science, or related discipline. It is not necessary that incoming students have extensive training in both the social and computational sciences, as the purpose of the program is to give students the skills to systematically blend these knowledge domains. The combination of required core, programming, and methods courses is designed to facilitate both students from social science backgrounds learning core programming competencies and students from computational science backgrounds learning core theoretical, substantive, and behavioral research design

competencies. We consider this a strength of our program because it does not set up major roadblocks for recruitment on the basis of prerequisites. Further, this approach removes the impediments that many other math-driven data science programs place as enrollment barriers, such as multi-course calculus and algebra sequences. This fulfills the social transformation mission of the College of HEST, and the social mobility goal (GOAL 1) of NMSU.

*References available upon request

What controls are in place to ensure that the information presented to all constituencies in advertising, brochures, and other communications will be accurate?

The CSS program coordinator will maintain a series of program web pages, which will be housed on the Department of Sociology website. Website maintenance will be done in conjunction with the Department of Sociology webmaster. The coordinator will also be responsible for creating promotional materials and ensuring their accuracy with periodic evaluations of those materials. The program coordinator will also work with the NMSU Graduate School and College of HEST to promote the doctoral program in the state and region.

Student Records Office Uploads

HLC wants CIP Code information that is currently being offered at both the institutional and degree level for 4-digit and 2-digit CIP codes for all new programs. This information will be provided by the University Student Records office and added to the form during the HED submissions workflow step.

Reviewer Comments

Joe Lakey (jlakey) (Wed, 04 Dec 2024 16:19:11 GMT): Rollback: Rolling back to Department by request

Ranjit Koodali (rkoodali) (Wed, 02 Jul 2025 00:14:01 GMT): Rollback: Hello Dr. Ortiz, Under Course Requirements, Could you correct the number of credits for GEOG 571 and GEOG 578? They show now as 0,4. Also the number of credits for Dissertation for SOCI 7000 should be 18 and not as 0,15.

Key: 1038



Department of Sociology
College of Health, Education & Social Transformation
New Mexico State University
PO Box 30001, MSC 3WSP
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
Tel: 575-646-3448
sociology@nmsu.edu

June 4, 2024

To whom it may concern:

This letter is to express the faculty's strong support for the proposed interdisciplinary Computational Social Science (CSS) Ph.D. program that will be administratively housed in the Department of Sociology.

As a faculty, we have discussed this proposed CSS PhD program multiple times in our faculty meetings during the past two-years. Out of 11 full-time tenure-track faculty members, 10 have expressed their strong commitment to teach and advise students enrolled in the program. As this indicates, we are quite excited to start this innovative interdisciplinary degree that will enable graduate students to research and study emerging topics important to our society. The CSS degree will provide our students with the necessary tools to leverage computational methods –artificial intelligence, machine learning, and other data-science related techniques–, and pair them with a deep understanding of social issues.

The CSS PhD will produce graduates who will be able to fill emerging tech positions in a large variety of employment opportunities that require using computational methods to research and analyze large amounts of data involving people's behaviors, actions, and trends. These positions are in very high demand in all industry sectors. Students prepared in this program will be provided with exceptional career growth and labor prospects, as careers in data science fields are predicted to see the largest growth in the next ten years.

Further, the addition of this PhD program to the Sociology Department at NMSU will enable our unit to enhance its already strong research enterprise, making it more competitive to continue receiving external funding from federal agencies. As of this coming year, our department helped contribute more than \$7,584,760 to the University in federal grants and will fund at least six graduate assistants through those research grants. We are committed to continue using our resources to help sustain this promising doctoral program well into the future.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. I can be reached through the Department of Sociology at NMSU at (575) 646-2750 or by e-mail at dgortiz@nmsu.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David G. Ortiz'.

David G. Ortiz, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and Department Head, Department of Sociology
Faculty Fellow Center for Latin American and Border Studies (CLABS)

CIP: 30.1701 Behavioral Sciences | Market: Las Cruces 225-Mile Radius | Total Score: 9 | Percentile: 85

Student Demand
Score: 12 Percentile: 89

Catego...	Pctl	Criterion	Value	Score
Size	61	Google Search Volume (3 Months)*	98	5
	0	International Page Views (12 Months)	0	0
	91	New Student Enrollment Volume (12 Mo.)	1	2
	0	On-ground Completions at In-Market Institutions	0	0
	0	Online Completions by In-Market Students	0	0
	0	Sum of On-ground and Online Completions	0	NS
Gr...	31	Google Search YoY Change (Units)*	-20	0
	95	New Student Enrollment Vol. YoY Change (Units)	1	2
	98	Completion Volume YoY Change (Units)	0	3
	44	Google Search YoY Change (%)*	-1...	0
		New Student Enrollment Vol. YoY Change (%)	NA	NS
		Completion Volume YoY Change (%)	NA	NS

Employment*
Score: 2 Percentile: 78

Category	Pctl	Criterion	Value	Score
Size: Direct Prep	48	Job Postings Total (12 Months)*	12	0
	54	BLS Current Employment*	43	0
	56	BLS Annual Job Openings*	4	0
Size: ACS Bach. Outcomes	51	Job Postings Total (12 Months)*	12	0
	90	BLS Current Employment*	442	2
Growth (Direct Prep)	90	BLS 1-Year Historical Growth*	37...	1
	51	BLS 3-Year Historic Growth (CAGR)*	1.8%	0
	33	BLS 10-Year Future Growth (CAGR)*	0.1%	NS
Saturation (Direct Prep)	18	Job Postings per Graduate*	0.5	-1
	27	BLS Job Openings per Graduate*	0.2	-1
Wages (Direct Prep)	74	BLS 10th-Percentile Wages*	\$4...	2
	67	BLS Mean Wages*	\$6...	NS
National American Community Survey Bachelor's Degree Outcomes	63	Wages (Age < 30)	\$4...	1
	31	Wages (Age 30-60)	\$7...	0
	53	% with Any Graduate Degree	42%	NS
	66	% with Masters	31%	NS
	61	% with Doct/Prof Degree	10%	NS
	65	% Unemp. (Age <30)**	3%	-1
	73	% Unemp. (Age 30-60)**	2%	-1
0	% in Direct Prep Jobs	0	NS	

Degree Fit:
Score: 0 Percentile: 50

Category	Pctl	Criterion	Value	Score
NHEBI Natl 2 Year		Cost Index** Student: Faculty Index	NA	NS
			NA	NS

National Completions by Level
Score: 0

Award Level	Completions (National)	Completions (Market)	Enrollment (Market)
Certificate	5%	4%	0%
Associates	19%	60%	0%
Bachelors	44%	24%	9%
Postbaccalaureate Certificate	1%	0%	0%
Masters	28%	12%	87%
Post-masters Certificate	0%	0%	0%
Doctoral	3%	0%	4%
Unknown	0%	0%	0%

Competitive Intensity
Score: -5 Percentile: 5

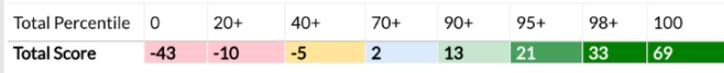
Category	Pctl	Criterion	Value	Score
Volume of In-Market Compete...	0	Campuses with Graduates**	0	-3
	50	Campuses with Grads YoY Change (Units)**	0	-1
	0	Institutions with Online In-Market Students**	0	NS
In-Market Program Sizes		Average Program Completions	NA	NS
		Median Program Completions	NA	NS
		YoY Median Prog. Compl. Change (Units)	NA	NS
		YoY Median Prog. Compl. Change (%)	NA	NS
In-Market Saturat...	65	Google Search * Cost per Click**	\$5	-1
	35	Google Competition Index**	0.06	0
National Online Compe...	0	National Online Institutions (Units)**	0	0
	0	Nat'l Online % of Institutions	0	0
	0	Nat'l Online % of Completions	0	0

CIP Description:
A program with a combined or undifferentiated focus on the social sciences, psychology, and biomedical sciences to study complex problems of human individual and social growth and behavior.

National Workforce Ed. Attainment
Score: 0

Award Level	BLS Educational Attainment
No College	3%
Some College	6%
Associates	4%
Bachelors	27%
Masters	44%
Doctoral	16%

* - Google search, employment data and Jobs Per Grad Ratio do not filter by award level.
 ** - Color scale in reverse.
 NA - No data available/not currently tracked.
 NS - Not Scored in Rubrics (values = 0).
 2-Yr - Associates & certificate programs only.
 PCTL - Percentile



EXPENSES

Note: Costs below reflect cost projections for the first 5 years. The three recurring salaries that the Department of Sociology already receives are not included with the calculations. The funds for GAships will be from a mixture of I&G funds (detailed in the text box on this spreadsheet to the bottom-right) and departmental grant funds (also detailed in the text box to the bottom-right). Since

Category	Item	Cost	Details	
levels)	Total salary cost for year 1 (2 GAs)	\$43,190	\$21,595 + \$21,595 = \$43,190	
	Total salary cost for year 2 (7 GAs)	\$151,165	\$21,595*7	
	Total salary cost for year 3 (12 GAs)	\$259,140	\$21,595*12	
	Total salary cost for year 4 (12 GAs)	\$259,140	\$21,595*12	
	Total salary cost for year 5 (12 GAs)	\$259,140	\$21,595*12	
	Total minimum tuition scholarship for year 1 (2 GAs)	\$3,200	Cost at \$1,600 per GA	
	Total minimum tuition scholarship for year 2 (7 GAs)	\$11,200	\$1,600*7	
	Total minimum tuition scholarship for year 3 (12 GAs)	\$19,200	\$1,600*12	
	Total minimum tuition scholarship for year 4 (12 GAs)	\$19,200	\$1,600*12	
	Total minimum tuition scholarship for year 5 (12 GAs)	\$19,200	\$1,600*12	
	TOTAL	\$1,043,775		
	9-month)	Salary	\$71,230	assistant professor base salary in NMSU
		Fringe	\$25,643	Fringe at 36%
Start Up (not including in-kind contributions)		\$15,000	\$15,000 per faculty	
TOTAL		\$111,873		
TOTAL COST, FIRST 5 YEARS		\$1,155,648		

REVENUE

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5
FTE Enrollment	5	10	15	15	15
Student Credit	90	180	270	270	270
ESTIMATED REVENUE GENERATION					
(in-state resident)	\$39,600	\$79,200	\$118,800	\$118,800	\$118,800

TOTAL REVENUE, FIRST 5 YEARS \$475,200

Rationale for GAships and New Faculty:

According to NMSU ARP 6.61, NMSU faculty who are compensated exclusively through I&G funds are generally expected to teach the equivalent of 12 credit hours per semester. However, scholarly expectations at NMSU—as a research-intensive university—may lower the teaching load from semester to semester. Graduate programming typically lowers teaching loads, with faculty in masters-granting departments teaching between six and nine credit hours per semester and faculty in doctorate-granting departments teaching between three and six credit hours per semester. These teaching reductions account for the higher faculty advising workload expected of graduate programs.

Faculty in the NMSU Department of Sociology—the administrative home for the CSS program that currently has an M.A. program—have a 2-3 (or 3-2) course load. We request a course load reduction of three credit hours an academic year (one three-credit course) per year per faculty to accommodate the extra advising responsibilities of a Ph.D. program—effectively lowering the teaching load to 2-2, a standard course load for doctorate-granting departments at R1 universities like NMSU. This teaching load reduction will also facilitate external funding applications from faculty. The Department of Sociology employs 11 full-time tenure-track faculty with an additional 12th member to start in AY25—which means a loss of 36 credit hours (12 courses) a year with the reduction of teaching load. We propose to recover these 12 courses through 3 graduate assistantships, with each GA teaching two introductory-level Sociology courses per semester.

The Department of Sociology already receives three GAs from the Graduate School. Furthermore, the College of HEST is committing three new PhD Graduate Assistantships to support the program. We will, therefore, have 6 I&G-funded GAships—more than enough to cover the entire initial program cohort. Three of these GAs will teach two introductory courses per semester (to recover the 36 credit hours) and the other three will be teaching assistants—each at 0.5 FTE. We will adopt a “train the trainer” model whereby three advanced GAs will be assigned teaching duties, and each of the teaching assistant GAs will be assigned to one of these teaching GAs—thereby fully leveraging all 6 I&G-funded GAs. The teaching assistant GAs will then be mentored by the instructing GA (i.e., the one teaching the actual class) on best teaching practices, course and syllabi construction, etc. One the instructing GAs graduate, the teaching assistant GAs will then take on instructing duties with new teaching assistant GAs coming into the program. This means that there will always be at least three “instructing TAs in waiting,” thus ensuring a continuous stream of at least three GAs teaching two courses per semester. Importantly, this “train the trainer” model promotes intergenerational community-building and co-mentoring among the graduate students while also ensuring that we maintain high credit hour production.

Importantly, faculty in the Department of Sociology have a strong recent track record of receiving external federal grants that fund research assistants (RAs). As of the 2024-2025 academic year, the Sociology faculty will be responsible for at least 6 RAs funded through external grants, each with full tuition coverage and health insurance. Dr. Marshall Taylor, for example, funds one 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #2247689, one 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #2308358, and, with Dr. Heather Harper, another two 0.5 FTE RAs through a new NSF award that will be operational by the beginning of the 2024 academic year. Dr. Sandra Way funds one 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #1953466, and Dr. Stephanie Arnett will fund another 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #2408898. Altogether, the Department of Sociology can contribute enough GAships through externally sponsored projects to cover the equivalent of another full cohort of the program. We fully anticipate that the Sociology faculty will continue to secure external GA funds.

EXPENSES

Note: Costs below reflect cost projections for the first 5 years. The six recurring GAships that the Department of Sociology already receives are not factored into the calculations. The funds for GAships will be from a mixture of I&G funds (such as awards by the Graduate School and other sources), and departmental grant funds (also detailed in the text box to the bottom-right). Since each cohort is 5 students, we accept new students every other year, and the program is a 3-year program. 10 GAships are needed by Year 3. After accounting for the 6 GAships the department already receives, 4 additional GAships are needed. The department has enough external GAships (as of now) to cover about 6 GAships. We therefore have committed funds as of now for 12 GAships—more than enough to cover the first two cohorts.

Category	Item	Cost	Details
Graduate Assistantships (averaged G2 and G3 levels). THE CSS PHD PROGRAM ALREADY COUNTS WITH SIX 0.5 FTE GASHIPS THAT ARE COMMITTED TO THIS PROGRAM VIA THE SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT AND COLLEGE OF HEST. THE COSTS HERE ALREADY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THOSE GASHIPS	Total salary cost for year 1 (5 GAs). All covered with existing resources	\$0	
	Total salary cost for year 2 (0 additional GAs). All covered with existing resources	\$0	
	Total salary cost for year 3 (4 additional GAs) One covered with existing resources	(\$0.5 FTE, Academic Year [HAOD]) ⁴ = \$87,124	\$21,781*4 = \$87,124
	Total salary cost for year 4 (0 additional GAs) All covered with existing resources	\$0	
	Total salary cost for year 5 (12 GAs)	\$87,124	\$21,781*4
	Total minimum tuition scholarship for year 1 (0 additional GAs)	\$0	
	Total minimum tuition scholarship for year 2 (0 additional GAs)	\$0	
	Total minimum tuition scholarship for year 3 (4 GAs)	\$12,555	\$12,555.
	Total minimum tuition scholarship for year 4 (12 GAs)	\$0	
	Total minimum tuition scholarship for year 5 (12 GAs)	\$12,555	\$3139*4 = \$12,555.
TOTAL		\$199,388	
Assistant Professorship, Initial Hire (tenure-track, 9-month) THIS POSITION HAS ALREADY BEEN HIRED AND DOES NOT REPRESENT AN EXPENSE. IT IS HERE TO ACCOUNT FOR THE ACTUAL COSTS OF THE PROGRAM			1.0 FTE, assistant professor rank, average assistant professor base salary in NMSU
	Salary	\$71,230	Sociology
	Fringe	\$25,643	Fringe at 36%
	Start Up (not including in-kind contributions)	\$15,000	\$15,000 per faculty
	TOTAL ALREADY COVERED	\$111,873	
TOTAL COST, FIRST 5 YEARS	-\$111,873		
		\$199,388	

	REVENUE				
	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5
FTE Enrollment	5	5	10	5	10
Projected Annual Student Credit Hours Generated	90	90	180	90	180
ESTIMATED REVENUE GENERATION					
Tuition Generated (in-state resident rate \$349 per grad SCH)	\$31,410	\$31,410	\$62,820	\$31,410	\$62,820

TOTAL REVENUE, FIRST 5 YEARS \$219,870

Budget rationale:
 In addition to the faculty resources outlined in the proposal, we would also like to illustrate the institutional commitments of graduate assistant funding which will offset the costs of delivering this program, support the students who the program admits, and increase faculty-graduate student engagement in the department. These institutional commitments are already in place and have been assigned to the Department of Sociology as the administrative home of the CSS PhD program. Part of these commitments includes six 0.5 FTE graduate assistantships that will be devoted to the CSS program. The CSS PhD program faculty and administrative home will also remain acutely aware of any and all future graduate assistant funding opportunities and calls for nominations that may come from Graduate School or other sources both internal and external. For example, the Department of Sociology has a strong recent track record of receiving external federal grants that fund research assistants (RAs). As of the 2025-2026 academic year, the Sociology faculty will be responsible for at least 6 RAs funded through external grants, each with full tuition coverage and health insurance. Dr. Marshall Taylor, for example, funds one 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #2247689, one 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #2308358, and, along with Dr. Heather Harper, funds another two 0.5 FTE RAs through NSF award #2346727. Dr. Sandra Way funds one 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #1953466, and Dr. Stephanie Arnett funds another 0.5 FTE RA through NSF award #2408898. Finally, Dr. Harper has another award with the Department of Energy that includes funds for two more GAships. Altogether, the Department of Sociology alone can contribute enough GAships through externally sponsored projects to cover the equivalent of more than another full cohort of the program. We fully anticipate that the Sociology faculty will continue to secure external GA funds.

Further, the Department of Sociology hired a new tenure-track assistant professor of Sociology with expertise in computational methods that started in Fall 2025. This new faculty member is already part of this PhD program and adds to our already large Departmental contingent of faculty that have computational methods expertise. We anticipate this new faculty member will also contribute to securing external GA funds also, as they have an excellent track of grant funding. These commitments are currently in place and the CSS PhD program requires NO additional expenses at this time for the initial cohort of the CSS PhD program. Furthermore, currently the AI Institute is conducting a tenure-track assistant professor faculty cluster search. Three positions are being advertised and Sociology is one of the areas that is highlighted in the advertising. If one of these positions ends up being a Sociology faculty, this will further strengthen our faculty resources. And even if one of these positions is NOT in Sociology, the faculty in these three positions will be likely to become part of the CSS PhD program, given their expertise. So, that will add a significant amount of faculty to our program on excess of what is needed.

According to NMSU ARP 6.61, NMSU faculty who are compensated exclusively through I&G funds are generally expected to teach the equivalent of 12 credit hours per semester. However, scholarly expectations at NMSU—as a research-intensive university—may lower the teaching load from semester to semester. Graduate programming typically lowers teaching loads, with faculty in masters-granting departments teaching between six and nine credit hours per semester and faculty in doctorate-granting departments teaching between three and six credit hours per semester. These teaching reductions account for the higher faculty advising workload expected of graduate programs. Faculty in the NMSU Department of Sociology—the administrative home for the CSS program that currently has an M.A. program—have a 2-3 (or 3-2) course load. We request a course load reduction of three credit hours an academic year (one three-credit course) per year per faculty involved in the program in advising responsibilities of the Ph.D. program—effectively lowering their teaching load to 2-2, a standard course load for doctorate-granting departments at R1 universities like NMSU. This teaching load reduction will also facilitate external funding applications from faculty. The Department of Sociology employs 12 full-time tenure-track faculty—which means a loss of 36 credit hours (12 courses) a year with the reduction of teaching load. If every faculty member was involved in advising responsibilities, we do not anticipate that being the case, given that not every faculty member will have advising responsibilities at the same time and only 10 students per year is the maximum number of students enrolled. We therefore propose to recover a maximum of 10 courses (30 credit hours) starting in year 3 via 5 graduate assistantships which have already been assigned to our Department, with each GA teaching one introductory-level Sociology courses per semester.

As noted above, the Department of Sociology already receives three and a half 0.5 FTE GAs from the Graduate School, and the College of HEST committed two and a half new PhD Graduate Assistantships to support the program. We, therefore, have 6 I&G-funded GAships for this program—more than enough to cover the entire initial program cohort. In the first two years when the advising need is lower (and the credit recovery is only 15 hours) three of these GAs will teach two introductory courses per year and the other three will be teaching assistants—each at 0.5 FTE. We will adopt a "train the trainer" model whereby three advanced GAs will be assigned teaching duties, and each of the teaching assistant GAs will be assigned to one of these teaching GAs—thereby fully leveraging all 6 I&G-funded GAs. The teaching assistant GAs will then be mentored by the instructing GA (i.e., the one teaching the actual class) on best teaching practices, course and syllabi construction, etc. One the instructing GAs graduate, the teaching assistant GAs will then take on instructing duties with new teaching assistant GAs coming into the program. Importantly, this "train the trainer" model promotes intergenerational community-building and co-mentoring among the graduate students while also ensuring that we maintain high credit hour production.



College of Arts and Sciences

Office of the Dean
MSC 3335
New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
575-646-3500
epontell@nmsu.edu



June 29, 2025

Subject: Letter of Support, Ph.D. in Computational Social Sciences

To Whom It May Concern:

I write on behalf of the Institute for Applied Practice in AI and Machine Learning (the "AI Institute") to share our support for the proposed interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science at New Mexico State University.

The AI Institute is a new organization at NMSU funded through a \$2 million grant from the State of New Mexico as well as funds from the NMSU Foundation and the Office of the University President. The aim of the institute is to position NMSU as a focal hub and national leader in applied research and education in AI and machine learning. The institute and the extramural funding behind it reflect a state-wide initiative to grow AI capacity in New Mexico for industry, science, and regional workforce needs.

A Ph.D. in Computational Social Science (CSS) will help draw in faculty and students who will broaden the institute's areas of expertise. In fact, the institute's AI Curriculum Committee is working on a new professional Master's program in "AI+X," where the "X" signals a particular substantive area of application. We are planning on Sociology serving as one of three initial "Xs" in the degree program, along with Agricultural Sciences and Supply Chain Management. Positioning the "AI+Sociology" degree option as a feeder program into the CSS Ph.D. will attract higher caliber students interested in staying in New Mexico for their doctoral studies and entering the New Mexico tech workforce with a higher degree of expertise and technical proficiency than they would get from the masters program alone.

I strongly believe the proposed doctoral program will provide the ideal complement to the ongoing AI efforts, and as such I would like to express my support for this proposal.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Enrico Pontelli". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Enrico Pontelli, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
Regents Professor of Computer Science
Senior Advisor for AI



College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation (HEST)

MSC 3AC
New Mexico State University (NMSU)
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003
575-646-5858
hest.nmsu.edu

June 26, 2024

RE: Letter of support for Ph.D. in Computational Social Science

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to provide the College of HEST Dean's Office strong support for the proposed Computational Social Science Ph.D. program proposed by the Department of Sociology.

We are very excited to support this innovative forward-looking doctoral degree program that represents the interdisciplinary and transformative nature of the educational and research programming, which is at the heart of HEST's mission and vision. The Computational Social Science degree will prepare our students for a workforce that increasingly requires knowledge about and skills of computational methodological approaches applied to the research and solution of deep social problems. This area of study provides a high career growth coupled with meaningful transformational potential.

Furthermore, the addition of this PhD program to the Department of Sociology at NMSU will enable the unit to enhance its already strong research enterprise, making it more competitive to continue receiving external funding from federal organizations like the National Science Foundation (NSF) and other state and federal agencies.

Owing to these excellent prospects and our belief in the benefits of this program for our students and our state workforce, we are committing funds for a new 9-month tenure-track assistant professor position in the Department of Sociology with a focus in Computational Social Science, along with 3 new additional GA positions.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yoshitaka Iwasaki'.

Dr. Yoshitaka Iwasaki, Dean & Professor
College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation (HEST)
New Mexico State University (NMSU)



Department of Computer Science

MSC CS

New Mexico State University

P.O. Box 30001

Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001

Tel: 575-646-3723, fax: 575-646-1002

www.cs.nmsu.edu

To whom it may concern:

As the Interim Department Head of the Department of Computer Science at NMSU, I support our department courses being listed in the Computational Social Science Ph.D. program curriculum.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'HC'.

Huiping Cao

Interim Department Head
Department of Computer Science
New Mexico State University
Email: hcao@nmsu.edu
Tel/Fax: +1-575-646-4660/1002



Doña Ana County

September 24, 2024

David G Ortiz, Ph.D., Department Head
Department of Sociology
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM 88003-0001

Subject: Letter of Support for Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science (CSS)

The Doña Ana County Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) strongly supports New Mexico State University's (NMSU) proposal for a new Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science (CSS). This interdisciplinary degree has the potential to positively influence public health programming and policy, resulting in improved public health outcomes in our county, state, and region. By focusing on social drivers of health, this degree program can help identify and address broader factors that influence health outcomes, beyond individual behaviors and healthcare quality. Integrating data-driven methods with social science can lead to more informed and effective policy and program decisions.

As a border community with high poverty and poor health outcomes and a strong history of resilient communities, NMSU is well-positioned to support the CSS program in this region which offers a unique learning environment for this degree program. The county's HHSD, along with the network of providers, community health workers, and well-informed decision-makers can support this program, while benefitting from the new capacity it will bring.

The county's HHSD works with NMSU to blend academic approaches and resources with community-based public health efforts. This degree program will build on that success while contributing to a workforce that is more compatible with local needs and assets. Doña Ana County Health and Human Services Department is grateful to have this opportunity and to work alongside NMSU for the success of this degree program.

Sincerely,

Jamie Michael
Health and Human Services Director
Email: jamiem@donaanacounty.org

Date: 6/25/24

Subject: NMSU CSS Program Letter of Support

Source: Office of the Chief Technology Officer

To whom it may concern,

Electronic Caregiver Inc. (ECG) is pleased to express its strong support for New Mexico State University's (NMSU) proposal for a new Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science (CSS).

Although ECG is not a direct participant in the proposal, there is a strong history of collaboration and employee recruitment with NMSU. As such, we at ECG recognize the benefits of collaborating with NMSU in this endeavor. The proposed CSS Ph.D. program will enhance the training of future data scientists and social scientists in New Mexico. It provides an excellent opportunity to attract both in-state and out-of-state students to the state for their education, equipping them with a skill set that translates to high-quality, high-paying jobs with great upward career mobility within the state.

The compelling interdisciplinary nature of the CSS program blends sociology, psychology, political science, management science, economics, geography, and public health with advanced methodologies in machine learning, artificial intelligence, and statistical modeling. Graduates from this program would be uniquely positioned to tackle pressing issues by leveraging our large and complex data sets, making meaningful contributions to both academic research and providing skillsets for practical applications in digital healthcare.

The CSS program's emphasis on comprehensive training in both theoretical and practical aspects of data science—particularly in healthcare analytics—aligns with ECG's strategic employee need and our mission to deliver an AI-everywhere healthcare experience via technology and analytics.

ECG is confident this Ph.D. program being established at NMSU will not only address critical workforce needs for ECG, but it will also contribute to helping mitigate brain drain and demographic challenges faced by New Mexico businesses. This program will help position New Mexico as a leader in data science education and research by fostering a new generation of computational social scientists. ECG fully supports this advanced program.

For any further details or collaboration opportunities, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



David W. Keeley, PhD
Chief Technology Officer
Electronic Caregiver, Inc
dkeeley@ecg-hq.com



Emergence Health Network

201 E. Main St., Suite 600
El Paso, TX 79901
Phone: 915.887.3410
Toll Free Number: 1.877.562.6467
Fax: 915.351.4467

EmergenceHealthNetwork.org

April 30, 2025

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DR. CINDY STOUT
CHAIR

HON. ANNABELL PEREZ
VICE CHAIR

DR. SILVINA TONARELLI
SECRETARY

DEE MARGO
TRUSTEE

KELLIE FRANCO
TRUSTEE

MARK PAZ
TRUSTEE

MONICA SALAIZ-NARVAEZ
TRUSTEE

SGT. GUILLERMO RAMIREZ
EX OFFICIO, EL PASO
COUNTY SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT

David G Ortiz, Ph.D., Department Head
Department of Sociology
New Mexico State University
Science Hall 286
1290 Frenger Mall
Las Cruces, NM 88003-0001

Subject: Letter of Support for Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science (CSS)

Emergence Health Network (EHN) serves as the Mental Health & Intellectual Disabilities Authority for El Paso County and is one of the largest behavioral health providers in the region. In our authority role, EHN is mandated to design systems of care addressing a complex set of public health priorities in partnership with numerous industry sectors. As such, EHN is pleased to express its strong support for New Mexico State University's (NMSU) proposal for a new Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science (CSS).

As healthcare delivery and reimbursement become increasing complex, the need for individuals with the interdisciplinary skill set and capabilities to transform clinical delivery models into significant data programming for use by payors, funders and governmental entities will be essential. This proposed program aligns with EHN's philosophy of unifying technology and clinical expertise for the benefit of communities in need.

The interdisciplinary nature of the CSS program, which blends sociology, psychology, political science, management science, economics, geography, and public health with advanced methodologies in artificial intelligence, epidemiology and statistical modeling, is compelling. Graduates from this program will be uniquely positioned to tackle pressing social issues by leveraging large and complex data sets, making meaningful contributions to both academic research and practical applications in various sectors, including public health and economic development.

The program's emphasis on comprehensive training in both theoretical and practical aspects of data science aligns with our strategic initiatives to enhance clinical delivery models and technological innovation. This program will help position our region as a leader in data science education and research by fostering a new generation of computational social scientists.

For any further details or collaboration opportunities, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

C167C8463EE94B5...
Kristen Daugherty, LCSW-S, MBA
Chief Executive Officer
Emergence Health Network

RH/PP/TB



Department of Geography & Environmental Studies
(Breland Hall Room 137)
1525 Stewart Street
MSC MAP
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
Fax: 575-646-7430
Phone: 575-646-3509
Webpage: geography.nmsu.edu

7 June 2024

Re: Letter of Support for Proposed Ph.D. Program in Computational Social Science

To whom it may concern:

As the Academic Head of the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at NMSU, I support our department courses being listed in the Computational Social Science Ph.D. program curriculum.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michaela Bünema".

Professor and Academic Department Head



Los Alamos National Laboratory
PO Box 1663, MS C347
Los Alamos, NM 87545
505-665-4078

National Security Education Center

Symbol: NSEC: 24-053
Date: August 9, 2024,

David G Ortiz, Ph.D., Department Head
Department of Sociology
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM 88003-0001

Subject: Letter of Support for Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science (CSS)

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) is pleased to express its strong support for New Mexico State University's (NMSU) proposal for a new Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science (CSS). This proposed program aligns with LANL's culture of advancing interdisciplinary research and addressing complex social phenomena by applying cutting-edge data science techniques.

The proposed CSS Ph.D. program will enhance the training of future data scientists and social scientists in New Mexico. It provides an excellent opportunity to attract both in-state and out-of-state students to the state for their education, equipping them with a skill set that translates to high-quality, high-paying jobs with great upward career mobility within the state.

The interdisciplinary nature of the CSS program, which blends sociology, psychology, political science, management science, economics, geography, and public health with advanced methodologies in machine learning, artificial intelligence, and statistical modeling, is compelling. Graduates from this program will be uniquely positioned to tackle pressing social issues by leveraging large and complex data sets, making meaningful contributions to both academic research and practical applications in various sectors, including public health, national security, and economic development.

LANL, as a multidisciplinary research institution, values the impact of such interdisciplinary approaches on solving real-world problems. The CSS program's emphasis on comprehensive training in both theoretical and practical aspects of data science aligns with our strategic initiatives and our mission to enhance scientific understanding and technological innovation. This program will help position New Mexico as a leader in data science education and research by fostering a new generation of computational social scientists.

For any further details or collaboration opportunities, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Clark".

David L. Clark
Program Director
National Security Education Center
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Email: dlclark@lanl.gov



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.
Center for Community Analysis

Date: April 27, 2025

David G Ortiz, Ph.D., Department Head
Department of Sociology
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM 88003-0001

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for New Mexico State University's proposed PhD program in Computational Social Sciences (CSS). At the Center for Community Analysis (CCA) at NMSU, I can attest to the critical need for professionals with advanced social sciences and computational methods training in our region.

Since our establishment in 2016 through funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the CCA has been dedicated to strengthening data analysis capacity among education and community advocates in Southern New Mexico and beyond. Our work involves collecting, centralizing, analyzing, and disseminating data to improve evidence-based decision-making across the state. We specialize in education (early childhood through higher education), health and community well-being, birth-to-career initiatives, population demographics, poverty, income equality, and social equity.

The proposed CSS PhD program aligns with the skill sets we seek in our professional staff and student employees. Many of our most successful team members began as student employees from the sociology, statistics, psychology, and data analytics programs at NMSU. The interdisciplinary approach of this program—combining rigorous social science training with advanced computational methods including GIS, R programming, data analytics, and visualization—would create graduates ideally suited to address the complex social challenges we tackle daily.

In our work with community organizations, government agencies, and university researchers, we consistently observe a gap in professionals who can understand social phenomena through theoretical frameworks and apply sophisticated computational approaches to analyze large, complex datasets. Graduates from this program would be uniquely positioned to fill this gap in our region and state.

The CSS PhD program would significantly benefit New Mexico by:

1. Creating a pipeline of highly skilled professionals equipped to address regional social challenges with data-driven approaches
2. Enhancing the capacity of local organizations to conduct meaningful program evaluation and assessment
3. Supporting grant-funded initiatives targeting improved educational access and community well-being
4. Contributing to economic development through the retention of talented individuals in high-skill positions
5. Strengthening NMSU's position as a leader in applied social research

At the CCA, we would eagerly welcome opportunities to collaborate with this program through internships, research partnerships, and potential employment pathways for graduates. The skills



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.
Center for Community Analysis

developed through this program are precisely what organizations like ours need to expand our impact. Please contact me for additional information about our support for this important initiative.

Sincerely,
Erica Surova
Executive Director Center for Community Analysis
New Mexico State University
575-646-3352
surova@nmsu.edu



College of Business

Department of Management
MSC 3DJ
New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
575-646-1201, fax: 575-646-1372
business.nmsu.edu/management-gb

June 27, 2023

Dear program review committees:

As the head of the Department of Management at New Mexico State University, I unreservedly support our departmental courses being listed in the Computational Social Science Ph.D. program curriculum. The graduate-level courses in organizational behavior and management processes (MGMT 503, MGMT 650) are well-positioned to help future students advance their knowledge to help improve to social, environmental, and economic conditions throughout the State of New Mexico and surrounding regions.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Flinchbaugh'.

Carol Flinchbaugh
Professor and Interim Department Head | Department of Management
New Mexico State University



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®
Graduate School

June 8, 2024

David G. Ortiz, Ph.D., Department Head
Department of Sociology
New Mexico State University
Science Hall 286
1290 Frenger Mall
Las Cruces, NM 88003-0001

To whom it may concern:

The Graduate School is fully supportive of the new Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science (CSS). The mission of the Graduate School is to *“provide affordable access to high-quality educational experiences, new modes of graduate education, and works with dedicated faculty to help students from diverse cultural and economic backgrounds reach graduate school success. Our vision is to empower students to succeed and excel while pursuing a meaningful education. In doing so, we cultivate the collaboration of academic, professional and personal skills while helping students graduate in a timely manner.”*

This mission is supported by a dedicated team of professional staff in the Graduate School that helps with marketing and recruitment, admissions, enrollment and registration, and culminating in degree certification. The Graduate School also partners with several units on campus to provide professional development activities for graduate students, thus enriching the academic experiences of students.

The new Ph.D. program is aligned with the current Strategic Goal, LEADS 2025 of NMSU. Goal 2 is to elevate research and creativity and in particular a current priority is to increase Ph.D.’s in Humanities and Social Sciences. The Ph.D. in Computational Sciences will bring together faculty from Sociology, Computer Science, Geography, Psychology, Management, and Public Health Sciences Departments housed in three Colleges. Graduate students in the new Ph.D. program will have a breadth of Graduate Faculty to choose from to serve as Dissertation Chair or as Dissertation Committee members. Students in this new program will acquire specialized knowledge in Computational Science and also have a deep understanding of sociological and behavioral sciences that will position them to be gainfully employed in a variety of sectors and within NM.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ranjit T. Koodali', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ranjit T. Koodali, Ph.D., ACS Fellow, FRSC
Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Provost for International Affairs
New Mexico State University

The Graduate School, New Mexico State University, 1780 E. University, Educational Services Building Suite 301,
Las Cruces, NM 88003, (575) 646-5746



Research Cores Program
Office of the Vice President for Research
MSC 3RES
New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001 Direct: (575) 646-2481

6/11/2024

David G. Ortiz, Ph.D., Department Head
Department of Sociology
New Mexico State University

Dear Dr. Ortiz,

The NMSU Research Cores Program (RCP) is excited to extend its full support for the proposed Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science (CSS) at New Mexico State University. This innovative interdisciplinary program aligns with our mission to advance research and creativity by providing essential resources and infrastructure to our faculty, staff, and students.

The Research Cores Program is leading efforts to secure a new high-performance computing (HPC) cluster. This state-of-the-art resource will be a powerful resource available to the CSS program, providing the computational power necessary for advanced data analysis and modeling. Additionally, the RCP has assembled the Research Computing Advisory Council, a group of experts dedicated to supporting research computing initiatives across the university. These efforts will directly benefit the CSS program by ensuring access to cutting-edge computational resources and expert guidance. Finally, the RCP currently supports the Discovery HPC cluster and this resource will continue to be available to your efforts until the time that we secure and install a new cluster.

The RCP is committed to enhancing the visibility and advocacy for the CSS program within the broader academic and research communities. We believe that the CSS program will further elevate NMSU's reputation for excellence in interdisciplinary research and contribute significantly to addressing critical state and regional workforce needs.

We look forward to collaborating with the CSS program and supporting its development and success. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or require further assistance.

Sincerely,

Tanner Schaub, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice President for Research
New Mexico State University
tschaub@nmsu.edu and (575) 646-5156



Luis Cifuentes, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research, Creativity, and Economic Development
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM 88012
(575) 646-3425
vpr@nmsu.edu

June 24, 2024

To whom it may concern:

The Office of the Vice President for Research, Creativity, and Economic Development (RCED) is fully supportive of the proposed interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science.

The mission of RCED is to advance “University success in research, scholarship, and creative activity through exemplary service to the faculty, staff, and student corps.” The proposed Ph.D. program is aligned with this mission, and also with the current university strategic plan—LEADS 2025. In particular, the program will further progress on Goal 2 (“Elevate Research and Creativity”)—especially Objective 2.2 (intentionally growing social science research excellence).

The program will further strengthen the university’s reputation for excellence in interdisciplinary partnerships. While the program will be administratively housed in the Department of Sociology, the curriculum spans across Computer Science, Psychology, Management, Geography and Environmental Studies, Public Health Sciences, and Applied Statistics. These units represent three of NMSU’s colleges—something that few of our other Ph.D. programs can claim.

Importantly, as the program proposal makes clear, this program will also position graduates to meaningfully contribute to economic and workforce development needs in the state and region.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Luis Cifuentes'.

Luis Cifuentes, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research, Creativity, and Economic Development
Professor of Geological Sciences



Department of Psychology
MSC 3452
Science Hall 220
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001

June 10, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Department Head of Psychology in the College of Arts & Sciences at NMSU, I support Psychology Department courses being listed in the Computational Social Science Ph.D. program curriculum.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at aconway@nmsu.edu or 575-646-5130 if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Andrew R. A. Conway

Andrew R. A. Conway, Ph.D.

Professor & Department Head
Department of Psychology
New Mexico State University



Department of Public Health Sciences
College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation
New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
Phone: (575) 646-4300
publichealth.nmsu.edu

24 June 2024

From: Becky Pearson, PhD
Department Head, Public Health Sciences

To: David G. Ortiz, PhD and Marshall A. Taylor, PhD
Department of Sociology
Re: Letter of support for development of the Computational Social Science (CSS) doctoral degree

Dear Dr. Ortiz and Dr. Taylor,

I am pleased to submit this letter of support on behalf of the proposed PhD in Computational Social Science (CSS). The proposed program will build on current capacity in HEST for training students for our interconnected but distinct professional realms. As both a public health academic and a department head, I view social sciences research methods as an essential element of graduate preparation—one that, as a cross-disciplinary, social transformation-focused academic collective, we should and can be leading.

Additionally, I appreciate the structure of the proposed CSS program. This new opportunity is thoughtfully outlined and highly collaborative. However, it offers collaboration without burdening affiliated departments in terms of workload, even as it stands to be quite attractive to socially and structurally focused professionals and others seeking further graduate education.

Again, I am fully in support of the proposed program. Please feel welcome to reach out to talk further or to let me know how my colleagues and I can support your efforts.

Warmly,

Becky

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Becky Pearson'.

Becky Pearson, PhD, MPH

Department Head, Public Health Sciences
CHSS Building, Rm 326F, x8194
bpearson@nmsu.edu
College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation
New Mexico State University



Adele Doser, Ph.D.

NM Universities Campus Partnership Manager

May 24th, 2024

David G Ortiz, Ph.D., Department Head
Department of Sociology
New Mexico State University
Science Hall 286
1290 Frenger Mall
Las Cruces, NM 88003-0001

To whom it may concern:

Sandia National Laboratories (Sandia) is supportive of New Mexico State University's (NMSU) proposal for a new Ph.D. program in Computational Social Science (CSS). Although Sandia is not a participant in the proposal, the effort closely aligns with our support of DOE's strategic initiatives in data science and its application. Sandia Labs believes collaborating with New Mexico State University in this effort through its DOE-funded research will enhance CSS training in New Mexico and provide an opportunity to attract both in-state and out-of-state students to the state for their education, also providing them with a skillset that translates to quality, high-paying in-state jobs with great upward career mobility. The program that's being proposed by this NMSU group is uniquely positioned to address critical state needs: brain drains, demographic cliffs, and increasing workforce needs.

Sandia National Laboratories is a government-owned-contractor-operated facility operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC (NTESS) for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) / National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) under Management and Operating (M&O) Contract DE-NA0003525. As a DOE M&O Contractor, NTESS is obligated to offer its unique services to entities that wish to acquire these unique services using a DOE-approved agreement mechanism. Providing Sandia's services to this New Mexico State University group is subject to DOE review and approval in accordance with associated DOE policies and regulations. Services may be acquired under a DOE-approved bilateral contract with post award.

Adele Doser, NM Schools partnership manager is the primary POC for this support letter (contact info below).

Sincerely,

Adele Doser, Ph.D.
NM Universities Campus Partnership Manager

Sandia National Laboratories

P.O. Box 5800, MS 1432
Albuquerque, NM 87185

Phone: 505-284-5945
Email: abdoser@sandia.gov





Department of Sociology
College of Health, Education & Social Transformation
New Mexico State University
PO Box 30001, MSC 3WSP
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
Tel: 575-646-3448
sociology@nmsu.edu

June 4, 2024

To whom it may concern:

This letter is to express the faculty's strong support for the proposed interdisciplinary Computational Social Science (CSS) Ph.D. program that will be administratively housed in the Department of Sociology.

As a faculty, we have discussed this proposed CSS PhD program multiple times in our faculty meetings during the past two-years. Out of 11 full-time tenure-track faculty members, 10 have expressed their strong commitment to teach and advise students enrolled in the program. As this indicates, we are quite excited to start this innovative interdisciplinary degree that will enable graduate students to research and study emerging topics important to our society. The CSS degree will provide our students with the necessary tools to leverage computational methods –artificial intelligence, machine learning, and other data-science related techniques–, and pair them with a deep understanding of social issues.

The CSS PhD will produce graduates who will be able to fill emerging tech positions in a large variety of employment opportunities that require using computational methods to research and analyze large amounts of data involving people's behaviors, actions, and trends. These positions are in very high demand in all industry sectors. Students prepared in this program will be provided with exceptional career growth and labor prospects, as careers in data science fields are predicted to see the largest growth in the next ten years.

Further, the addition of this PhD program to the Sociology Department at NMSU will enable our unit to enhance its already strong research enterprise, making it more competitive to continue receiving external funding from federal agencies. As of this coming year, our department helped contribute more than \$7,584,760 to the University in federal grants and will fund at least six graduate assistants through those research grants. We are committed to continue using our resources to help sustain this promising doctoral program well into the future.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. I can be reached through the Department of Sociology at NMSU at (575) 646-2750 or by e-mail at dgortiz@nmsu.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David G. Ortiz', written over a horizontal line.

David G. Ortiz, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and Department Head, Department of Sociology
Faculty Fellow Center for Latin American and Border Studies (CLABS)



College of Health, Education and Social Transformation

MSC 3AC
New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
575-646-5858
hest.nmsu.edu

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to articulate the College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation (HEST) Dean's Office strong support for the proposed Computational Social Science Ph.D. program proposed by the Department of Sociology.

We are very excited to support this innovative forward-looking doctoral degree program that represents the interdisciplinary and transformative nature of the educational and research programming, which is at the heart of HEST's mission and vision. The Computational Social Science degree will prepare our students for a workforce that increasingly requires knowledge about and skills of computational methodological approaches applied to the research and solution of deep social problems. This area of study provides a high career growth coupled with meaningful transformational potential.

Furthermore, the addition of this PhD program to the Department of Sociology at NMSU will enable the unit to enhance its already strong research enterprise, making it more competitive to continue receiving external funding from federal organizations like the National Science Foundation (NSF) and other state and federal agencies.

Owing to these excellent prospects and our belief in the benefits of this program for our students and our state workforce, we have already demonstrated strong support for this program by committing funds for three new and additional graduate assistant positions for the Sociology Department. In addition, a new colleague joining the department this fall specializes in Computational Sociology, which illustrates the dedication to innovation and the promotion of this new interdisciplinary program across the college.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rick Marlatt'.

Rick Marlatt, Ph.D.

Dean and Professor

College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation

New Mexico State University



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # H-2

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By:

Jon Juarez
Department Chair, DACC
Shannon Bradley
Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs,
DACC

Agenda Item:

Artificial Intelligence Technician – Associate of Applied Science

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

Approval of the Artificial Intelligence Technician – Associate of Applied Science program proposal as presented.

Executive Summary

The Associate of Applied Science in Artificial Intelligence Technician is a 60 credit associates degree that can lead to a Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology (online) program that is housed in the College of Engineering. This proposal is a response to the State Educational Priorities of identifying Information Technology and Cybersecurity as a “Priority Sector,” indicating a workforce development need.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 15% growth from 2022 to 2032 in computer and information technology occupations, including AI related roles. In New Mexico, where industries like aerospace, energy, and healthcare are prominent, an associate in Artificial Intelligence would prepare students for roles that leverage AI to enhance operational efficiency and innovation. This program will strengthen DACC’s role in the regional ecosystem by building on existing CTE pathways and creating new opportunities for students.

The proposed associate of applied science has support from Spaceport America, Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance (MVEDA), NASA White Sands Test Facility, and the Computer Science Alliance. It was developed with direct input and feedback from advisory council members comprised of local professionals, K-12 educators, and four-year degree educators.

The impact of creating an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Artificial Intelligence with two embedded certificates of completion and two existing certificates of completion is estimated to be \$21,883 over five years. This estimate is based upon the median per credit compensation for a full-time faculty member as stated in the NMSU Dona Ana Community College Faculty Overload Compensation Policy Revised for Fiscal Year 2024-25 (Effective fall 2024). The estimate assumes a 2% base-pay increase, year over year. There are no new resources needed from the library, classroom space, or computer labs.

References:

See attached the academic program proposal, presentation, and supplemental materials.

Prior Approvals:

The Artificial Intelligence Technician – Associate of Applied Science has achieved prior approvals (PIM approval path) including:

Student Records Office (Gabrielle Martinez) - July 1, 2025

Doña Ana Advanced Technologies Division Dean (Laura De La Cruz) – July 2, 2025

Doña Ana Curriculum Committee Chair (Adrian Manriquez) – September 5, 2025

Doña Ana Vice President for Academic Affairs (Rigo Rincones) – December 3, 2025*

Doña Ana Community College President (Vicki Haggard) – December 4, 2025

Community Collage Academic Vice Presidents (CCAVP) (Mark Cal) – December 9, 2025**

Regents Student Success Committee - February 25, 2026

**Shannon Bradley originally approved the proposal for the Academic Affairs office at DACC on November 24, 2025. The proposal was rolled back to the DA VPAA office on November 24, 2025.*

***CCAVP is now known as Community College Academic Officers (CCAO).*

Artificial Intelligence Technician Associate of Applied Science New Program Proposal

Shannon M. Bradley,
Acting Vice President
Academic Affairs

Jon Juarez,
Chair
Computer and Information Technology

Credits	Coursework
17	General Education
11	AI and Machine Learning
6	Programming Languages
6	Visualization and Analytics
6	Database Concepts and Design
6	Operating Systems
8	Electives
60	TOTAL Credits

Automatic

Embedded Certificate of Completion

- Artificial Intelligence Technician

Optional

Embedded Certificate of Completion

- Data Analytics (Computer Technology)
- Computer Information Systems

Artificial Intelligence Technician - Certificate of Completion

Course	Title	Credits
CIST 2251	Python Programming II	3
CIST 2321	Visual Analytics	3
CIST 2331	Predictive Analytics	3
AIML 1310	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence	3
AIML 2310	Deep Learning	4
	TOTAL Credits	16

Data Analytics (Computer Technology) - Certificate of Completion

Course	Title	Credits
CIST 1680	Linux Essentials	3
CIST 1411	Introduction to Networks*	4
CIST 2321	Visual Analytics	3
CIST 2331	Predictive Analytics	3
AIML 1310	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence*	3
TOTAL Credits		16

Computer Information Systems – Certificate of Completion

Course	Title	Credits
CIST 1680	Linux Essentials	3
CIST 1411	Introduction to Networks*	4
CIST 2311	Database Concepts and Principles	3
CIST 2210	Introduction to Structured Query Language	3
CIST 2251	Python Programming II (or CTEC 152 JAVA Programming)	3
	TOTAL Credits	16

Key Courses in the Degree Pathway

CIST 2321. Visual Analytics

This course explores the principles and practices of Business Intelligence (BI), which is a critical component of modern decision-making in organizations. Students will learn how to collect, analyze, and visualize data to support strategic and tactical business decisions.

CIST 2331. Predictive Analytics

This course delves into the field of predictive analytics, equipping students with the skills to use historical data to make future predictions. Students will learn various predictive modeling techniques, data preprocessing, model evaluation, and the practical applications of predictive analytics in real-world scenarios.

Key Courses in the Degree Pathway

AIML 1310. Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

Cover basic concepts and applications of artificial intelligence (AI), including AI project cycles. Focus on issues surrounding AI, including ethics, bias, culture, regulations, and professional expectations.

AIML 1320. Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence

Compares and applies machine learning solutions for computer vision, natural language processing, and data analytics.

AIML 2310. Deep Learning

Deep learning mimics the human brain, enabling systems to make predictions with incredible accuracy. Students in this course identify the main deep learning algorithms and applications.

Questions

1082: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TECHNICIAN - ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

In Workflow

1. Student Records Office - Programs (gdmart@nmsu.edu)
2. DAAT Division Dean (denisel@nmsu.edu)
3. DA Curriculum Committee Chair (mysmith@nmsu.edu)
4. DA VPAA (rrincon@nmsu.edu; denisel@nmsu.edu; shanbrad@nmsu.edu)
5. DA President (mftorres@nmsu.edu)
6. CCAVP - Chair (mcal@nmsu.edu)
7. Board of Regents (cavotta@nmsu.edu)
8. Student Records Office - CIP (gdmart@nmsu.edu)
9. DA HLC (jkouame@nmsu.edu)
10. Student Records Office (gdmart@nmsu.edu)

Approval Path

1. Tue, 01 Jul 2025 23:49:26 GMT
Gabrielle Martinez (gdmart): Approved for Student Records Office - Programs
2. Wed, 02 Jul 2025 15:33:43 GMT
Laura De La Cruz (lauradel): Approved for DAAT Division Dean
3. Fri, 05 Sep 2025 22:43:24 GMT
Adrian Manriquez (amanriqu): Approved for DA Curriculum Committee Chair
4. Mon, 24 Nov 2025 16:40:31 GMT
Shannon Bradley (shanbrad): Approved for DA VPAA
5. Tue, 25 Nov 2025 00:16:12 GMT
Denise Lilley (denisel): Rollback to DA VPAA for DA President
6. Wed, 03 Dec 2025 20:19:11 GMT
Rigo Rincones Gomez (rrincon): Approved for DA VPAA
7. Thu, 04 Dec 2025 19:57:46 GMT
Vicki Haggard (vhaggard): Approved for DA President
8. Tue, 09 Dec 2025 16:16:35 GMT
Mark Cal (mcal): Approved for CCAVP - Chair

New Program Proposal

Date Submitted: Mon, 30 Jun 2025 20:41:57 GMT

Viewing: 1082 : Artificial Intelligence Technician - Associate of Applied Science

Last edit: Fri, 21 Nov 2025 22:19:29 GMT

Changes proposed by: Jon Juarez (jjuarez)

Submission Information

The Degree Type will factor into the level and the submissions that must occur for HED and HLC.

- Community College Types: Applied Associate Degree, Associate Degree, Certificate, Concentration
- Main/Global Campus Undergrad Types: Bachelor's Degree, Concentration, Minor
- Main/Global Campus Graduate Types: Master's Degree, Doctoral Degree, Certificate, Concentration, Minor

Degree Type

Applied Associate Degree

The Degree Title dropdown has all existing degree titles in Banner, if you do not see the one you are looking for you will select "Other" then in the New Degree Title box you will type out the official title of the degree (as you would want it to appear on a students record, transcript, and/or diploma).

Degree Title

Associate in Applied Studies

Academic Level

Undergraduate

The Catalog Title will be what is displayed in the catalog page. The standard format is Major (Concentration) - Degree Title. (I.e., Mathematics (Secondary Education) - Bachelor of Science. Note: If there is no concentration you would just list the Major - Degree.

Catalog Title

Artificial Intelligence Technician - Associate of Applied Science

College

Community College

Campus

Dona Ana Campus

Division

DA - Advanced Technologies

Department

Community College

Effective Catalog

2026-2027

If opting for a Global program, specify "Global Campus" under campus type. You must have a Program Proposal on file with Global Campus prior to submission of a new Global program. Contact Global Campus for more information.

Program Teaching Modality

Evening

Online

Traditional-Face to Face

CIP Code

110102 - Artificial Intelligence.

Normal or typical length of time for students to complete the program (in years)

2

Curriculum Information**Program Learning Outcomes**

	Learning Outcomes
Outcome 1	Identify fundamental concepts of computer hardware, software, and networking principles to support IT system operations.
Outcome 2	Explain the role of cybersecurity protocols in protecting data and systems from unauthorized access and threats.
Outcome 3	Apply logic to develop functional scripts, code, and programs for the automation of computer tasks.
Outcome 4	Configure computer devices to establish secure and efficient network connectivity for optimal performance.
Outcome 5	Analyze system performance metrics to diagnose and troubleshoot hardware, software, or network issues.
Outcome 6	Assess the appropriateness of IT solutions for specific organizational needs, considering scalability, security, and cost-effectiveness.
Outcome 7	Synthesize data to interpret and visualize trends for informed decision-making.
Outcome 8	Evaluate AI solutions for fairness, bias, and ethical considerations, ensuring responsible use in real-world scenarios.

List of academic departments/units and or institutions involved in the delivery of courses**Department/Unit**

DACC - Computer and Information Technology Department

The Course Requirements, need to be in the standard format for the catalog because this piece of the form will be imported directly onto the catalog page. See the Student Records Website for a guide. The total number of credits at the bottom of the course list will be the "official" total for the degree. Please make sure it adds up correctly.

Course Requirements**(60 credits)**

NOTE: Degree requires a minimum of **60 credit hours** and a cumulative GPA of 2.0.

NOTE: Students must earn a final grade of C- or better in all Major Requirements courses and achieve a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0. A grade of C- or better is required in ENGL 1110G Composition I and designated Mathematics courses.

Prefix	Title	Credits
General Education		
<i>This degree requires courses from Areas I, II, III, and V; student do not need to take additional courses to complete the General Education requirements.</i>		17
<i>This degree requires courses from Areas I, II, III, and V; student do not need to take additional courses to complete the General Education requirements.</i>		
ENGL 1110G	<i>Composition I (This degree requires courses from Areas I, II, III, and V; student do not need to take additional courses to complete the General Education requirements.)</i>	4
Area II: Mathematics		
Choose one from the following for three - four credits:		
MATH 1220G	College Algebra (or higher) ¹	3
Area III: Laboratory Sciences		
CSCI 1115G	Modern Computing in Practice ¹	4
Area V: Humanities		
Choose one from the following for three credits:		
PHIL 1120G or PHIL 2110G	Logic, Reasoning, & Critical Thinking ¹ Introduction to Ethics	3
<i>General Education Elective</i>		
ENGL 2210G	Professional and Technical Communication ⁴	3
Major Requirements		
AIML 1310	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence	3
CIST 2321	Visual Analytics	3
CIST 2331	Predictive Analytics	3
AIML 1320	Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence	4
CIST 1680 or BCIS 1160	Linux Essentials Windows	3
AIML 2310	Deep Learning	4
CIST 2311 or CSCI 2220	Database Concepts and Principles Introduction to Data Structures and Algorithms	3
CIST 2210	Introduction to SQL (Structured Query Language)	3
CTEC 152 or CSCI 1720	JAVA Programming Computer Science I	3
CIST 2251 or CSCI 2410	Python Programming II Practical Programming	3
CIST 2636 or CIST 2611	CLOUD Computing Windows Hybrid Server Administration	3
Electives		
From AIML, BCIS, C S, CSCI, CIST, E T, or MATH		8
Total Credits		60

The Road Map, need to be in the standard format for the catalog because this piece of the form will be imported directly onto the catalog page. See the Student Records Website for a guide. All courses and the total number of credits at the bottom of the roadmap should match the Course Requirements list.

Road Map**(60 credits)****A Suggested Plan of Study**

The contents of this roadmap may vary depending on initial student placement in mathematics and English. This is only a suggested plan of study for students and is not intended as a contract. Individual student academic plans may vary. Please contact your academic advisor to create a plan that works for you. Course availability may vary from fall to spring semester and may be subject to modification or change.

NOTE: Degree requires a minimum of **60 credit hours** and a cumulative GPA of 2.0.

NOTE: Students must earn a final grade of C- or better in all Major Requirements courses and achieve a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0. A grade of C- or better is required in ENGL 1110G Composition I and designated Mathematics courses.

Students must complete all University degree requirements, which include: General Education requirements and elective credits to total at least 61 credits. Developmental coursework will not count towards the degree requirements and/or elective credits, but may be needed in order to take the necessary English and Mathematics coursework.

		Credits
Semester 1		
ENGL 1110G	Composition I	4
AIML 1310	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence	3
CIST 1680 or BCIS 1160	Linux Essentials or Windows	3
CIST 2321	Visual Analytics	3
CIST 2251	Python Programming II	3
Credits		16
Semester 2		
ENGL 2210G	Professional and Technical Communication	3
PHIL 1120G or PHIL 2110G	Logic, Reasoning, & Critical Thinking or Introduction to Ethics	3
CIST 2311 or CSCI 2220	Database Concepts and Principles or Introduction to Data Structures and Algorithms	3
CIST 2331	Predictive Analytics	3
CIST 2636 or CIST 2611	CLOUD Computing or Windows Hybrid Server Administration	3
Credits		15
Semester 3		
MATH 1220G	College Algebra (or higher)	3
CIST 2210 or CSCI 1720	Introduction to SQL (Structured Query Language) or Computer Science I	3
AIML 1320	Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence	4
Electives		
From AIML, BCIS, CSCI, C S, CIST, E T, or MATH		4
Credits		14
Semester 4		
CSCI 1115G	Modern Computing in Practice	4
CTEC 152 or CSCI 2210	JAVA Programming or Object-Oriented Programming	3
AIML 2310	Deep Learning	4
Electives		
From AIML, BCIS, CIST, C S, E T, or MATH		4
Credits		15
Total Credits		60

The admission requirements are needed if the program has a specialized admission process that exceeds the campus requirements for either the Undergraduate or Graduate admission standards.

• For graduate programs, the Graduate School asks for the following information (Provide a summary of the documents and specific information each student will need to provide to be considered for the program): Description, Statement of Purpose/Letter of Interest; Specialty Letter of Interest; Resume; Writing Sample; GRE; GMAT; Special Questions (if yes, what questions need to be answered); Letters of Recommendation (how many are required); NMSU Faculty Representative (if yes, how many); Foreign Language; WES Evaluation; Special License or Verifications (what license/verification)

Admission Requirements

Not applicable.

Does this program lead to licensure, yes or no?

No

Is credit for prior learning built into the program, if yes explain?

Not Applicable

Faculty Members Employed to Teach in the Program

Existing Personnel

Jon Juarez

FTE

1.22

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

The current course load per academic year is 12 credits. The course load in the program that will be taught each academic year is approximately 6 credits. These credits will not be exclusive to the program in Artificial Intelligence.

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

CTEC 120 - IT Infrastructure Support I; CTEC 130 - Linux Workstation; CTEC 135 - Windows Workstation; CTEC 220 - Internship; OECS 101 - Computer Basics; OECS 105 - Introduction to Information Technology; OECS 125 - Operating Systems; OECS 185 - PC Maintenance and Repair I; OECS 200 - Accounting on Microcomputers; OECS 207 - Windows; OECS 208 - Internet Applications; OECS 215 - Spreadsheet Applications; OECS 220 - Database Application and Design; OECS 221 - Internship I; OECS 222 - Internship II; OECS 230 - Data Communications and Networks I; OECS 231 - Data Communications and Networks II; OECS 261 - Introduction to Networks; OECS 262 - Essentials of Routing and Switching; OECS 263 - Network Fundamentals; OECS 264 - Network Routing Protocols; OECS 269 - Network Security; OECS 275 - PC Maintenance and Repair II; OECS 290 - Computer Technology Capstone.

Description of academic qualifications

Jon Juarez has been an NMSU Regents Professor / Master Teacher since 2004, has served as department chair of the Computer and Information Technology Department since 2004, and received the NMSU Donald C. Rousch Award for Teaching Excellence in 1999. He is a co-author of eight textbooks published by Glencoe and McGraw-Hill. He holds a Master of Arts in Educational Administration.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

As department chair for over 20 years, his responsibilities have included: 1) Supervise and evaluate the full-time faculty, part-time faculty, and support staff. 2) Prepared annual faculty performance evaluations for each full-time department faculty. 3) Develop fall, spring, and summer class schedules. 4) Advise students and assist them in selecting courses each semester. 5) Evaluate student transcripts for degree eligibility. 6) Revise and update the curriculum to reflect current industry standards and trends. 7) Oversee daily operations of the department. Ensure that the department complies with accreditation standards. 8) Assist Division Dean in the preparation and oversight of the budget. 9) Oversee department/program assessment of student learning, and responsible for inventory of equipment and supplies, catalog changes, and textbook requisitions. 10) Participate in the screening, interviewing, orientation, and mentoring of faculty. 11) Act as liaison to other educational entities. 12) Ensure safety compliance of the server/security laboratory and the network laboratory.

Existing Personnel

Gustavo Pina

FTE

1.22

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

Gustavo Pina's course load is 30 credits annually. He will be teaching intermediate and advanced courses within the AI pathway, totaling approximately 18-24 credits per year. His course load will include teaching the CSEC 190 - Artificial Intelligence Applications I and CSEC 190 - Artificial Intelligence Applications II.

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

CSEC 110 - Principles of Cybersecurity; CSEC 280 - Introduction to Cyber Defense; CTEC 120 - IT Infrastructure Support I; CTEC 130 - Linux Workstation; CTEC 135 - Windows Workstation; CTEC 140 - Introduction to Database Design; CTEC 152 - JAVA Programming; CTEC 156 - Python Programming; CTEC 180 - Introduction to Networking; CTEC 230 - Introduction to Linux Server Administration; CTEC 235 - Introduction to Windows Server Administration; OECS 101 - Computer Basics; OECS 105 - Introduction to Information Technology; OECS 128 - Operating Systems Linux/Unix; OECS 145 - Mobile Application Development; OECS 185 - PC Maintenance and Repair I; OECS 195 - Java Programming I; OECS 207 - Windows; OECS 220 - Database Application and Design; OECS 221 - Internship I; OECS 234 - Linux Server; OECS 237 - Windows Server; OECS 261 - Introduction to Networks; OECS 262 - Essentials of Routing and Switching; OECS 269 - Network Security; OECS 275 - PC Maintenance and Repair II.

Description of academic qualifications

Professor Pina has a Master's Degree in Information Technology and has been a tenured full professor for approximately 5 years. He is a member of DACC's Artificial Intelligence Governing Council. He has led over 15 AI workshops and given AI presentations at four regional conferences. He has over 20 years of higher education teaching experience.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

In 2019, Professor Pina played a pivotal role in developing the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Cybersecurity at Doña Ana Community College, significantly enhancing the institution's academic portfolio. Committed to professional excellence, he has pursued specialized cybersecurity training to deepen his expertise. Additionally, Professor Pina has demonstrated a strong dedication to advancing his knowledge in artificial intelligence, enabling him to develop and deliver innovative, cutting-edge curriculum.

Existing Personnel

Leilani Benoit

FTE

1.0

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

Leilani Benoit's course load is 30 credits annually. He will be teaching introductory and intermediate courses within the AI pathway, totaling approximately 12-18 credits per year.

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

CSEC 110 - Principles of Cybersecurity; CTEC 140 - Introduction to Database Design; CTEC 180 - Introduction to Networking; CTEC 185 - Routing and Switching Essentials; CTEC 220 - Internship; CTEC 280 - Scaling Networks; CTEC 285 - Connecting Networks; CTEC 290 - Network Security; OECS 105 - Introduction to Information Technology; OECS 185 - PC Maintenance and Repair I; OECS 195 - Java Programming I; OECS 207 - Windows; OECS 211 - Word Processing Applications; OECS 215 - Spreadsheet Applications; OECS 220 - Database Application and Design; OECS 221 - Internship I; OECS 222 - Internship II; OECS 261 - Introduction to Networks; OECS 262 - Essentials of Routing and Switching; OECS 263 - Network Fundamentals; OECS 264 - Network Routing Protocols; OECS 290 - Computer Technology Capstone.

Description of academic qualifications

Professor Benoit has a Master's Degree in Learning Technologies. She was recognized in 2019 as New Mexico's Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year. She is a Certified Cisco Networking Academy Instructor and has earned recognition from Cisco on numerous occasions.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Professor Benoit has been a distinguished educator at Doña Ana Community College (DACC) for over 20 years, earning the esteemed rank of full professor. A dedicated advocate for student success, she founded the Women in Technology student organization at DACC, empowering the next generation of innovators. In 2019, she played a pivotal role in the development of the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Cybersecurity, strengthening the college's academic offerings. Committed to excellence, Professor Benoit consistently pursues professional development, including specialized industry training, to enhance her expertise and support the delivery of cutting-edge courses.

Existing Personnel

John Carter

FTE

1.0

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

John Carter's course load is 30 credits annually. He will be teaching introductory and intermediate courses within the AI pathway, totaling approximately 15-21 credits per year.

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

CTEC 120 - IT Infrastructure Support I; CTEC 130 - Linux Workstation; CTEC 135 - Windows Workstation; CTEC 140 - Introduction to Database Design; CTEC 145 - Introduction to Database Management; CTEC 150 - Mobile Application Programming; CTEC 152 - JAVA Programming; CTEC 156 - Python Programming; CTEC 180 - Introduction to Networking; CTEC 235 - Introduction to Windows Server Administration; OECS 101 - Computer Basics; OECS 105 - Introduction to Information Technology; OECS 128 - Operating Systems Linux/Unix; OECS 185 - PC Maintenance and Repair I; OECS 192 - C++ Programming I; OECS 195 - Java Programming I; OECS 204 - Linux Operating System; OECS 207 - Windows; OECS 215 - Spreadsheet Applications; OECS 220 - Database Application and Design; OECS 261 - Introduction to Networks.

Description of academic qualifications

Professor Carter has a Master's Degree in Learning Technologies and has taught at DACC both as a part-time instructor and full-time professor for 21 years. He was recognized in 2021 as New Mexico's Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year. He is a Certified Cisco Networking Academy Instructor who has extensive in-person and online teaching experience. He has taught numerous dual credit courses for a diverse population of student learners, including first-generation college students.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Professor Carter has been a distinguished educator at DACC for over 20 years, earning the esteemed rank of full professor. As the dedicated advisor for the SkillsUSA student organization at Doña Ana Community College, Professor Carter has successfully guided students to state and national competitions, leading to numerous prestigious awards and showcasing their exceptional talents. In 2019, he played a pivotal role in the development of the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Cybersecurity, strengthening the

college's academic offerings. Committed to excellence, Professor Carter consistently pursues professional development, including specialized industry training, to enhance his expertise and support the delivery of cutting-edge courses.

Existing Personnel

Juan Martinez

FTE

1.0

Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

Juan Martinez's course load is 30 credits annually. He will be teaching introductory courses within the AI pathway, totaling approximately 12 credits per year.

Courses taught in other programs currently offered

CTEC 120 - IT Infrastructure Support I; CTEC 130 - Linux Workstation; CTEC 135 - Windows Workstation; CTEC 180 - Introduction to Networking; OECS 208 - Internet Applications.

Description of academic qualifications

Juan Martinez is an Assistant Professor with four years of teaching experience at DACC and four years of teaching experience at Central New Mexico. He holds a Master's degree in Learning Technologies.

Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Professor Martinez has extensive teaching experience in person, online, and at Early College High School campuses. He is bilingual and very experienced working with a diverse student population, including underserved populations.

Documentation of department faculty support

CIT Department Meeting Minutes March 2025.pdf

Curriculum Committee Approval

CIT Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Fall 2024.pdf

NM Higher Education Department

Does the associate level degree articulate to a bachelor's degree program, yes or no?

Yes

If yes, to which bachelor's degree program?

College of Engineering - Information and Communication Technology - Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology (Online)

Describe your institution's plan for periodic evaluation of program effectiveness. Include criteria that will be used to determine effectiveness.

The effectiveness of all programs at Doña Ana Community College (DACC) is evaluated annually through a formal program review process. A more thorough, comprehensive review of each program is performed every five years. The program review process requires program faculty to review and analyze performance related data from previous academic years and respond to questions based on that data and their analysis thereof. The review includes a five-year comparison of number of degrees awarded, number of certificate of completions awarded, number of declared majors, persistence rate, retention rate, headcount, majors in courses headcount, female students enrolled, male students enrolled, seatcount, majors in courses, pass-rate, withdraw rate, early college high school students, and dual credit students. Activities, interventions, etc., are planned accordingly and a summary report is provided to the DACC Program Review Committee and DACC administration. Discussions involving all groups follow, culminating in a meeting of the program faculty with the DACC VPAA. The department will continue to use established metrics to the new certificate of completion.

The proposed program must meet one or more specified needs within the state or region. Clear and convincing evidence must be provided of the reality and extent of such need.

State Educational Priorities

The New Mexico Public Education Department has identified Information Technology and Cybersecurity as a "Priority Sector" under the "Build New Mexico" initiative, emphasizing the workforce development need. The state's investment in computer science and information technology initiatives, as reported in the 2017-18 Perkins IV Career and Technical Education (CTE) report, demonstrates a commitment to building pathways from K-12 to higher education. Existing CTE pathways, such as Cybersecurity and Database Design

& Programming, provide a strong foundation for integrating AI education. An AAS in AI at DACC would extend these pathways by preparing students for emerging roles that complement these existing programs.

Employment Trends in AI Demand

In the U.S., the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta reported a growing demand for AI skills across educational levels, with 77% of AI job postings requiring a bachelor's degree or higher and 8% open to candidates with an associate degree, particularly for technical and support roles. These roles, such as AI application developers and machine learning technicians, are well-suited for an AAS degree that provides practical, hands-on training. In New Mexico, where industries like aerospace, energy, and healthcare are prominent, an AAS in AI would prepare students for roles that leverage AI to enhance operational efficiency and innovation.

Regional Job Market Demand

As of January 28, 2025, local job postings demonstrate demand for career fields that support AI-focused activity. Approximately 125 jobs are listed under "computer" jobs. The skills required, such as programming, data analysis, and system management, are foundational to AI roles. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 15% growth, from 2022 to 2032, in computer and information technology occupations, including AI-related roles. In New Mexico, the demand for AI skills is evident in industries such as healthcare, finance, and manufacturing, where AI is used for predictive analytics, automation, and decision-making.

Addressing Regional Skill Gaps

The Ernst & Young report cited in Houston Community College's AI program highlights a "talent crisis" in AI, with over half of senior AI professionals noting a skills gap in recruitment. This gap is particularly acute for entry-level and mid-level roles that require practical experience rather than advanced degrees. An AAS in AI at DACC would address this gap by providing accessible, hands-on training in programming (e.g., Python, Java), data analysis, and AI model development, tailored to regional employer needs. Additionally, the program would emphasize ethical AI use and human-centric skills, such as critical thinking and problem-solving.

Enhancing Educational Pathways

An AAS in AI would strengthen DACC's role in the regional education ecosystem by building on existing CTE pathways and creating new opportunities for students. The program would align with K-12 initiatives funded under Perkins IV, enabling high school students in programs like Java Programming or Informatics to pursue advanced AI training at DACC. Graduates could enter the workforce directly or transfer to four-year institutions, such as New Mexico State University. This pathway supports the state's goal of fostering economic mobility through education-to-work connections, as noted in the Harvard ALI Social Impact Review.

If the program fills a regional workforce need, describe collaboration between your institution and regional employers in the program development.

The proposed Associate of Applied Science for Computer Information Systems has been developed with direct input and feedback from advisory council members, comprised of local professionals, K-12 educators, and four-year degree educators. This degree was supported by a vote at the Fall 2024 CIT Advisory Council meeting.

If similar programs are offered at other public higher education institutions in New Mexico, provide a rationale for offering an additional program.

The proposed Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Artificial Intelligence (AI) at Doña Ana Community College (DACC) directly addresses a critical workforce need in southern New Mexico by preparing students for entry-level and mid-level roles in AI application development. Letters of support from Spaceport America, Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance (MVEDA), NASA White Sands Test Facility, and the Computer Science Alliance underscore the regional demand for AI skills, emphasizing applications in autonomous systems, predictive analytics, and cybersecurity.

These collaborations ensure the AAS program is tailored to regional economic drivers, integrating practical, industry-relevant skills like machine learning, data analytics, and ethical AI implementation. By leveraging partnerships with these organizations, DACC will create a robust talent pipeline, connecting students to internships and job opportunities in southern New Mexico's growing technology sector.

The development of the AAS in Artificial Intelligence has been a collaborative effort, ensuring alignment with regional workforce needs and industry standards. The program was developed with direct input and feedback from advisory council members, comprised of local professionals, K-12 educators, and four-year degree educators. This degree was supported by a vote at the Fall 2024 CIT Advisory Council meeting, reflecting broad community and industry endorsement. Key regional partners have committed to supporting the program through technical expertise, collaborative activities, and advisory roles, ensuring its relevance and impact.

The AAS in Artificial Intelligence at DACC fills a critical regional workforce need by preparing students for high-demand roles in AI-driven industries, aligning with New Mexico's "Build New Mexico" initiative and addressing skills gaps identified by regional employers. The program's development, guided by the CIT Advisory Council and supported by Spaceport America, MVEDA, NASA, and the Computer Science Alliance, ensures it meets the practical and technical needs of the aerospace, logistics, and agribusiness sectors. Through technical expertise, collaborative activities, and advisory support, these partnerships will enhance curriculum relevance, foster industry connections, and position DACC as a leader in AI education, driving economic growth in southern New Mexico.

Enrollment and Graduation Projections

Student Type	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
New Students	3	5	5	8	8
Continuing Students	0	3	8	11	15
Graduates	0	3	6	7	10

Annual Retention Rate Target (%)

65

Target 100% Graduation Rate (%)

70

Target Job Placement Rate (%)

75

Describe the faculty resources that are needed to initiate the program. Will any additional faculty be needed?

The current classroom and laboratory spaces will be adequate to support the degree for over five years. In addition to the AAS degree, two embedded certificates are being submitted for approval and inclusion in the 2026-27 DACC/NMSU catalog.

Faculty in the Computer and Information Technology Department are capable of teaching the courses for this certificate. Budget impact will be limited to increasing the number of sections taught to meet anticipated enrollment demand.

Describe the library and other academic support resources that are needed to initiate the program. What, if any, additional resources will be needed?

No additional library and academic support will be needed within the first five years.

Describe the physical facilities of the institution that will be used for the first five years of the program. Will additional space or modifications of existing space be required within the first five years of program operation.

All courses can be taught online and in standard computer classrooms. Additional physical space will not be needed.

Describe the institution's equipment and technological resources needed for the first five years of the program? What, if any, additional equipment will be needed?

All courses can be taught using existing classroom equipment. Additional equipment or technological resources will not be needed.

Describe any other operating resources needed to initiate the program.

All courses can be taught with existing operating resources. Specific professional development for faculty may be requested through funding opportunities such as Perkins funding.

Are there existing external facilities that will be used? Have agreements been established to ensure use of those facilities?

No external facilities will be needed.

Provide a clear analysis of the projected cost of the proposed program and the sources of funding that will support it for the first five years that the program will be offered. Include a discussion of how any of the needed resources discussed in your attachment. This should be completed in collaboration with your institution's financial office.

Financial Impact - Cost Estimate - 5 Years.pdf

Letters of Support

Letter of Support DACC AI AAS.pdf

Accreditation**Is the program seeking specialized accreditation?**

No

Is specialized accreditation required for licensure or practice in the program?

No

Has the program already obtained the appropriate specialized accreditation? If so, attach a copy of the letter from the agency granting accreditation?

No

If the program has not yet obtained accreditation but has begun the process of seeking or plans to seek specialized accreditation, specify the name of the agency and provide the time-line for completing the process.

Not applicable.

If the program does not plan to seek specialized accreditation, provide a rationale for not-seeking accreditation here. (if there is not a specialized accrediting organization for this program, indicate so as your rationale).

Industry-recognized accreditation for 2-year degrees in artificial intelligence does not exist.

If the program includes any of the following, explain how it will ensure that student work and levels of knowledge competencies achieved will be comparable to those achieved through traditional formats: (Award credit for prior learning; use of compressed time frames; use of on-line deliver; inclusion of accelerated formats; or other approaches to learning.)

Not applicable.

Will the program be part of a contractual or consortial arrangement (yes/no, explain)?

No.

If the program is planning any involvement by external organizations (other than from accredited higher education institutions) in the key operations as identified below, provide the information as requested.

Type of Involvement	Name of External Organization	Percent of Involvement
Other support for delivery of instruction	NMSU Canvas	100

Briefly describe the planning process for determining the need for this new program, including the role of faculty in the planning and approval process.

The CIT Advisory Council was presented with proposals for an Associate of Applied Science in Artificial Intelligence with an embedded Certificate of Completion in Artificial Intelligence. The Council voted in full support during its Fall 2024 meeting.

Describe the process for assessing and improving student learning in the proposed program.

All programs at DACC are required to participate in ongoing assessment of student learning through a formal, annual assessment process. Programs participate in the process by developing an assessment plan, implementing that plan, collecting/analyzing assessment information/data, determining appropriate actions, and continuing assessment to verify improvement. The CIT Department aligns courses to industry standards and/or certifications. Student learning outcomes for each semester is evaluated against national standards.

Describe the process for assessing and improving student persistence and completion, in the new program.

Student persistence and completion will be assessed through the advising process and active tracking of students' progress at the department level. Student persistence and completion will be improved through active faculty intervention, mentoring, and involving students in Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) and/or related professional organizations, which have been shown to increase student retention and completion.

If any of the institution's accreditation relationship (including other regional, specialized, or national accrediting agencies) are currently under or recommended for a negative status or action (e.g., withdrawal, probation, sanction, warning, show-cause, etc.)

Not applicable.

If the institution is undergoing or facing substantial monitoring, special review or financial restrictions from the U.S. Department of Education or other federal or state government agencies.

Not applicable.

If the institution's senior leadership or board membership has experienced substantial resignations or removals in the past year.

Not applicable.

If the institution is experiencing financial difficulty through conditions, such as, a currently declared state of exigency, a deficit of 10% or more, a default or failure to make payroll during the past year, or consecutive deficits in the two most recent years.

Not applicable.

Institution Specific Information Area

Primary target audience for the program (e.g., full#time, part#time, traditional college age, working adults, transfer students, military personnel, or particular ethnic group)

CTE Recruitment: The CIT Department and the Advanced Technologies Division will participate in established CTE Career Days / Events held at DACC and local high schools.

Current Computer and Information Technology Students: CIT Faculty will inform current CIT students enrolled in courses of the new degree and provide information including a degree audit to encourage students to dual major.

Traditional Students (direct from high school): High school CTE instructors will be contacted and provided literature on the new degree.

Adult IT Professionals: Adults already employed in the computer technology fields at White Sands Missile Range will be contacted through the post distribution systems.

Active Military: In conjunction with DACC's recruitment efforts, the CIT department will contact the educational training centers of Fort Bliss and White Sands Missile Range.

How does the proposed program align with the department, college and university mission?

DACC Mission Statement is "DACC is a responsive and accessible learning-centered community college that provides educational opportunities to a diverse community of learners in support of workforce and economic development."

In support of "workforce and economic development," information technology skills have been identified as a high demand skill for Dona Ana County. In support of providing "educational opportunities," the certificate will be offered online and in class. Courses will be offered in the evenings for flexibility to students working full- or part-time. The proposed program aligns with the mission of DACC by providing students with employment preparation as well as a university transfer option.

Discuss how admissions criteria and strategies will recruit a diverse student body?

DACC has an open-door policy to ensure accessibility for a diverse student body. Applicants must submit an online undergraduate application through New Mexico State University's portal, selecting DACC as their campus, and provide official high school transcripts or GED/HiSET results. These flexible requirements accommodate first-time freshmen, non-traditional students, and dual-credit high school students. By accepting GED/HiSET credentials and offering placement testing, DACC removes barriers for non-traditional learners, including adult education participants and those from underrepresented groups, aligning with the college's mission to enhance educational access and workforce development.

DACC's recruitment strategies for the AI program will build on existing initiatives to attract a diverse student population, emphasizing inclusivity and regional engagement. The college's partnerships, such as with ENLACE Southern, facilitate college visits for middle and high school students from diverse backgrounds, exposing them to AI career pathways through hands-on workshops and networking with faculty and industry professionals. Programs like the Workforce Center and Adult Education offer tailored outreach, including ESL and college-readiness classes, targeting low-income and multilingual learners in areas like Sunland Park and Chaparral. Collaborations with regional employers will promote the AI program through industry events and social media, highlighting career opportunities in aerospace and technology to attract underrepresented groups. Scholarships, like those from the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico, further support access for financially disadvantaged students.

What controls are in place to ensure that the information presented to all constituencies in advertising, brochures, and other communications will be accurate?

To ensure the accuracy of information presented in advertising, brochures, and other communications for the proposed Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Artificial Intelligence at Doña Ana Community College (DACC), multiple controls are in place. DACC's Marketing and Communications Department plays a central role in overseeing the creation and approval of all marketing materials. This department collaborates with program faculty and the CIT Advisory Council, which includes local professionals, K-12 educators, and four-year degree educators, to verify that content accurately reflects the program's curriculum, outcomes, and industry alignment. All promotional materials undergo a rigorous review process to ensure factual accuracy, alignment with New Mexico State University (NMSU) branding guidelines, and compliance with accreditation standards set by the Higher Learning Commission.

Additionally, DACC leverages partnerships with regional stakeholders, such as Spaceport America, Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance (MVEDA), NASA White Sands Test Facility, and the Computer Science Alliance, to validate the relevance and accuracy of career-focused content in communications. These partners provide real-time insights into industry needs, ensuring that claims about job opportunities and skill requirements are current and precise. The Marketing and Communications Department also employs templates and standardized messaging to maintain consistency across platforms, including the DACC website (dacc.nmsu.edu), social media, and printed materials. Regular updates to these materials are scheduled to reflect changes in program details or workforce trends, and feedback from prospective students and community members is incorporated to ensure clarity and accessibility, particularly for diverse audiences in the Las Cruces and border region.

Student Records Office Uploads

HLC wants CIP Code information that is currently being offered at both the institutional and degree level for 4-digit and 2-digit CIP codes for all new programs. This information will be provided by the University Student Records office and added to the form during the HED submissions workflow step.

Reviewer Comments

Denise Lilley (denisel) (Tue, 25 Nov 2025 00:16:12 GMT): Rollback: Rolling back due to CTEC 152

Key: 1082

CIT Department Minutes

Date: March 25, 2025, 11 am - 12 pm | Meeting location Zoom: nmsu.zoom.us/j/9349514480

Meeting Called by	Tim Chappell	Attendees
Type of Meeting	Department Meeting	Tim Chappell, Kathy Achen, Jennifer Allen, Leilani Benoit, John Carter, Daniel Kerr, Juan Martinez, Gus Pina, Karina Sigala, and Alma Rivera.
Facilitator	Tim Chappell	
Note Taker	Alma Rivera	

Tim Chappell announced his retirement and that Gus Pina would serve as the new interim department chair. He also stated that the next CIT Advisory Committee Meeting would be on April 28, 2025, in the evening from 5:30 to 7:00. The room is being confirmed but will most likely be in DADM.

Chappell presented that the CIT department is planning to submit a new Associate of Applied Science degree in Artificial Intelligence. The CIT advisory committee had previously approved the creation of the degree and certificates. Jon Juarez presented the proposal to the members of the Advisory Committee, who voted unanimously to approve the new degree. Chappell asked the faculty to vote on whether they supported the new degree. All faculty voted in favor.

Chappell then presented the newest versions of the fall and summer schedules. For the fall schedule, he noted that the classes haven't been fully staffed because of the new changes, including his retirement and the anticipation that a new faculty member would be hired by August. He asked if anyone had specific ideas. Gus Pina pointed out that some of the Linus courses, especially the online classes, could be consolidated.

John Carter spoke about SkillsUSA and the approaching deadlines. There were no committee updates.



CIT Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: December 4, 2024, time 5:30 pm | Meeting location DADM 202

Meeting Called by	Tim Chappell	Attendees
Type of Meeting	Advisory Committee	Tim Chappell, Daniel Kerr, Leilani Benoit, Justin Stone, Kathy Achen, Gustavo Pina, Jon Juarez, Leslie Juarez, Erika Orozco, John Carter, Jennifer Allen, Joe Butler, Tim Seibert, Jody Riley, Megan Hernandez-Smith, Juan Martinez, Juan Carlos Nunez, and Alma Rivera.
Facilitator	Tim Chappell	
Note Taker	Alma Rivera	

Tim Chappell announced that in support of improving teaching methods for job-specific skills in response to evolving industry trends, particularly in AI, cloud security, and visualization, the CIT department developed a questionnaire survey of industry partners and improve the training of essential skills.

Key themes include the importance of AI literacy, ethical considerations such as data privacy, and defining minimum skill sets for job roles. There is a strong emphasis on the necessity of statistics and data visualization prerequisites, alongside skills like Python and SQL for effective data communication. The group advocates for improving database education using modern tools like Power BI rather than outdated options like Access.

Additionally, the conversation noted that Cybersecurity skills, particularly concerning hardware and software firewalls, are also emphasized. The team aims to adapt curricula to provide graduates with the knowledge needed to navigate the complexities of modern technology. Also discussed was the development of certificate programs in networking and administration, reflecting on past challenges with Oracle. Despite setbacks, there is strong demand for skills, with a recruiter from Los Alamos National Labs expressing interest in hiring high school graduates with Oracle expertise.

Chappell discussed integrating certification paths from companies like Cisco and Microsoft into existing courses. He mentioned a paused initiative for Amazon employees seeking education, emphasizing the need for management training and proposing an eight-week course format. The dialogue also noted the changing value of certifications versus degrees in the job market. The group discusses the significance of programming classes as valid experience and introduces the Fed Virtual Training Environment for IT training.

Jon Juarez introduced that the CIT department is planning to create an Associate of Applied Science degree in Artificial Intelligence. Included is the development of three new courses: CSEC 115 - Artificial Intelligence Essentials, CSEC 190 - Artificial Intelligence Applications I, and CSEC 191 - Artificial Intelligence Applications II. Juarez also stated that embedded in the AAS degree would be at least one Certificate as well as concentrations in AI added to existing degrees. By a voice vote, the members of the Advisory Committee voted unanimously to approve the creation of the new degree. Overall, the conversation stresses the importance of continuously updating educational offerings to align with industry demands, particularly in technology and cybersecurity.

The committee members discussed applications of AI in local industry, noting that the federal government, due to security reasons, is restricting AI use for technical support, but various areas of government are experimenting with AI. The meeting concluded at 7:28 pm.

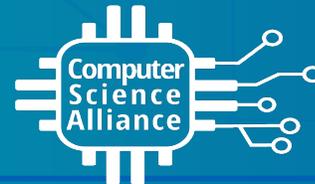
Financial Impact

The impact of creating an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Artificial Intelligence with two embedded certificates of completion and two existing certificates of completion is estimated to be \$21,883 over five years. This estimate is based upon the median per credit compensation for a full-time faculty member as stated in the NMSU Dona Ana Community College Faculty Overload Compensation Policy Revised for Fiscal Year 2024-25 (Effective fall 2024). The estimate assumes a 2% base-pay increase, year over year.

Semester	Credits	Faculty Salary Per Credit	Extended Cost	Yearly Increase
Year 1 Fall	0	\$1,413	\$0	
Year 1 Spring	3	\$1,413	\$4,239	\$4,239
Year 2 Fall	3	\$1,441	\$4,324	
Year 2 Spring	3	\$1,441	\$4,324	\$8,648
Year 3 Fall	0	\$1,470	\$0	
Year 3 Spring	0	\$1,470	\$0	\$0
Year 4 Fall	3	\$1,499	\$4,498	
Year 4 Spring	3	\$1,499	\$4,498	\$8,997
Year 5 Fall	0	\$1,529	\$0	
Year 5 Spring	0	\$1,529	\$0	\$0

Total Increase: \$21,883

NOTE: Budget increases will be offset by tuition. Projected addition of sections is contingent on enrollment increases.



June 27, 2025

Dr. Mónica F. Torres
President, Dona Ana Community College
Chancellor, NMSU System Community Colleges
Dona Ana Community College
2800 Sonoma Ranch Blvd.
Las Cruces, NM 88011

Dear Dr. Torres,

As Co-founder and Executive Director of the Computer Science Alliance, I am thrilled to extend our support for the proposed Associates of Applied Science Degree in Artificial Intelligence. Our mission to expand access to high-quality computer science education and foster a skilled, diverse workforce in New Mexico aligns with the Center's innovative vision. By integrating robotics with disciplines like artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and data analytics, this program addresses critical regional, state, and national needs.

The Computer Science Alliance is committed to supporting the Center through technical expertise, collaboration of activities, and serving as advisory personnel. We offer technical expertise in computer science and related fields essential to AI. Our network of educators, industry professionals, and researchers can provide insights into programming (e.g., Python, C++), AI algorithms, and cybersecurity protocols, enriching the center's curriculum with cutting-edge knowledge tailored to industries like aerospace, agriculture, and manufacturing—sectors vital to New Mexico.

We propose a collaboration of activities to enhance the center's educational impact. The Alliance has extensive experience facilitating workshops, coding boot camps, and student competitions focused on robotics applications. These activities will engage DACC students to bridge theoretical concepts with practical skills supporting the Center's emphasis on interdisciplinary, project-based education. We also see opportunities to connect the Center with K-12 schools in southern New Mexico, building a pipeline to higher education and tech careers.

We also commit to serving as advisory personnel to guide the center's development. Our expertise in computer science education and workforce trends will support the Center's mission of integrating advanced computing topics into the new curriculum. This will ensure alignment with industry demands and national STEM priorities. Our statewide perspective, combined with an understanding of southern New Mexico's economic context, will help foster entrepreneurship and cross-industry collaboration.

The Center's focus on innovation and economic growth resonates with the Computer Science Alliance's commitment to empowering students and communities through technology. I am excited to explore this partnership further and welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paige Prescott".

Paige Prescott
Executive Director, Computer Science Alliance
paige@computersciencealliance.org

Friday, June 27, 2025

Dr. Mónica F. Torres
President, Dona Ana Community College
Chancellor, NMSU System Community Colleges
Dona Ana Community College
2800 Sonoma Ranch Blvd.
Las Cruces, NM 88011

Dear Dr. Torres,

As Director of Business Development at the Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance (MVEDA), I am excited to offer our unwavering support for the proposed Associate of Applied Science Degree in Artificial Intelligence at Dona Ana Community College. MVEDA's mission to drive economic growth, attract investment, and support a thriving business ecosystem in the Mesilla Valley finds a powerful partner in this visionary program. A skilled technical workforce in manufacturing, aerospace, and agriculture directly addresses the innovation needs of southern New Mexico, aligning with our goals for regional prosperity. Artificial Intelligence will be a key component to drive this innovation.

MVEDA is committed to supporting the DACC by providing experience and expertise in local industry trends and workforce demands. With our pulse on sectors like logistics, aerospace, and agribusiness, we can offer insights to shape the center's training in areas such as robotic automation and data analytics, ensuring graduates are equipped to meet employer needs across the border region.

We look forward to developing a collaboration of activities. MVEDA can act as a resource and a facilitator of connections between local employers and workforce pathway establishments. In addition, MVEDA can assist with the organization of industry tours, workshops, and networking events that expose students to real-world applications of robotics in our member businesses. These initiatives will complement the DACC's goals of fostering practical skills that emphasize industry integration and economic development.

A core strength of MVEDA is our ability to facilitate connections to regional industries. Our extensive network—spanning companies in Las Cruces, El Paso, and Ciudad Juárez—can link the Center with employers for internships, capstone projects, and job placements. This will create a talent pipeline that strengthens the Mesilla Valley's competitiveness in advanced manufacturing, logistics, and aerospace, supporting the Concept Paper's vision of cross-border collaboration and economic resilience. Our team brings expertise in economic development and business strategy, and we are ready to serve as advisors to ensure the Center not only meets current industry demands but also fosters the expansion of the local economy.

DACC's proposed Associate of Applied Science Degree in Artificial Intelligence is poised to elevate southern New Mexico as a hub of innovation and opportunity. MVEDA sees this as a transformative step toward building a skilled technical workforce that will attract investment and bolster our region's economic vitality. I look forward to deepening this partnership and look forward to discussing how we can collaborate further.

Sincerely,



Jessica Lyn Robles
Director of Business Development
Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



White Sands Test Facility
P.O. Box 20
Las Cruces, NM 88004-0020

June 28, 2025

Dr. Mónica F. Torres
President, Dona Ana Community College
Chancellor, NMSU System Community Colleges
Dona Ana Community College
2800 Sonoma Ranch Blvd.
Las Cruces, NM 88011

Dear Dr. Torres,

I am writing to convey my support for the establishment of an Associates of Applied Science Degree in Artificial Intelligence at Dona Ana Community College. As an Aerospace Technologist (AST), I recognize the immense value this initiative brings to southern New Mexico. I offer my technical expertise rooted in my extensive experience with aerospace and aeronautical engineering, operations, quality, and safety. Located just miles from Las Cruces, NASA White Sands Test Facility, DoD White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico's Spaceport America, and Blue Origin's West Texas Launch Site conduct critical propulsion and materials testing along with rocket launch activities with precision and safety. I can share knowledge on automated applications in hazardous environments which would enhance the DACC curriculum providing students with real-world aerospace and aeronautical insights.

My expertise spanning aerospace and aeronautical engineering, operations, quality, and safety, are available to advise on curriculum development, ensuring it reflects the technical rigor required in aerospace and related fields. I have supported the following robotic educational activities: SciAd (NASA WSTF), F.I.R.S.T. (NASA), B.E.S.T (NMSU), Lego League, and NM MESA. Additionally, I can provide guidance on aligning the program with federal workforce priorities, fostering a talent pipeline that benefits the aerospace, aeronautical and local industries.

The proposed Associates of Applied Science Degree in Artificial Intelligence has the potential to transform southern New Mexico by preparing a skilled technical workforce to support the growing aerospace and aeronautical industry which is a cornerstone of our region's economic growth. Its proximity to WSTF, WSMR, Spaceport America, Blue Origin, and the Santa Teresa [NM] growing industrial park and border crossing complex offers strategic focus on robotics, automation, and artificial intelligence making it an ideal partner for advancing our shared goals of safety, efficiency, and innovative technological progress. I am excited to explore this collaboration further.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Hallock
Explosives Safety Officer,
Operational Safety Branch (QSS0) | Glenn Research Center
OSMA, ISMD, Explosives Safety Discipline Lead | NASA Headquarters

June 27, 2025

Dr. Mónica F. Torres
President, Doña Ana Community College
Chancellor, NMSU System Community Colleges
Dona Ana Community College
2800 Sonoma Ranch Blvd
Las Cruces, NM 88011

Dear Dr. Torres,

I am pleased to offer Spaceport America's support for the proposed Associate of Applied Science Degree in Artificial Intelligence at Dona Ana Community College. As a commercial spaceport, located just 50 miles northeast of Las Cruces, we recognize that advances in artificial intelligence will shape the future of aerospace and related technical industries. This initiative aligns seamlessly with our mission to foster innovation, develop economic growth, and develop a skilled technical workforce in New Mexico.

Spaceport America is committed to supporting this initiative in three key areas. First, we will provide technical expertise by sharing insights from our operational experience with cutting-edge aerospace technologies. Our team, which oversees our vertical launch complexes and collaborates with industry leaders like Virgin Galactic and UP Aerospace, can offer guidance on integrating robotics into aerospace applications—such as autonomous systems for launch operations and payload handling—enhancing the DACC's curriculum and hands-on training opportunities.

Second, we will assist with marketing and promotion, elevating the center's visibility and impact. Opportunities include social media channels and industry events to highlight DACC's achievements and attract students, technical partners, and industry employers. This collaboration will showcase the vital link between robotics education and the burgeoning space economy, reinforcing southern New Mexico's reputation as a hub for technological innovation.

Finally, we are prepared to serve as advisors to the new program. Our leadership and technical staff, including me, are available to participate in advisory capacities. With my background in electrical engineering from New Mexico State University and years of experience in aerospace business development, I am personally committed to assisting DACC connect with regional industries like aerospace, logistics, and advanced manufacturing.

Spaceport America looks forward to working with DACC to bring this visionary program to fruition.

Sincerely,



Scott McLaughlin
Executive Director



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # H-3

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: Lois Standford
*Academic Department Head,
Anthropology*

Agenda Item:

Katie Richards
Assistant Professor, Anthropology

Anthropology Course Fee Request

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

Approval to increase the fee cap for NMSU Archeology Field School (ANTH 388/488/522)

Executive Summary:

The Anthropology Department is requesting approval to increase the Archaeological Field School course fee range from \$500–\$1,500 to \$500–\$2,000 to address rising costs and expanded field school options. Costs reflect inflation, increased fuel and housing prices, and a reduced cohort size of 11 students due to the lack of guaranteed TA support and safety considerations. Comparative analysis shows that NMSU's field school remains competitively priced relative to national programs, even with the proposed fee increase.

References:

Please see the following summary and detail capital property summary and detail reports.

Prior Approvals:

Arts & Science Dean, Enrico Pontelli on 12/07/2025

Interim Provost, Lakshmi Reddi on 12/22/2025

University System Budget Committee on 01/15/2026

President, Valerio Ferme on 01/28/2026

Regents Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee on 03/03/2026

Request to increase fee cap for the NMSU Archaeology Field School

ANTH 388/488/522

Dr. Katie Richards, Assistant Professor

College of Arts and Science

Department of Anthropology



NM
STATE



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.[®]
New Mexico State University

What is the Field School?

- Students learn how to identify, document, and excavate real archaeological sites.
- Provides essential hands-on, experiential training for students that is not possible to reproduce in the classroom.
- Provides career training that give our students advantages in the job market.



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®

The NMSU Archaeology Field School Program

- Four archaeology faculty rotate teaching the field school at different research sites, and thus, a variety of price points

Professor	Location	Length	Student Fees ¹	Includes room and board
Richards	USA: Utah	6 Weeks	\$2000 (proposed)	Yes (camping + housing)
Jenks	USA: New Mexico (northern)	6 Weeks	\$1300	Yes (camping)
Walker	USA: New Mexico (local)	6 Weeks	\$800	No
Hart	Belize	4 Weeks	\$7000 (includes tuition) ²	Yes

¹ NMSU tuition currently runs ~\$325-\$390/credit (undergrad) and ~\$350-\$425/credit (grad) depending on residency, so tuition the 6-credit field school costs between \$1950 and \$2550.

² Run through NMSU Study Abroad.



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®

Why is field school necessary?

- The course is not required for all anthropology majors; however, it is essential for students seeking careers in archaeology
- An Archaeology Field school is required for:
 - **Federal employment** (per the US Office of Personnel Management-OPM)
 - **Professional work on federal land** (per the US Secretary of the Interior's professional standards)
 - **Professional work on state/private land** (per NMAC 4.10.08)



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®

The 2026 Field School: Utah June 7th- July 19th

- The 2026 field school will include two components, both essential for field training
 - Two weeks of pedestrian survey: Southeastern Utah
 - Four weeks of excavation: Northern Utah
- Each location will include both field work and field trips to a variety of archaeological sites



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®

Costs



FOOD



TRANSPORTATION



ACCOMMODATIONS



TRAVEL INSURANCE



SUPPLIES



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®

Costs: Food (\$6708)

- \$12/day per student
- 11 students + 1 GA + 1 professor = 13 people
- $\$12 \times 43 \text{ days} \times 13 \text{ people} = \$6,708$



Thank you



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®

Costs: Transportation (\$7625)

- Fuel
 - Estimated 4520 for 3 vehicles
 - Estimated MPG: 14
 - For 1800, we will be pulling a trailer. Estimated MPG for truck with trailer = 9
 - Estimated cost of gas \$4.00/gallon
 - Total Fuel subtotal= \$4175
- Vehicle maintenance/repair=
 - Tire replacement = \$450/tire, 3 tires/season = \$1350
 - Oil changes \$100/vehicle, 3 vehicles = \$300
 - Front end alignment, \$100/vehicle, 3 vehicles: \$300
 - Repairing tires and breaks on the trailer: \$1500
 - Maintenance subtotal= \$3450
- Transportation total: \$7625



Costs: Accommodations (\$5480)

- Southern Utah: Camping
 - 2 Campground sites at the Devil's Canyon Campground
 - \$20/night x 12 nights = \$480
- Northern Utah: Field Houses
 - House 1: \$2000 (4 weeks)
 - House 2: \$3000 (4 weeks)



Costs: Supplies (\$1836)

- Non-food camping/housing supplies – (trash bags, paper towels, toilet paper, etc)
 - \$225/week x 6 weeks = \$1350
- Field Supplies
 - Yearly cost of replacing basic field supplies = \$486
 - Breakdown of the cost of individual supplies is available upon request



Cost: Travel Insurance

- $\$.19/\text{day} \times 11 \text{ students} = 2.06/\text{day}$
- $2.09 \times 43 \text{ days} = \90



Costs: Total

- Food: \$6708
- Transportation: \$7625
- Accommodations: \$1836
- Supplies: \$5480
- Travel Insurance: \$90
- Total: 21,739/11 students = \$1975 per student



Field gear yearly cost

Item	cost	# needed	years until replaced	Total Cost	Cost per item per year
wheelbarrow	65	3	10	195	19.5
screens	150	5	10	750	75
munsell	300	2	10	600	60
trowels	20	11	6	220	36.66667
brushes	12	6	2	72	36
large graph paper	80	1	6	80	13.333333
large clipboards	50	2	15	100	6.666667
measuring tape	10	5	6	50	8.333333
tool boxes	30	3	15	90	6
line levels	2	6	2	12	6
sharpies	20	1	1	20	20
pencils	10	1	1	10	10
floor brushes	50	3	5	150	30
bellows	2	3	5	6	1.2
line string	15	1	1	15	15
chaining pins	26	4	5	104	20.8
pick axes	40	3	5	120	24
small pick axes	30	3	3	90	30
shovels	25	9	5	225	45
short shovels	19	6	5	114	22.8
			Total cost per year		486.3



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.®

Below is a breakdown of archaeological field schools offered in the United States in 2026. This information was gathered largely from the American Institute of Archaeology (AIA) website and is not exhaustive; however, AIA is a common place for institutions to advertise their field schools. I also included any other field school I was aware of offered in the American Southwest, if they were not advertised on AIA.

The pricing breakdown among the programs was not directly comparable. Many included a flat rate that lumped tuition and fees together. To make the NMSU field school fee comparable, I added the in-state tuition rate for 6 credits to the proposed 2026 field school fee of \$1975. The length of each field school also varied, so I divided the total cost by the number of weeks to show a cost per week breakdown.

Field Schools fees with tuition costs

Institution	Costs	Includes tuition	Includes Room and Board?	weeks	Cost per week with tuition
IFR- TX: Brooks County Survey	5700	yes	yes	3	1900
IFR- AR Fayetteville Curation literacy	7095	yes	yes	5	1419
IFR- Cahokia Courthouse	6950	yes	yes	5	1390
CFS - CRM at Kampsville	4940	yes	yes	4	1235
IFR- Amache Historical site	5795	yes	yes	5	1159
IFR- Noble-Wieting	6925	yes	yes	6	1154
IFR - Champaign Archaeological Curation	6725	yes	yes	6	1120
CFS - Asylum Hill, Mississippi	4795	yes	yes	5	959
Weber State University – Willard Bay	2754	yes	no	4	688
CFS - Drone and Photogrammetry Flagstaff, AZ	2631	yes	no	4	658
NMSU	3911	yes	yes	6	652
**Range Creek University of Utah	4265	yes	yes	8	533
***UNM	2860	yes	yes	6	477

*IFR – Institute for Field Research and CFS – Center for Field Sciences. As fewer universities directly offer field schools, most are now offered through programs like IFR and CFS that offer field schools run by university professors and offer tuition from a designated school or record.

** The University of Utah was gifted a ranch in Range Creek, Utah, so they do not need to pay for accommodations. Also, while their season lasts 8 weeks, they only house and feed students for a total of 40 days (on off days students are responsible for their own food). Our field school lasts 43 days, so the cost per day is actually less.

*** UNM is working on Park Service land and does not have to pay for housing.

Field Schools that do not include tuition costs

Institution	Costs	Includes tuition	Includes Room and Board?	weeks	Cost per week without tuition
Crow Canyon Archaeological Center University of Arizona /Archaeology SW Preservation Field School	1500	no	yes	2	750
NMSU Alabama Historical Commission -CRM Training at Old Cahawba Archaeological Park	1975	no	yes	6	329
	1000	no	room not board	4	250

Gas Prices in Utah over the past 4 years

For 2025 and 2024 I found specific news articles from summer stating average gas prices in the state. For 2023 and 2022 I found a report that gave the average gas price for the entire year.

Summer 2025- \$3.31

Summer 2024 - \$3.60

2023 (includes entire year) – 3.88

2022 (includes entire year) – 4.23

While only prices in 2022 were over \$4/gallon, prices in 2023 and 2024 were in the mid to high \$3/gallons. As the price of gas is difficult to predict, my estimates include the high end of possibilities to ensure that we do not go over budget.

Anth 388/488/522: Archaeological Field School (Summer 2026)

Budget draft

Instructor: Dr. Katie Richards

Dates: June 7th- July 19th (6 weeks)

Anticipated expenses

1) Transportation

a. Travel insurance

- i. At a supplemental rate of \$0.19/day, 11 students would cost \$2.09/day. In 6 full weeks (43 days), this comes to approximately \$90

Subtotal: \$90

b. Fuel – we will be taking three NMSU vehicles (2 Ford Expeditions and 1 Ford F150). The milage estimate is below

- i. Las Cruces to Blanding, Utah (the first field site): 545 miles
- ii. Daily transport from Blanding to the field site for two weeks: 360 miles
- iii. Blanding, Utah to Ogden, Utah (the second field site): 430 miles
- iv. Daily transport from Ogden to the field site for 4 weeks: 1000 miles
- v. Field trip to Fremont Indian State Park: 550 miles
- vi. Field trip to the Natural History Museum of Utah: 80 miles
- vii. Driving around town to pick up supplies: 630 miles
- viii. Trip from Ogden, Utah to Las Cruces, NM: 925 miles

Estimated total miles per vehicle: 4520 miles

Expedition estimated mpg: 14 = 646 for two vehicles, at \$4.00/gallon = \$2584

Truck estimated mpg: 14 for daily commute. We will also be bringing a trailer, which we will leave at our field sites. Estimated mpg for truck and trailer 9 mpg. Estimated miles driven with trailer: 1800.

Truck w/o trailer: 2720 miles at 14 mpg = 194 at \$4.00/gallon = \$777

Truck with trailer: 1800 miles at 9 mpg = 200 at \$4.00/gallon = \$800

Fuel subtotal: \$4161

c. Vehicle repair

- i. Tire replacement \$450/tire, 3 tires/season = \$1350
- ii. Oil Changes \$100/vehicle, 3 vehicles: \$300
- iii. Front end alignment, \$100/vehicle, 3 vehicles: \$300
- iv. Repairing the tires and breaks on the trailer: \$1500

Subtotal: \$3450

2) Food

- a. If there are 11 students + 1 GA + 1 professor, there will be a total of 13 people to feed per day. At a rate of \$12/person/day for 43 days equals \$6,708

Subtotal: \$6708

3) Supplies

- a. I estimate that we will spend \$225/week on non-food supplies needed by the students at the field school (trash bags, paper towels, toilet paper, etc).

\$225/week for 6 weeks = \$1350

Subtotal: 1350

- b. We will need to replace the field gear that will be worn out through normal wear and tear of the season. I estimate this will cost \$486.

Subtotal: \$486

4) Accommodations

- a. Camping in Blanding Utah at the Devil's Canyon Campground

- i. We will need two sites to accommodate us \$20/night 12 nights = \$480

- b. In Ogden, we will be renting two field houses to accommodate our students. I have reached out to property owners and negotiated rates for the four weeks we will be there.

- i. House 1: \$2000

- ii. House 2: \$3000

Subtotal: \$5480

Totals:

Transportation: \$7,701

Food: \$6,708

Supplies: \$1836

Accommodations: \$5480

Total: 21,725/11 students = \$1,975 per student

Recommended student fee: \$1,975 per student

NM STATE UNIVERSITY

Agenda Item: 1

University System Budget Committee

Meeting Date: January 15, 2026

Submitted By:

Lois Stanford, Department Head, Anthropology
Katie Richards, Assistant Professor, Anthropology

Reviewed and Recommended By:

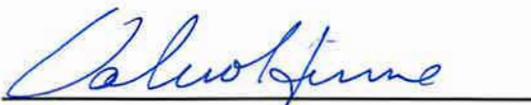
Dr. Enrico Pontelli, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
Approved: December 07, 2025

Dr. Lakshmi Reddi, Interim Provost and Chief Academic Office
Approved: December 22, 2025

University System Budget Committee
Approved: January 15, 2026

Requested Action for Presidential Approval:

This item was presented to the University System Budget Committee on January 15, 2026, as Action Item #2, to raise the course-fee cap for ANTH 388/488/522 from \$1,500 to \$2,000 to support expanded field school offerings and address inflationary costs. The committee approved the recommendation, and presidential approval is now requested to advance the item to the Regents' Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee for further consideration.



Valerio Ferme
President, New Mexico State University

01/28/2026
Date



Anthropology Department
New Mexico State University
1525 Stewart St., Room 331, MSC 38V
PO Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
Tel: 575.646.2725

MEMORANDUM

TO: University Budget Committee

THROUGH: Enrico Pontelli, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences;
Lois Stanford, Department Head, Anthropology Lois Stanford

FROM: Katie Richards, director of the 2026 archaeological field school

SUBJECT: Increasing the course fee range for the archaeological field school from \$500-1500 to \$500-2000 and 2026 fee justification

DATE: December 3, 2025


Digitally signed by c42709bd-17e3-4b17-9a42-188de739ec2
Date: 2025.12.07 10:23:44 -0700

Digitally signed by Lois Stanford
Date: 2025.12.04 08:16:00 -0700

I am requesting that the course fee range for Anth 388/488/522 be raised from the current rate of \$500-1500 to \$500-2,000 to account for inflation and the expanded field school options offered by new archaeology faculty.

Why field school is necessary: The NMSU archaeological field school is an optional, but critical, experience for archaeology students. The course is not required for the anthropology major or the archaeology minor; however, the Secretary of the Interior's professional standards requires supervised field experience and the U.S. Office of Personnel Management requires a field school. It is a necessary experience that makes our students competitive in the job market.

The NMSU Field School Program: The four archaeologists in the NMSU anthropology department rotate offering field school. The options are as follows:

- 1- Four weeks excavation in Belize (cost \$7000 including tuition and room and board run through NMSU study abroad)
- 2- Six weeks excavation and survey in Utah (cost - \$2000 not including tuition, room and board included)
- 3- Six weeks excavation and survey near Albuquerque (estimated cost - \$1300 not including tuition; room and board included)
- 4- Six weeks excavation in Las Cruces (estimated cost- \$800 not including tuition and students must find their own room and board).

The department offers field schools at a variety of price points, and we let students know the estimated costs of each field school so they can find one at a price that is comfortable to them.

The 2026 Field School in Utah: During the 2026 field school we will be spending 6 weeks in Utah conducting both archaeological survey and excavation. We will spend two weeks in Blanding, Utah (southeastern Utah) conducting survey. During this time we will be camping at

the Devil's Canyon Campground. For the following four weeks, we will be excavating a small site in Ogden, Utah (northern Utah). The field school fee covers the cost of accommodations, food, transportation (gas and routine maintenance of the vehicles), and field gear.

Costs: The costs of this field school are food, transportation, accommodations, and supplies. I have estimated on the high range for some of these numbers. I did this in case some items are more expensive than anticipated. I don't want the field school to end up in the red as the Anthropology Department does not have the operating budget to cover the additional costs if it does.

Food: I have estimated \$12/day per student for food. In the past colleagues have estimated \$10/day per student. I increased the cost this year to account for inflation.

Transportation: Over \$4000 of the transportation costs are fuel costs. I included a fuel cost of \$4/gallon. Last summer fuel costs in Utah were between \$3.25 and \$3.50/gallon; however, in recent years they have been as high as \$5/gallon. I want to ensure that we will be able to cover fuel costs even if the price per gallon is slightly higher than last summer. The vehicles we will be taking are owned by the Anthropology Department, which helps minimize costs; however, we need to make sure that we can cover normal wear and tear on the vehicles. Flat and worn out tires are a common hazard of the profession, so I have accounted for replacing up to 3 tires as well as conducting routine maintenance. I have also added the estimated cost for replacing the tires and brakes on the department's trailer which will be needed to haul our gear.

Accommodations: As for accommodations, for the first two weeks of the field school we will be in Blanding, Utah. There is a great campground just outside of Blanding that I've used for field camps in the past. We will be camping there. The last four weeks we will be Ogden, Utah. A colleague and I spent about 3 months trying to find good camping options near Ogden. We were looking for options that were comfortable, close to the site, and made logistical sense. After pursuing multiple avenues, we came up empty handed. Instead, I looked into renting two field houses. Most properties that would accommodate 13 people for four weeks cost \$6,000-12,000. Through contacts in the area, I was able to secure two houses for a total of \$5,000.

Supplies: The students will be using non-food supplies both in the field and at camp/the houses. These will include basics like paper towels, toilet paper, sandwich bags, and artifact bags. Students will also be using field equipment that needs to be periodically replaced such as trowels, shovels, screens, Munsell Soil Color books, pick axes, wheelbarrows, etc.

I note that this cost is significantly higher than previous NMSU field schools based in the U.S. The two main reasons for this are noted below

- 1- Our gas costs will be significantly higher since we are driving more, and we are staying in field houses in Ogden instead of camping.
- 2- We will only be accepting 11 students into the field school, instead of the 15 accepted in years past. The reasons for this are detailed in a letter to the provost that I would be happy to send if requested. To summarize it, there is no guaranteed TA support for the field school. Taking 15 students out into the field without the

additional supervision of TAs would be potentially dangerous and unethical. If I had guaranteed TA support, I would feel comfortable raising the cap to 15 students, which would significantly decrease the cost per student. However, as is, I only feel comfortable accepting 11 students.



Budget Office
 MSC 3AA
 New Mexico State University
 P.O. Box 30001
 Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
 575-646-2431, budget@nmsu.edu

Request for Course Fees

Date:	12/3/2025	Requesting Department:	Anthropology
College:	CAS	Contact Name & Phone Number:	Katie Richards 801-710-4420
Requested Effective Semester	Summer 2026	Course Prefix & Number	Anth 338/488/522
Course Name	Archaeological Field School	No. of Credit Hours	6

Amount Requested \$1975 Per Course Per Credit Hour (If multiple courses, attach summary.)

Please Forward to Next Reviewer/Approver.

Submitted By:	Date of Approval	Comments:
<u>Lois Stanford</u> Department Head	<u>12/4/2025</u> Date	<u>See attached memo</u>
<u>Enrico Pontelli</u> Dean, College	<u>12/7/2025</u> Date	<u>See attached memo</u>

Review-Budget Office	Date of Review	Comments
Kimberly G Rumford Digitally signed by Kimberly G Rumford Date: 2025.12.19 15:05:28 -07'00' Chief Budget Office	 Date	Seeking range \$500-2000 per course depending on location, subject to Budget Office review.

Forward to Provost for Approval Forward to University System Budget Committee Approval

Approval – Provost & Chief Academic Officer	Date of Approval	Comments:
<u>Approved to proceed to USBC by Lakshmi Reddi via email</u> Provost & Chief Academic Officer	<u>12/22/2025</u> Date	

Approval – University System Budget Committee	Date of Approval	Comments:
Meeting Date: _____ Voting Results: ____ yes ____ No	 Date	

Please attach detailed request to include:

- Justification
- Itemized Costs
- Average number of students enrolled in course
- A copy of the syllabus when possible



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.
New Mexico State University



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # H-4

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: Ammu Devasthali
Chair
Board of Regents

Agenda Item: Election of Officers

Requested Action of the Board of Regents: Election of Officers of the Board of Regents

Executive Summary:

The Board will elect a president, a president pro tem, and a secretary-treasurer. The president and president pro tem shall be referred to as the chair and vice chair of the Board, so as to not be confused with executive administrators. The person elected as secretary-treasurer shall, before entering upon the discharge of the duties, execute a bond to the state of New Mexico, to be approved by the governor of the state, and filed with the secretary of state, as required by statute. [NMSA 1978 §21-7-5 requirement satisfied by the blanket bond provide through the New Mexico Risk Management Division, per NMSA 1978 §10-2-15]

The election of officers will proceed with call for nominations from the floor starting with the chair, followed by the vice chair, and then the secretary-treasurer, consistent with Robert's Rules of Order.

References:

RPM 1.00-B (Article 3.2) – Bylaws of the Regents of New Mexico State University

Prior Approvals:

N/A



**Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page**

Agenda Item # I-1

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By:

Donna Ottaviano,
University Policy Officer

Agenda Item:

Summary of Revisions to the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP) for the period December 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026.

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

Informational only.

Executive Summary:

In accordance with ARP 1.10, the attached report provides a brief synopsis of policy actions approved by the President during the referenced period.

References:

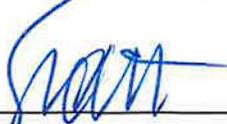
ARP 1.10, Part 5.5.B., provides that a summary of approved policy actions, with the exception of the non-substantive corrections and updates, be included as an informational item in the record of each regular meeting of the NMSU Board of Regents.

Prior Approvals:

N/A

Agenda Item Approved By:

Each office may determine required signatures (if any). All items should be routed through the President's Office, University General Counsel, or the Secretary of NMDA as appropriate.



 Scott Field, Deputy General Counsel

2-27-26

 Date

INFORMATIONAL REPORT
SUMMARY OF ARP REVISIONS (PERIOD: 12/01/2025-02/28/2026)

This informational report is submitted pursuant to ARP 1.10 (Part 5.5.B.) and includes a summary of approved policy actions between December 1, 2025, through February 28, 2026.

AMENDMENTS:

ARP 3.25 – Prohibition of Lawful Discrimination

Upon the President's approval, the operational policy was amended, effective January 12, 2026. This policy revision eliminates language related to Equity, Inclusion, Diversity, and Affirmative Action, which aligns with Executive Order 14173, "Ending illegal discrimination and restoring merit-based opportunity". NMSU's EID department has been reorganized and renamed, and Affirmative Action programs have already been discontinued, except for disability initiatives.

ARP 6.01 - Hiring

Upon the President's approval, the operational policy was amended, effective January 12, 2026. This policy revision eliminates language related to "underutilization" and "affirmative action", which aligns with Executive Order 14173, "Ending illegal discrimination and restoring merit-based opportunity".

ARP 6.72 – Department Head Responsibilities, Including Teaching

Upon the President's approval, the operational policy was amended, effective January 12, 2026. This policy revision eliminates language related to "underutilization" and "affirmative action", which aligns with Executive Order 14173, "Ending illegal discrimination and restoring merit-based opportunity".

ARP 9.10 – Staff Internal Promotion Process

Upon the President's approval, the operational policy was amended, effective January 12, 2026. This policy revision eliminates language related to "affirmative action", which aligns with Executive Order 14173, "Ending illegal discrimination and restoring merit-based opportunity".

ARP 4.55 – Grade Reports

Upon the President's approval, the academic policy was amended, effective February 13, 2026. This policy revision allows graduate students to repeat eligible courses for higher grades, with the higher grade replacing the lower grade in the GPA computation. All grades would remain on the transcript, but only the higher grade in the repeat class would be included in the computation of the student's GPA. This is now consistent with the policy for undergraduate students.



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # L

- Action Item
- Consent Item
- Informational Item

Presented By: Jeff Witte
Cabinet Secretary & Director
New Mexico Department of
Agriculture

Agenda Item: Report from the New Mexico Department of Agriculture to the Regents of New Mexico State University (Board of Agriculture)

Requested Action of the Board of Regents: None. Information only.

Executive Summary: This is a quarterly report provided to the Board of Regents from the New Mexico Department of Agriculture

References:
See attached report.

Prior Approvals:
N/A

NMDA

New Mexico Department of Agriculture

BOARD OF REGENTS REPORT

March 9, 2026

NMDA 2026 Legislative Session Summary:

NMDA's operating budget for FY27 is roughly **\$39.7 million (\$39,683,300)**, with \$19 million from the General Fund (\$19,228,300), \$7.2 million (\$7,255,000) in other state funds, and \$13.2 million (\$13,200,000) in federal funds.

The other state funds appropriation to NMDA includes over \$4.3 million (\$4,345,000) from the Land of Enchantment legacy fund. NMDA will administer this funding to support its conservation programs under the Soil and Water Conservation District Act, the Noxious Weed Management Act, and the Healthy Soil Act.

House Bill 2, the General Appropriation Act of 2025, also provides:

- \$2 million for the regional Farm to Food Bank program
- \$1 million for the Double Up Food Bucks program
- \$430,000 for the New Mexico Grown approved supplier program
- \$1 million for soil and water conservation training and education
- \$5.1 million to eradicate bovine Trichomoniasis ("trich")
- \$1.5 million to encourage retention and recruitment of large animal veterinarian services in underserved areas of NM
- \$3 million for waste material equipment and technology at meat processing facilities
- \$3 million to implement the existing livestock Mexican wolf compensation program

Senate Bill 143/a – a bill to update fee caps for certain NMDA regulatory duties – passed both chambers nearly unanimously. The bill, as amended, updates fee caps in the department's Egg Grading Act, Pesticide Control Act, Plant Protection Act, Fertilizer Act, and Commercial Feed Act with caps indexed to the annual Consumer Price Index for five years. All fee adjustments must follow the rule-making process as authorized by 76-1-2 NMSA (powers and authority of the NMSU Board of Regents) and must not exceed program costs.

Senate Bill 240, the Capital Outlay Bill, provides the following for soil and water conservation districts statewide:

- Central Curry SWCD Matching Funds \$1,000,000
- McKinley SWCD Heavy Equipment Purchases \$50,000
- SW Quay SWCD Building Construction \$300,000
- East Rio Arriba SWCD Facility Renovation \$100,000
- Upper Chama SWCD Building Improvements \$50,000
- Roosevelt SWCD Shade Ball Storage Facility Construction \$409,000
- Coronado SWCD Access Route Repair \$250,000
- Central Tri-County SWCD Admin Building Construction \$30,000
- Central Tri-County SWCD Roof Building Construction \$80,000
- East Torrance SWCD Vehicle and Equipment Purchases \$100,000
- Valencia SWCD Whitfield Conservation Area Access I \$185,000
- Valencia SWCD Whitfield Conservation Area Electric Vehicle \$25,000
- Valencia SWCD Whitfield Conservation Area Infrastructure Improvements \$245,000

A 1% salary increase for state employees was authorized for fiscal year 2026 in Senate Bill 151. The increase will be calculated based on the employee's base salary as of July 2026 and included in the first pay period after July 1, 2026.

**All items are subject to being signed into law by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham*

Domestic Marketing:

Staff coordinated an NMDA booth at the 2025 National Farm to Cafeteria Conference in Albuquerque, networked with producers, Logo Program members, farm-to-school stakeholders, and supporters of local food programs. Staff also participated in sessions covering topics from state policy trends to incorporating culturally relevant foods into the classroom. The tabletop peanut plant display was deployed, as well as information regarding our Logo Program, Healthy Soils grant funding, and Path-to-Plate. Staff also attended the Golden Chile Awards during the conference.



Staff coordinated an NMDA booth at the New Mexico Joint Stockmen's Convention and trade show in Albuquerque and presented on New Mexico Livestock Values. Secretary Witte presented an award to an outgoing New Mexico Beef Council member in recognition of his service to New Mexico agriculture.



Staff participated in the NMSU Day at the Capitol, representing agriculture through tabling and engaging with NMSU departments and industry partners to strengthen collaboration and outreach. The green chile tabletop display and new NMDA pamphlet were deployed along with NMDA Logo Program and USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant information.



Staff participated in the 2026 National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA) Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, where NMDA supported the New Mexico cattle industry and participated in the trilateral meeting between the United States, Mexico, and Canada. During this meeting, staff received important updates on the New World screwworm and current livestock market conditions.



International Marketing:

Staff participated in the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) Outbound Trade Mission to Mumbai India January 3-12, 2026, through the USDA Regional Agricultural Promotion Program (RAPP). The delegation included ten U.S. participants, comprised of NASDA members, invited guests, and staff. The mission’s primary objective was to provide NASDA members with a unique opportunity to advance policy and market insight at the intersection of biotechnology, consumer trends, and marketing and food innovation. While in India, the delegation met with industry leaders, producers, processors, research organizations, and regional-level stakeholders to strengthen agricultural cooperation and explore new avenues for collaboration. The mission focused on expanding U.S. agricultural exports and building partnerships in one of the world’s fastest-growing consumer markets. The agenda focus was on biotech policy and regulatory frameworks, market access opportunities, food manufacturing and innovation, and farm-to-consumer engagement. The agenda also included industry roundtables and site visits highlighting India’s dynamic agricultural and food production landscape. An inbound trade mission focused U.S. Agricultural food safety is being planned for the fall of 2026.



Staff participated in the annual Western U.S. Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA) strategic planning meeting held in Santa Fe, NM. During the meeting, program managers had the opportunity to collaborate, discuss priorities, and propose new projects for the 2027 funding year. The meeting consisted of USDA updates, Country Market Group meetings, and planning for the 2027 UES. All in-country contractors were also in attendance, which allowed productive discussions, alignment of goals, and strengthened partnerships across programs. NMDA Ag. Marketing Specialist, Sr Juan Sanchez was recognized as “WUSATA Collaborator of the Year”.



MEWA Dried Fruit and Nut Conference and Trade Show- New Delhi, India-Staff led a trade mission to New Dahli that included a pecan technical workshop at the India School of Hospitality. An NMSU pecan specialist delivered a presentation on western U.S. pecans, and a celebrity chef developed four innovative pecan-based recipes. The workshop engaged approximately 100 chefs. The trade mission also featured a booth under the American Pecan Council Pavilion at the MEWA Dried Fruit and Nut Conference, where two New Mexico companies exhibited.



Staff coordinated and executed a WUSATA Dried Fruit and Nut Inbound Trade Mission with India, welcoming Indian buyers to New Mexico to meet with pecan growers and processors. The program featured orchard visits, processing facility tours, and a technical seminar at New Mexico State University, providing participants with comprehensive insight into the state's pecan industry.



Staff participated in the U.S. Livestock Genetics Export (USLGE) annual meeting in Guadalajara, Mexico. The meeting included USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) updates, export readiness workshops, and 2027 Unified Export Strategy (UES) planning. Juan Sanchez, Marketing Specialist, was elected to serve on the USLGE Board of Directors as the States' Department of Ag representative.

Veterinary Diagnostic Services Director:

Dr. Aaron Phillips joined Veterinary Diagnostic Services (VDS) as Director on February 16, 2026, and quickly immersed himself in the work of the laboratory and the team. He comes to NMDA from USDA where he established and was the director of the Wildlife Services Laboratory in Fort Collins, CO.

In February, VDS successfully completed its ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation audit with no findings and was re-accredited. This outstanding result reflects the team's strong commitment to quality and operational excellence.

New World Screwworm (NWS) Training:

NMDA and NMSU staff facilitated a New World Screwworm Workshop at NMSU on February 24, 2026, focused on NWS awareness, surveillance, and response. Approximately 70 participants attended the training including livestock producers, veterinarians, state agencies, universities and partners from Chihuahua, Mexico.

The morning sessions covered NWS biology, sample collection, wound treatment, Chihuahua's prevention strategies, Mexico's canine detection brigade, and updated tools and medications available to U.S. producers. Speakers from both countries provided scientific, regulatory, and operational perspectives.

The afternoon centered on a hands-on chute-side practicum led by MVZ Julio César Navarrete, where participants practiced animal inspection, a key component of New Mexico's NWS response strategy. The day concluded with a facilitated discussion reviewing lessons learned, identifying challenges, and highlighting opportunities for improved binational coordination.

The training resulted in an increased understanding of NWS biology, detection, and treatment. Cross-border collaboration was strengthened through shared strategies and coordinated planning. Producers and field personnel gained practical skills, particularly in sample collection, and wound management. It also identified priority areas for continued training and resource development. Overall, it reinforced ongoing efforts to maintain export readiness and protect livestock health.

