



**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
REGULAR MEETING
August 19, 2024 at 9:00 AM**

Regents Room, Educational Services Center,
1780 East University Avenue, Las Cruces, NM and
live-streamed for public viewing at <https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/85790829502>

Regents of New Mexico State University

Chair Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chair Christopher Saucedo, Secretary/Treasurer Garrett Moseley, Dina Chacón-Reitzel, Deborah Romero

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

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

Minutes

A. Call to Order, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Chairwoman Devasthali called the August 19, 2024, meeting to order at 9:01 am.

Pledge of Allegiance

Recited by Cadet Javier Sanchez from NMSU ROTC, after he spoke a few words about himself.

1. Introduction of the Media and Elected Officials, Associate Vice President Justin Bannister

Associate Vice President Justin Banister stated that they did not have anyone in that category on that day.

2. Introductions

- a) **Patrick E. Stewart, Vice President of Philanthropy and Alumni Relations at NMSU Foundation, Foundation CEO Sylvia Y. Acosta**

Foundation CEO Sylvia Acosta stepped up to introduce Patrick Stewart who is joining her team from the University of California, San Diego. He is their new Vice President of Philanthropy and Alumni Relations and came on board on July 29, 2024. She then asks Patrick to say a few words.

Vice President of Philanthropy and Alumni Relations Patrick Stewart states that he is happy to be here and is looking forward to working with the members of the community to generate the resources necessary to improve the university.

- b) **Christian (Chris) M. Kinsley, Interim Vice President of Administration and Finance, Interim President Mónica Torres**

President Monica Torres states that she is delighted to introduce Chris Kinsley, New Mexico State University's new Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance. She goes on to state that Chris is an experienced administrator with decades of financial leadership in higher education. He joined the executive team earlier in the month on the day before his two-week anniversary. She states that Chris

recently served as CFO and Vice President of Finance and Administration at the new College of Florida and Sarasota. He was a senior campus leader who worked directly with the President and Board of Trustees. She continues by stating that as CFO he was responsible for the daily administrative operations of the new college which is a member of the State University System of Florida. He was responsible for finance, budget, facilities, planning and facilities operations, police space planning and events, and purchasing emergency planning information technology. Previously, he was Assistant Vice Chancellor for finance and facilities for the State University of Florida's Board of Governors. He holds a bachelor's degree in finance and accounting and a Master of Science in accounting from Florida State. He is an active certified public accountant and license holder in Florida. Dr. Torres also thanked the Associate VP of Admin. & Finance D'Anne Stuart, who served as the previous Interim Vice President for Admin and Finance since July.

Dr. Torres stated that D'Anne will return to her previous Associate Vice President role and that the NMSU community appreciates her continued dedicated service to NMSU; Dr. Torres then asked that everyone welcome Chris Kinsley to New Mexico State.

3. Confirmation of Quorum, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Chief of Staff Adam Cavotta took the roll and asked that they state "present" to confirm the Quorum.

Regent Romero stated present.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel stated present.

Regent Moseley stated present.

Regent Saucedo stated present.

Regent Devasthali stated present.

Five members present, including Regent Saucedo via zoom, there is a Quorum.

Chief of Staff Adam Cavotta continued with the NMSU advisory members, calling on them to state "present".

Employee Council Chair Donna Johnson stated present.

Faculty Senate Chair Vimal Chaitanya stated present.

ASNMSU President Ala Alhalholy stated present.

University Officials

General Counsel Lisa Henderson stated present.

Interim Provost Lakshmi Reddi stated present.

Interim President Mónica Torres stated present.

Quorum is confirmed and roll is called.

B. Approval of the Agenda, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Chairwoman Devasthali entertained a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and Regent Moseley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

C. Approval of Minutes and Confirmation of Prior Closed Sessions

1. Special Meeting on May 29, 2024

Chairwoman Devasthali entertained a motion to approve the May 29th minutes as presented.

Regent Mosley made the motion to approve the May 29th minutes as presented and Regent Romero seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

2. Regular Meeting on June 28, 2024

Chairwoman Devasthali entertained a motion to approve the June 28th minutes as presented.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel made the motion to approve the June 28th minutes as presented and Regent Moseley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

3. Confirmation of Prior Closed Executive Session August 7, 2024

Chief of Staff Adam Cavotta confirmed the closed executive sessions.

“The New Mexico State University Board of Regents held a closed meeting at 9:00 am on Wednesday, August 7, 2024. The meeting was called to discuss the candidates for President of New Mexico State University as permitted under NMSA 1978, section 10-15-1 subsection H2. Those board members who are present please certify that only matters of that nature were discussed.”

Regent Romero – Yes

Regent Chacón-Reitzel – Yes

Regent Moseley -Yes

Regent Saucedo – Yes

Regent Devasthali -Yes

4. Confirmation of Prior Closed Executive Session August 18, 2024

Chief of Staff Adam Cavotta confirmed the closed executive sessions.

“The New Mexico State University Board of Regents held a closed meeting at 8:00 am on Sunday, August 18, 2024. The meeting was called to discuss the candidates for the President of New Mexico State University; and discuss limited personnel matters concerning individual NMSU Personnel as permitted under NMSA 1978, section 10-15-1 subsection H2. Those board members who are present please certify that only matters of that nature were discussed.”

Regent Romero – Yes

Regent Chacón-Reitzel – Yes

Regent Moseley -Yes

Regent Saucedo – Yes

Regent Devasthali -Yes

D. Regent Committee Reports

1. Real Estate Committee Report, Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel

Regent Chacón-Reitzel presents her report, “The Real Estate Committee met once since the last Board of Regents meeting. The committee met on August 9, 2024, and heard several capital requests that were heard, approved and are reflected on the consent agenda items H.1 through H.12.

The committee also discussed and approved several easements and right-away agreements, as well as a couple of lease amendments that are reflected as items H.14 through H.19 on today's agenda. The final item that the committee approved for your consideration, is the articles of incorporation of New Mexico Reforestation Center Inc. which you will see as item H.20 on your agenda. The committee also reviewed real estate office revenue and discussed future and potential real estate transactions." That concluded Regent Chacón-Reitzel's report, and she called for any questions.

2. Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee Report, Regent Deborah Romero

Regent Romero presents her report to the Board, "The Financial Strategies, Performance, and Budget Committee has met twice since the last Board of Regents meeting. On August 5th, the committee reviewed and approved twelve capital project requests, listed in today's consent agenda as items H.1 through H.12. Additionally, the committee approved the FY26 Research and Public Service Projects, which is item H.21 on today's agenda.

Another item for Board approval today, which was also approved by the Finance Committee, is the disposition and deletion of property (item H.13). The committee heard a presentation on a proposal for an FY25 Insurance contribution change, where several options were discussed. The committee requested an additional option for consideration and scheduled another meeting to address this.

The committee also approved the FY24, 4th quarter NMHED Financial Certification. As the chair of the Finance Committee, I have been delegated the authority to finalize this certification on behalf of the Board.

On August 5th, the committee received an informational update on the FY24 University's uncollectible and inactive accounts receivable. University Registrar Nancy Ritter reported on delinquent student accounts and ongoing efforts to help students settle their accounts. We also received an update on new Federal regulations from the Department of Education regarding the rules and conditions for withholding transcripts.

There has been a slight change to the proposal for the NMDA budget request since the committee met. I would like to ask Secretary Witte or perhaps Clayton to describe this change to the Board."

Assistant Vice President for Government and Community Relations, Clayton Abbey provides the information requested. "The adjustment in the budget for the NMDA was an increase of \$50,000 for one position. The position is the Agricultural Water Resilience Coordinator, which was originally budgeted for \$125,000. At the request of the governor, the position was adjusted upward to \$175,000. Given the technical nature of the work and the quality of the individual they are seeking, they felt the increase was a more appropriate amount. The amount, when you factor in the fringe and other costs is about \$36,000 in salary and then fringe benefits of \$14,000."

Regent Romero continued with her report, "The committee met again on August 16th to review the updated FY25 insurance contributions change proposal. The committee approved the option provided, and you will hear more about that later today in our action items agenda as Item I.2. I will reserve any discussion of that item when we come to that order of business."

She concluded her report and asked if there were any questions.

E. Affiliated Entity Reports

1. NMSU Foundation Inc. Report, CEO Sylvia Y. Acosta

CEO Sylvia Acosta presented her report to the board, “Thank you, Chairperson and Board of Regents, for allowing us to present today. I’m excited to share our fundraising achievements from the past year. Last year was our second-highest fundraising year in the history of New Mexico State University.

We raised a total of \$28.6 million last year, with approximately \$19.7 million in cash. In comparison, the previous year’s cash donations were about \$11.1 million. Our goal is to increase the amount of cash donations rather than relying solely on deferred gifts. While deferred gifts are valuable, the university needs more immediate cash contributions to meet our goals.

Moving to the next slide, you’ll see that our total fundraising amount of \$28.6 million exceeded our goal of \$18.4 million by about \$10 million. We saw a 153% increase in fundraising and welcomed 1,002 new donors, which is a significant achievement.

It’s important to note that our funding sources include both alumni and friends of the university. Friends are individuals who, although they may not have graduated from New Mexico State, have a vested interest in our institution. The support from both alumni and friends is crucial for our success.

In terms of philanthropic metrics, we experienced a 74% increase in cash raised, a 132% increase in overall visits, and a 66% increase in qualification visits. Qualification visits are essential as they help us identify potential donors and assess their capacity and interest in contributing. This year, we managed to increase our donor base for the first time in several years, reflecting the effectiveness of these efforts.

I would like to conclude by asking if there are any questions.”

There were no questions, just a comment from Regent Chacón-Reitzel thanking them for their work.

Dr. Acosta responded, “Our alumni relations is now fully staffed after being dismantled. We just offered the Assistant Vice President of Alumni Relations to a woman out of UC California where she is currently working for the UC system, managing all of that work. Also, we had a very successful event in DC, we had over 100 people attend, and they are just hungry to participate with the University and we had our first El Paso/Juarez event last month. We did hire a special consultant to work with us as we begin to build our international chapters where we are starting in Mexico, thank you for allowing us to serve.”

F. Advisory Member Reports

1. Associated Students of NMSU Report, President Ala Alhalholy

ASNMSU President Ala Alhalholy, “Thank you madam chair, I have a brief update to share. Yesterday we successfully hosted our first-year walk, welcoming over five hundred incoming freshmen. We are now focusing on our two major upcoming events, homecoming, and the burning of the Lobo. That concludes my report and am happy to answer any questions.”

Chairwoman Devasthali, “How do you feel the move-in event went with the streets closed?”

ASNMSU President Ala Alhalholy, “It went smoothly and after we got the students to the main area the roads were opened back up.”

2. NMSU Faculty Senate Report, Chair Vimal Chaitanya

Faculty Senate Chair Vimal Chaitanya presented his report to the board, “Officially, the Faculty Senate will not have any meetings until the fall semester starts. However, we have been busy, so I’ll briefly provide an update.

Both, the Vice Chair and I have been meeting with the interim President almost every week, thanks to their commitment to shared governance. We also have our Senate Leadership Committee meet regularly, at least once a month.

To keep this brief, these meetings have helped us identify several areas of focus for the 2024 fall semester, extending into the spring semester of 2025. For instance, we plan to take a holistic look at ARP 9.0, which addresses promotion and tenure issues. We would like to establish clear, uniform language in this policy to minimize interpretation issues. This will be assigned to a committee.

We are also collaborating with the President and the Provost’s office to explore more strategic uses of IDC funds. As you know, startup packages have been a significant issue at this university, and we are considering support for other valuable causes, such as the Proposal Development Office.

Additionally, we aim to investigate the possibility of restructuring some of the service offices to reduce duplication and increase efficiency. Ideally, this would be achieved without requiring financial investment, which can be challenging.

Finally, we are examining the alignment of the Faculty Senate's Standing Committees with the LEADS 2025 strategic goals initiated by James McAteer when he was a Senator, and potentially with the Regents' committees as well.

Thank you. That concludes my report. I am open to any questions.”

3. NMSU Employee Council Report, Chair Donna Johnson

NMSU Employee Council Chair Donna Johnson, “The Employee Council held our regular meeting on August 8th. Joyce Rindner, Director of Compensation and Employment, joined us for the first time. We hope she continues to meet with us every month. She was fantastic, providing a clear explanation of many of the changes and challenges facing HR.

It was a very productive meeting, and we discussed the insurance premium tiers. From what I understand, a decision has been made, and we’ll hear more about it shortly, which is great news. You’re going to make a lot of people happy.

The Event Committee will meet tomorrow to start planning the fall employee appreciation picnic. It is anticipated to be held on October 31st again this year, since everyone enjoys dressing up for Halloween.

Thank you so much for the insurance tier change; it is a significant improvement.

I was going to speak more about the insurance tiers, but instead, I want to bring up that December 23rd this year falls on a Monday—the day before the start of the Christmas break. We are all wondering if we could arrange for everyone to have the day off.

That is all I have in my report. I am happy to take any questions.”

G. **Public Comment**, *Associate Vice President Justin Bannister*

No one signed up for public comments.

H. **Consent Items**, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

Chairwoman Devasthali entertained a motion to approve the consent items as presented.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel made a motion to approve the consent items as presented and Regent Moseley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

1. **NMDA: New Administration Building**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
2. **NMSU Las Cruces: Aggie Innovation Space - Expansion, ECI Addition**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
3. **DACC East Mesa: HVAC Rooftop Unit Replacement**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
4. **NMSU Las Cruces: Neale Hall - Partial Demolition**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
5. **NMSU Las Cruces: Anderson Hall - WB400 Renovation**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
6. **DACC: Doña Ana Community College Gadsden Center - Roof Replacement**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
7. **DACC: Doña Ana Community College East Mesa - Digital Media Roof Replacement**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
8. **NMSU Alamogordo: Reidlinger Science Center Science Center - HVAC Upgrades**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
9. **NMSU Las Cruces: Women’s Soccer Field - Upgrades**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
10. **NMSU Alamogordo: Rohovec Building - Renovations**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
11. **NMSU Las Cruces: Thomas & Brown Hall - Replacement Building**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
12. **NMSU Las Cruces: Hadley Hall – South Suite Renovations**, *Associate Vice President Raghu Raghavan*
13. **Disposition/Deletion of Property**, *Interim Vice President Christian M. Kinsley*
14. **El Paso Electric Easement Renewal – Doña Ana Community College Gadsden Campus**, *Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner*
15. **El Paso Electric Easement – Pan Am Plaza Shopping Center**, *Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner*
16. **Doña Ana County – Office of Emergency Management 1st Lease Amendment**, *Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner*
17. **Alcalde Agriculture Science Center – Ohkay Owingeh Right of Way Renewal**, *Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner*

18. EV3 Commercial Electrical Vehicle Charging Station – First Amendment, *Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner*

19. Chihuahuan Desert Rangeland Research Center (CDRRC) – CenturyLink Communications, LLC License Renewal, *Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner*

20. Articles of Incorporation of New Mexico Reforestation Center, Inc., *Associate Dean Jay Lillywhite*

21. Research and Public Service Projects and Non-Instruction and General Requests for FY26, *Assistant Vice President Clayton Abbey*

I. **Action Items, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali***

1. Selection of Finalists for President of New Mexico State University, *Regent Ammu Devasthali*

Chairwoman Devasthali list the five finalist and their credentials and makes a motion to advance the slate of candidates as finalist for the position of President of New Mexico State University. Regent Romero seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Chairwoman Devasthali asked for a roll call vote.

Chief of Staff Adam Cavotta asked the board if they vote yes or no on the slate of five candidates for consideration.

Regent Romero – Yes

Regent Chacón-Reitzel – Yes

Regent Moseley -Yes

Regent Saucedo – Yes

Regent Devasthali -Yes

Chairwoman Devasthali thanked the search committee for their efforts through the entire process. She goes on to explain the next step in the process with the candidate’s visiting campus and the opportunity campus will have to hear from the candidates. She gives the dates of Sept. 9 to the 14th as the anticipated campus visits. When details are finalized, the presidential website will be updated with the details as well as communications going out to the NMSU community and how important the NMSU community feedback is, in the process of making a decision for the future of NMSU.

2. FY25 Insurance Contribution Change, *Chief Budget Officer Kim Rumford*

Chief Budget Officer Kim Rumford explained the process they took to make changes in the benefit tiers, she states that they, with the help from the benefits office, reviewed insurance tiers and employee contributions, factoring in the 10% premium increase on July 1 and the 3% salary raise. The review showed that seventy-three employees took home less pay in July than in June, with some losing up to \$200 per month. These employees earned between \$36,000 and \$45,200, just above the lowest tier.

At the time, NMSU’s contribution levels ended at \$36,000, affecting employees in higher salary ranges after the 3% raise. They also reviewed peer organizations. For example, UNM's lowest tier went up to \$55,000, and the City of Las Cruces offered a flat contribution across all salary levels.

They proposed aligning more with the competitors by raising tier levels and increasing the lowest tier’s contribution from 80/20 to 82/18 and extending the middle tier up to \$80,000. This adjustment would have placed about one-third of employees in each tier, benefiting both faculty and staff.

The total cost was estimated at \$3.5 million annually, which they proposed to cover centrally with one-time funds for FY25, and through fringe benefit rates for FY26 and beyond. The estimated fringe rate increase was 1.42%, with PSL increasing by 1.23%. They consulted key stakeholders, who were supportive, though some planned to request additional funds through the RPSP process.

Dona Ana Community College confirmed they could cover the increase, and they expect to cover Las Cruces' share using leftover funds from previous fringe and compensation changes. She concluded her presentation and asked if there were any questions.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel had a comment on that it is very disappointing that the State insurance does not get the negotiations and rates out in a timely manner for NMSU to make the necessary adjustments. She also comments that she hopes that the NMSU team will take a look at other options for the employees that may be more affordable.

Regent Romero thanked the group for their work and willingness to listen and research for all parties involved.

Chairwoman asked for a motion to approve the tier changes as presented.

Regent Romero made the motion for approval of the tier changes and Regent Moseley seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried to approve and move forward with the benefit tier changes.

J. Informational Items, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

1. None.

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

Cabinet Secretary and Director Jeff Witte presented to the board.

He started off by announcing the passing of the former Secretary and Director Frank A Dubois in the position from 1988 to 2003 and mentioned some of his accomplishment and programs and gave the date of his memorial. He moves on to announce Dina Chacón-Reitzel's retirement from the NM Beef Council and congratulated her for her many years of service. He then goes on to his report that he submitted the full report to the regents but there were a few things he wanted to highlight. He mentions the annual Chile roast in Washington, DC and that the Sam Steel society from the ACES College has become a big sponsor for that event. He complimented Foundation CEO and her crew for the great job they did for the Aggie Mixer held Friday night in Washington, DC. He mentions that they have been doing this event for the past 12 to 14 years and now with the Sam Steel Society and NMSU Alumni Foundation, he expects the NMSU presence to grow.

He mentions that they are working on the Agri Future Conference to be held October 14-15, 2024, which is all about the opportunities in production agriculture. It will be held in Las Cruces with part being on campus to highlight some of the research.

He goes on to stat that NMDA is going to host a reception at the New Mexico State Fair on September 12th for participants in the Agrifuture and the sponsors. November 9th will be Ag Day in conjunction with homecoming. The last thing he mentions in his submitted report is that he made an offer to Mr. Les Owen to be the new Deputy Director of the Department of Agriculture who will replace Anthony Parra who recently retired. Mr. Owens will start October 1, 2024. He concludes and stands for any questions.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel did not have a question but a comment and thanking Secretary Witte for his well wishes

and to pay her respects to Frank Debois and list his many accomplishments and his initiative to assist the rodeo team and all he did for them as a student advocate as well as an Ag advocate.

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

Interim Provost Lakshmi Reddi presents his report to the board, “As we began the new academic year, it was important to reflect on why we were here—ensuring that our students' academic dreams were fulfilled. This was especially relevant as we welcomed around 2,000 new students, many of them first-generation, with aspirations in fields like civil technology, forensics, and marketing. We were entrusted with their education, and it was our responsibility to see that they succeeded, joining a lineage of alumni who had gone on to become leaders and innovators.

Our students continued to achieve remarkable things, such as the 12-student team that represented Somalia at the UN competition, receiving the Outstanding Delegation Award. Many students had been recognized at national and international levels, securing prestigious fellowships like Fulbright and Rangel. These accomplishments inspired their peers.

In athletics, we also had much to celebrate. For 19 consecutive years, all 16 of our men’s and women’s sports teams maintained a combined GPA of over 3.64, with many student-athletes excelling academically. It was critical that we acknowledged their achievements both on the field and in the classroom.

Our alumni made a significant impact, with one-third staying in New Mexico to work for top employers like Los Alamos, Sandia Labs, and Intel. Many graduates pursued careers in education, becoming teachers and leaders within the state.

We were committed to producing professionals who met workforce demands. Programs like nursing, business administration, and psychology aligned with critical job postings in New Mexico. For example, 79% of marketing graduates in the state came from NMSU, yet we only produced 14% of the nursing graduates—an area where we saw room for growth.

Our academic efforts were grounded in the understanding that we were preparing students for jobs that didn’t yet exist. This dynamic nature required us to continually assess our program offerings and ensure they remained relevant. Committees like UPAC played a crucial role in this ongoing evaluation.

Despite some challenges, including the need for better communication and coordination, we made progress. Enrollment grew, particularly in our graduate programs, and persistence rates improved. 87% of first-year students were expected to return in the spring, a key indicator of our success.

We also recognized the importance of retention. While our four-year graduation rate was 32%, and six-year was 52.2%, we implemented coordinated initiatives to improve these figures.

Looking ahead, we focused on enhancing program relevance, particularly in STEM and interdisciplinary areas, while ensuring our efforts aligned with the evolving workforce needs of New Mexico. We were committed to supporting our students and faculty with data-driven strategies and interdisciplinary collaboration to ensure continued success.” He concluded his report and stood for questions.

Regent Romero only had a comment that this information is eye-opening and appreciates the look into different programs for the needs in the State of NM and how NMSU is meeting those needs. She is interested in the next phase and that this can be a great recruiting tool.

Chairwoman Devasthali commented on how good the presentation was but also on how NMSU needs to work on providing incentives to recruit the students but also faculty and compensate them accordingly and there is still a lot of work to be done.

M. NMSU System Report, Interim President Mónica Torres

President Torres presented to the board and began with the return of the students to campus and the notable activity on campus. She reiterates what Provost Reddi mentioned that enrollment is up especially with NMSU Global and that the community colleges are in good shape and main campus is steady. They expect an increase from the previous fall, but retention is always key. Not just getting students to campus but helping them to graduate.

She goes on to mention that studies showed that making students feel at home is crucial. She mentions that she and VP Kinsley visited several resident halls and met the director and RA's who were extremely welcoming. Staff and volunteers helped students move in quickly, creating a friendly and supportive environment. Our safety team has worked to ensure students, and their families felt safe given the potential challenges this semester due to the election.

She mentions that she, Provost Reddie and VP Scott attended the Freshman Walk and met many thoughtful and engaging student leaders. She also announces that NMSU received a five-year extension for the Innovation and Economic Prosperity Program Designation from the Association of Public Land-Grant Universities (APLU).

She continued by stating that Doña Ana Community College (DACC) had its accreditation reaffirmed by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) through 2034. She thanked Regents Mosley and Saucedo for representing the board during the process as well as the DACC faculty and staff for their work. DACC also has a team participating in the national seminar series, "Advancing Equity and Student Success," to improve student outcomes.

She goes on to mention that it was a GO bond year and brought awareness to the Ag Science Centers and infrastructure improvements at main campus as well as her visiting three of the ASC with F&S and Government Relations.

NMSU Alamogordo hosted the Capital Outlay Summer Hearings and lastly NMSU participated in the Hazing Preventions Consortium's Annual Summit where they gained valuable insight.

Chairwoman Devasthali had comments after the presentation and stated that there was nothing but positive comments on the move in day. And stated that we need to bring back Aggie Pride.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel thanked the president for taking the time to visit the Ag Science centers and how important the research that they do is and that it impacts the world as well as reiterating that NMSU is a statewide university with all the extension offices and ag experiment stations.

Regent Romero commented that we all need to remember that NMSU is the only university that touches 33 counties with the CES offices and Ag Experiment Stations and reiterated the how important the services they provide are.

N. Announcements and Comments, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

1. Good News for NMSU!

Chairwoman Devasthali mentioned, Congratulations to the women's soccer team and how well they are doing. There was a draw with USC Trojans and defeated the Lady Lobos 3 to 1. They are doing well academically as well.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel said she is happy to be a part of the welcoming of 400 student athletes and thanked the NM Beef Council for sponsoring.

Regent Moseley stated that it would be great to have the students back on campus and welcome them.

O. Adjournment, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Regent Mosely moved to adjourn, and Regent Chacón-Reitzel seconded it. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 10:42 am.

Meeting Minutes Approved on September 19, 2024 by the New Mexico State University Board of Regents.



Ammu Devasthali
Board of Regents Chair



Garrett Moseley
Board of Regents Secretary/Treasurer