



Board of Regents Special Meeting
New Mexico State University
Zoom: <https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/85005252517>
2026-09-08 15:00 - 16:00 MDT

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VI. Adjournment



**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
SPECIAL MEETING
September 8, 2026**

Item II

Confirmation of Prior Closed Executive Session – September 3, 2026

The Board of Regents of New Mexico State University held a closed meeting at 9:00 am on Thursday, September 3, 2026. The closed meeting was called to complete the annual performance evaluation of the President under his contract and 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, please certify that only matters of that nature were discussed.

Regent Gonzales ____

Regent Olivas ____

Regent Saucedo ____

Regent Romero ____

Regent Devasthali ____



Board of Regents Meeting
Meeting Date: August 18, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # III

- ☒ Action Item
- ☐ Consent Item
- ☐ Informational Item

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

Agenda Item: Regular Meeting Minutes from August 18, 2026

Requested Action of the Board of Regents: Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes for August 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 REGULAR MEETING
August 18, 2026, at 1:00 PM**

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

Regents Present:

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

Advisory Members:

ASNMSU President Carina Frisch, Faculty Senate
Chair Kristian Finlator, Employee Council Chair Sonia
A. White.

Officials Present:

Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs Joseph
Bull, Vice President for Administration and Finance,
Allen Bottorff, General Counsel, Lisa Henderson.

MINUTES

I. Call to Order, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali called the regular meeting of the New Mexico State University Board of Regents to order at 1:00 PM.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by NMSU Army ROTC Cadet Karmen Yousif. She is a biology major starting her second year at NMSU.

B. Introduction of the Media and Elected Officials, Chief of Staff Justin Bannister

Julia Gentin from *The Santa Fe New Mexican* was recognized as present.

C. Introductions

a) Introduction of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Joseph Bull, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Dr. Joseph Bull was officially introduced as the new Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs for NMSU effective July 13, 2026.

D. Confirmation of Quorum, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

The roll was called to verify attendance. All five voting members of the Board of Regents were verified as present online. Advisory members President Frisch, Chair Finlator, and Chair White were also confirmed present, alongside administrators Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Bull, General Counsel Henderson, and Vice President Bottorff. President Ferme was not present at the

meeting.

E. Approval of the Agenda, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Regent Olivas moved the approval of the agenda as presented and Regent Romero seconded. The agenda was approved as presented.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Special Meeting on July 2, 2026

The minutes of the special Board of Regents meeting held on July 2, 2026, were presented for consideration. Regent Gonzales moved approval of the minutes, Regent Saucedo seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

III. Awards and Recognitions

A. Proclamation Recognizing the Service of Adam Cavotta as Chief of Staff to the New Mexico State University Board of Regents, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Chairwoman Devasthali read the proclamation as follows:

WHEREAS, Adam Cavotta has provided exemplary service to the New Mexico State University Board of Regents for more than 8 years, ensuring that board members are given extraordinary support ; and

WHEREAS, Regent Rico Gonzales said, “Adam Cavotta has served the NMSU Board of Regents with exceptional dedication, strategic vision, and steady leadership as Chief of Staff, leaving a lasting and positive impact on our university community. Personally, thank you for guiding me through every step of becoming a Regent; your steady mentorship and wisdom have been invaluable as I navigated this learning process. Wishing you the absolute best!”; and

WHEREAS, Student Regent Marisol Olivas said, “Adam has been my closest confidant, and words can’t fully express my sincere gratitude for his unwavering support and guidance. Throughout my entire term, your wealth of institutional knowledge, wisdom, and thoughtful counsel have been invaluable. Your unwavering service to the Regents has left a lasting impact, and I will always be grateful for having the privilege of working alongside you.”;

WHEREAS, Regent Chris Saucedo said, “His exceptional knowledge, unwavering dedication, and trusted counsel made him an indispensable resource for the Board of Regents and for me specifically. He anticipated what I needed to be an effective Regent, thoughtfully accommodated the demands of my professional career, and worked seamlessly with my staff. His dedication to supporting the Board and advancing the mission of the university will be missed.”; and

WHEREAS, Regent Deborah Romero said, “As Chief of Staff for the NMSU Board of Regents, Adam consistently anticipated my needs before I even recognized them myself. There was never a time when I needed his support that he did not make himself available, and he always followed through with care, professionalism, and reliability.”; and

WHEREAS, Regents Chair Ammu Devasthali said, “It has been a distinct pleasure to work

with Adam during my seven years as Regent. His unwavering dedication, integrity, attention to detail, and steadfast loyalty have made him an exceptional Chief of Staff. I am deeply grateful for his continued commitment in helping onboard our new Chief of Staff, and I wish him every success in all his future endeavors.”; and

WHEREAS, President Valerio Ferme said of Adam, “He has been a force to be reckoned with in his advocacy for the Board of Regents throughout his career, and has ensured that the I’s are dotted and the T’s are crossed when it comes to the correct and accurate running of all Board matters. He and his family have also been incredibly attentive to the needs of my own family as we spent time getting to know the university and Las Cruces. I honor his service and thank him for helping all of us.”

NOW, Therefore, Be It Proclaimed in official session that the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University expresses its deep gratitude to Adam Cavotta for his years of dedicated service and wishes him great success in his future endeavors.

Proclaimed this 18th day of August 2026, at Las Cruces, New Mexico.

IV. **Regent Committee Reports**

A. **Audit and Risk Committee, Regent Ricardo Gonzales**

Regent Gonzales reported that the Regents Audit and Risk Committee met on June 11, 2026. During this meeting, the committee received a comprehensive update on completed internal audits from Interim Chief Audit Officer John Frye, as well as held the entrance conference with the external independent auditor, Baker Tilly.

During the briefing, Mr. Frye provided details on completed audits, the Training, Leadership, & Management Audit, HR – Employment & Compensation Audit, and the Q3 FY 2026 EthicsPoint Update. An update on the Moran Technology Audit was also provided. The committee reviewed the current status of the FY 2026 audit plan and approved the minutes from the February 2026 meeting.

B. **Real Estate Committee, Regent Ammu Devasthali**

Regent Devasthali reported that the Regents Real Estate Committee met on July 29, 2026. The committee approved the Sunflower Center access easement that was placed on the consent agenda as item VII A on today’s agenda. The committee also received updates on pending real estate transactions and agreements and a revised Real Estate Transaction List. Following the Real Estate meeting, an Aggie Development Incorporated meeting was held.

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

Regent Romero reported that the Regents Financial Strategies, Performance, and Budget Committee met on August 13, 2026, to address several significant capital projects and fiscal reports. During the meeting, the committee unanimously approved five capital requests including NMSU Alamogordo Townsend & Pro Tech Exterior Improvements, demolition and new greenhouse at the Agricultural Science Center in Artesia, shop demolitions and construction of new lab at Agricultural Science Center at Alcalde, new Leyendecker administrative office building, and the reroof of Hadley Hall. The committee also approved the disposition and deletion of capital property and the FY26 Research and Public Service

Projects funding requests.

Additionally, the committee approved the New Mexico Higher Education Department 4th Quarter Financial Certification report and the FY28 Research & Public Service Projects and Special Appropriations.

The committee discussed the recent update to the New Mexico Administrative code (NMCAC 5.3.10.8). This update raises the threshold for capital project requests for HED staff approval.

V. **Advisory Member Reports**

A. **Associated Students of NMSU Report**, *President Carina Frisch*

President Frisch reported that on August 17th ASNMSU had their orientations for the executive and legislative branches. Aggie Beginnings was very fun even with the unfortunate rain delay. ASNMSU will have a couple of events happening this week to welcome students back to campus!

Each of our departments are looking at new ways to increase student involvement on campus. Keep State Great is planned for October 24, 2026, each year our turnout increases so President Frisch was hopeful to continue to see that upward trend. The hours for Pete's Pickup, our safe ride on campus, have been extended to run from 6-11, Monday-Thursday. President Frisch reported that ASNMSU switched the contract for the Airport Shuttle to run through Uber and is working on expanding the service to provide safe rides back to campus as well.

The ASNMSU legislative branch will have their first senate meeting on August 27th.

The ASNMSU judicial branch is working on their fall activities and parking appeals will be beginning soon.

B. **NMSU Faculty Senate Report**, *Chair Kristian Finlator*

Faculty Senate Chair Finlator reported that the Faculty Senate leadership has had a productive summer in preparation for the 26/27 Academic year. Faculty Senate is currently pursuing five initiatives.

Senator Manis has drafted a resolution that will amend the bylaws to the Global Faculty Advisory Council so that the Faculty Senate Chair, Vice Chair, or their appointed delegate will have a voting seat. This codifies the status quo and clarifies an ambiguity that was created when President Gogue amended the original resolution that created the Council.

Senator Holguin has drafted a resolution formally requesting a systemwide task force that will study how acknowledgment for faculty innovation and entrepreneurship can be incorporated into promotion and tenure. Following national recommendations, the task force will begin with a "Gap Analysis" and then formulate recommendations for College-Level Functions and Criteria documents. At present, the envisioned committee will include representation from the University Research Council, the VPR's office, Arrowhead, and the Faculty Senate, but the resolution will likely see further amendment before final passage.

Senator Holguin has separately drafted a resolution requesting a systemwide task force to consider dual-career issues for faculty. Anecdotally, this is widely acknowledged to be a serious impediment to

recruitment and retention of excellent faculty, but no systemwide support framework is available to Department Heads who need a solution.

Senator Abdelkefi and Prof. Arslan have drafted a resolution that will adjust and clarify the eligibility requirements for the Open Access Publication Fund. This fund, which President Ferme and Provost Bull have generously supported, provided \$44,895 during its pilot year enabling 28 underfunded faculty to publish original research in Open Access journals. With better publicity and eligibility requirements, we hope to do even better over the upcoming year.

Senator Pimentel and Deputy Provost McAteer have drafted a memorial acknowledging the first Faculty Success Faculty Fellow for her foundational work.

In addition to these initiatives, Faculty Senate will consider modifications to General Education Course Certification Process, coursework accommodations for tribal students, and the duration of the beginning-of term shopping period. Faculty Senate will also be following up on bills that were passed last year related to topics including non-tenure track faculty, the AI taskforce, and undergraduate student success.

C. **NMSU Employee Council Report**, *Chair Sonia A. White*

Chair White noted that the first Employee Council meeting is on Thursday, August 20, 2026. The council will be working to plan the upcoming Employee Picnic that typically occurs in October each fall.

VI. **Affiliated Entity Reports**

A. **NMSU Foundation Inc. Report**, *Vice President of Philanthropic Giving and Alumni Relations Debra Marks*

Vice President of Philanthropic Giving and Alumni Relations Debra Marks provided an update on the NMSU Foundation's fundraising and events. For Fiscal Year (FY) '26, the NMSU Foundation raised \$52,586,649 as of June 30, 2026. This includes all pledges as asked by Regent Devasthali. As of July 30, 2026, \$7,290,028 has been raised for FY27.

The NMSU Foundation Board will hold its first board meeting of the fiscal year virtually on August 28th.

The NMSU Foundation held two events so far in August: Always an Aggie Webinar "from Student to CEO" and Delaware/Maryland/Virgina Mixer & Chile Roast. Upcoming events include NMSU Football home game tailgates in partnership with Athletics.

Regent Romero asked if the NMSU Foundation had provided any funding for any amenities around the recently opened Alumni Pond. Vice President Marks indicated that the initiative to fundraise for the Alumni Pond would be kicking off within the next month.

B. **Arrowhead Center Inc. Report**, *Interim Director & CEO Winnie (Yu-Feng) Lee*

Interim Director & CEO, Dr. Winnie (Yu-Feng) Lee, provided a report on Arrowhead Center, Inc. The Soundstage Project design is 100% completed and the constructions is underway. Dr. Lee thanked the NMSU President's office and Doña Ana County for committing supplemental funding of \$1.3 million each. An agreement with the City of Las Cruces is pending. The pre-lease phase for the proposed for the future multi-purpose office buildings continues. As part of the Arrowhead Park Master Plan, construction of the multi-purpose trail along Arrowhead Drive, funded by the New Mexico Department

of Transportation and Arrowhead Center Incorporated is underway.

Since April, the 2026 NMSU Intellectual Property (IP) Award was presented to the Advance Cyber Security Resilience Lab team. Dr. Satyajayant Misra was also named the inaugural NMSU Innovation Fellow. Currently Arrowhead Center Inc. has 56 active patents and 26 patents pending. Arrowhead Center, Inc. is currently working with the Vice President of Research office to develop an IP strategic plan and modernization proposal.

On the agenda for the board meeting is to approve the bylaw amendments to align position names. This was agenda item number VII C.

C. Aggie Development Inc. Report, CEO Scott Eschenbrenner

CEO Eschenbrenner provided a report on Aggie Development, Inc. The board met on July 29, 2026 where the members heard from Treasurer Allen Bottorff regarding the finances and Aggie Development activities. Election of officers were held, and the approval of the officers are VII B on the consent agenda. CEO Eschenbrenner recognized the contributions from Dean Rolando Flores Galarza, who is retiring. The board also had discussions about a potential second hotel location and reviewed ADI funding scenarios.

VII. Consent Items

The following items were approved on the consent agenda, with Regent Gonzales moving to approve and Regent Olivas seconding. Regent Gonzales abstain from voting on item VII.A., Sunflower Center Access Easement and NMSU Access Easement. The motion passed and the consent agenda items were approved as presented.

- A. Sunflower Center Access Easement and NMSU Access Easements, Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner**
- B. Aggie Development, Inc. Board of Directors Officer Appointments, CEO Scott Eschenbrenner**
- C. Amendment to the Bylaws of Arrowhead Center, Inc. to Update Position Director Titles, Interim Director & CEO Winnie (Yu-Feng) Lee**
- D. Philanthropic naming of The Covarrubias Family Legacy Lobby located in the Expansion of O'Donnel Hall, 1st floor, Vice President of Philanthropic Giving and Alumni Relations Debra Marks**
- E. Philanthropic naming of The Bradbury Stamm Commons in John Whitlock Hernandez Hall, room #114, Vice President of Philanthropic Giving and Alumni Relations Debra Marks**
- F. NMSU Alamogordo Townsend & Pro Tech Exterior Improvements, Associate Vice President of Facilities and Services Scott Eschenbrenner**
- G. Agricultural Science Center Artesia – Residence Demolition and New Green House, Associate Vice President of Facilities and Services Scott Eschenbrenner**
- H. Agricultural Science Center Alcalde – Shop Demolitions and Lab, Associate Vice President of Facilities and Services Scott Eschenbrenner**
- I. Agricultural Science Center Leyendecker – Office Replacement, Associate Vice President of Facilities**

and Services Scott Eschenbrenner

- J. Hadley Hall Reroof**, *Associate Vice President of Facilities and Services Scott Eschenbrenner*
- K. Disposition and Deletion of Capital Property**, *Comptroller Ross Justus*
- L. FY26 – Research and Public Service Projects**, *Vice President for Administration and Finance Allen Bottorff*

VIII. Action Items

- A. None**

IX. Informational Items

- A. Summary of Revisions to the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP) for the period March 1, 2026 – July 31, 2026**, *University Policy Officer Donna Ottaviano*

University Policy Officer Ottaviano provided a summary of Administrative Rules and Procedures (ARP) actions approved by the President between March 1, 2026 through July 31, 2026. These included revisions to ARP 16.12 – Cleary Act Compliance, ARP 16.79 – Programs Involving Minors, ART 3.45 – Assistive, Service and Companion Animals on University Premises, ARP 3.40 – Process for Disability Accommodation, and ARP 7.20 – Staff Overtime Pay or Comp Time. ARP 7.66 – Reductions in Force – Non-Bargaining Unit was created to simplify the reductions in force process without conflating it with other organizational employment actions. ARP 18.85 – Interfaith Council was repealed as the council has not been operational for 6 years.

- X. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Report**, *Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Joseph Bull*

Dr. Joseph Bull detailed his initial priorities as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, emphasizing outreach to New Mexico's Native American tribes, evaluating academic operations in alignment with NMSU's land-grant mission, and overseeing upcoming dean searches for the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the College of Engineering. The Academic Affairs office is coordinating with MARCOMM to meet federal ADA compliance deadlines for course materials by April 2027.

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

Secretary Witte was not available to provide his report at the meeting. His report was provided in the meeting materials.

XII. Announcements and Comments

- A. Good News for NMSU!**

Regent Devasthali celebrated the inaugural graduation of 21 Doctor of Nursing Practice Nurse Anesthesiology students from the College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation and noted the progress on the Alumni Pond.

XIII. Adjournment

With no further business before the board, Regent Romero moved to adjourn the meeting. Regent Saucedo seconded the motion, and the regular meeting of the NMSU Board of Regents was officially adjourned at 1:48 PM.

DRAFT



Board of Regents Special Meeting
Meeting Date: September 8, 2026
Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # V.A

- ☒ Action Item
☐ Consent Item
☐ Informational Item

Presented By:
Lisa Henderson
General Counsel
Joe Fields
Athletic Director

Agenda Item:

Non-honorific (Sponsorship) Naming of the Pan Am Center

Requested Action of the Board of Regents:

Approval of a Non-honorific (Sponsorship) Naming of the Pan Am Center in accordance with ARP 18.10, part 4.

Executive Summary:

White Sands Federal Credit Union has proposed a naming sponsorship of the Pan Am Center for a period of ten years in exchange for \$13 million payable in annual installments of \$1.3 million. The contract will be entered into through the NMSU Athletic Department's contracted multimedia provider, Van Wagner, and White Sands Federal Credit Union.

References:

White Sands Federal Credit Union Proposal, Market Comparables, and the President's and the relevant Committee's recommendations pursuant to [ARP 18.10](#), part 4.

Prior Approvals:

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.

Lisa Henderson

Name Lisa Henderson, JD, LLM
General Counsel

09/07/2026
Date



Proposal for Naming Rights Partnership Pan American Center New Mexico State University

Submitted by: Phillip Fifield, CEO
White Sands Federal Credit Union

August 27, 2026

Executive Summary

White Sands Federal Credit Union respectfully proposes a strategic partnership with New Mexico State University to secure exclusive naming rights for the Pan American Center, the premier indoor athletics and entertainment venue on the NMSU campus.

This partnership would represent a long-term investment in Aggie Athletics while strengthening the growing relationship between White Sands Federal Credit Union and New Mexico State University. Through this collaboration, both organizations can further their shared commitment to student success, community engagement, and regional economic development.

As a locally rooted financial institution headquartered in Las Cruces, White Sands FCU believes strongly in reinvesting in the community that has supported our members for decades. A naming rights partnership would reinforce this commitment while enhancing the fan experience and visibility of Aggie Athletics throughout the region.

About White Sands Federal Credit Union

White Sands Federal Credit Union is a member-owned financial cooperative serving southern New Mexico with more than \$400 million in assets. For decades, WSFCU has provided financial services, education, and community support to families, businesses, and organizations throughout the region.

Unlike many financial institutions operating in the Las Cruces market that are headquartered outside the community, White Sands FCU is locally based with deep roots in Las Cruces. Our leadership, employees, families, and members live and work in the same communities that support New Mexico State University and Aggie Athletics.



Because of these local ties, we believe strongly in investing in initiatives that strengthen our region and create opportunities for future generations.

Existing Partnership with New Mexico State University

White Sands Federal Credit Union is proud to maintain a growing and meaningful partnership with New Mexico State University and Aggie Athletics.

Recent collaborative initiatives include:

- Launch of the Lil' Aggie Youth Club, helping engage young Aggie fans and families
- Suite sponsorship at the Pan American Center
- Development of a new White Sands FCU branch in the Aggie Uptown area near the NMSU campus
- Upcoming Financial Literacy Program for NMSU student-athletes beginning this summer

These initiatives reflect the shared commitment between NMSU and White Sands FCU to support students, athletics, and the broader community. A naming rights partnership would represent the next natural step in strengthening this relationship.

Pan American Center Overview

The Pan American Center is one of the most recognized venues in southern New Mexico and serves as the home of:

- NMSU Men's Basketball
- NMSU Women's Basketball
- NMSU Volleyball
- Major concerts and entertainment events
- University ceremonies and community events

With seating capacity exceeding 12,000 guests, the facility serves as a central gathering place for Aggie fans and the Las Cruces community.

Proposed Naming Rights Partnership

White Sands Federal Credit Union proposes securing exclusive naming rights for the Pan American Center through a long-term partnership agreement.

Example naming structures may include:

- White Sands Federal Credit Union Pan American Center
- White Sands Federal Credit Union presents The Pan American Center

The final naming structure would respect the historic legacy of the Pan American Center while introducing a modern identity aligned with the partnership.

Proposed Partnership Structure

Typical naming rights agreements for university arenas range between 5 and 15 years.

Suggested framework:

Term: 10 years

Estimated Investment: \$13 million over the life of the agreement in equal annual installments.

This would supersede our existing contractual obligations that would still include signage at Aggie Memorial Football Field, the baseball and softball complexes and include the suite for this tenure.

Final terms would be mutually determined through discussion with NMSU leadership.

Sponsorship Assets and Branding Opportunities

The naming partnership would include comprehensive marketing and branding opportunities throughout the venue and NMSU Athletics ecosystem.

Opportunities may include:

- Official naming rights recognition across all athletics communications
- Exterior building signage and campus wayfinding signage
- Scoreboard and LED ribbon board branding
- Courtside or arena floor sponsorship placement
- Pistol Pete Play Zone in Arena
- Broadcast and digital media recognition
- Official designation as the Credit Union of Aggie Athletics

Audience Reach and Brand Exposure

The Pan American Center hosts a wide range of events that generate significant annual attendance and media exposure.

Athletic events alone attract more than 150,000 fans annually including basketball and volleyball games. Additional events such as concerts, university ceremonies, and community gatherings bring thousands more visitors each year.



Through event attendance, broadcast coverage, digital media, and campus visibility, a naming rights partnership could generate millions of annual brand impressions throughout the region and beyond.

Community Investment and Shared Impact

White Sands Federal Credit Union views this partnership as more than a sponsorship opportunity—it represents a meaningful investment in the future of New Mexico State University and southern New Mexico.

Potential collaborative initiatives may include:

- Student scholarship support
- Financial literacy education programs
- Youth engagement through the Lil' Aggie Youth Club
- Community events hosted at the arena

Together, NMSU and WSFCU can continue strengthening the connection between Aggie Athletics and the communities it serves.

Closing Statement

White Sands Federal Credit Union is proud of its longstanding relationship with New Mexico State University and Aggie Athletics. From initiatives such as the Lil' Aggie Youth Club, to our suite sponsorship at the Pan American Center, the development of our new upcoming Aggie Uptown branch, and our upcoming financial literacy program for student-athletes, our organizations share a commitment to supporting students, families, and the greater Aggie community.

As a Las Cruces-rooted credit union, White Sands FCU is honored to invest in the same community that has supported our members and our institution for generations. We believe this partnership represents a meaningful opportunity to further strengthen the connection between New Mexico State University, Aggie Athletics, and the communities of southern New Mexico.

We look forward to the opportunity to explore this partnership together and continue building a lasting relationship that benefits NMSU, its students, and

A naming rights partnership for the Pan American Center represents the next step in strengthening this relationship and investing in the continued success of Aggie Athletics and New Mexico State University.

September 4, 2026

President Valerio Ferme
New Mexico State University

Members of the Board of Regents
New Mexico State University

Subject: Recommendation for the Non-Honorific Naming of Pan American Center

Dear President Ferme and Members of the Board of Regents:

On September 4, 2026, an ad hoc naming committee convened to review the proposed non-honorific name for the Pan American Center, White Sands FCU Arena at the Pan Am Center. The committee was composed of the following members:

- Berta Zubiate, Director of Campus Planning & Space Management
- Allen Botttroff, VP Administration & Finance
- Frida Padilla, Executive Administrative Assistant, Administration & Finance
- Jacob Nevarez, AVP of Auxiliary Services

The proposed name recognizes White Sands Federal Credit Union for an annual investment of \$1,300,000 over 10 years, representing a total anticipated commitment of \$13,000,000. The investment will support the NMSU Athletics Department.

The committee reviewed the proposal in accordance with NMSU Administrative Rules and Procedures, including ARP 18.10, and considered the proposed name's relationship to the University's mission, values, reputation, and long-term interests. The committee also considered the nature and value of the financial commitment, the proposed duration of the naming opportunity, and any associated operational, legal, or branding considerations.

Following its review, the committee determined that the proposed name is appropriate as a non-honorific naming opportunity and recommends that the proposal proceed through the University's approval process. The committee's recommendation was approved by a Unanimous vote on September 4, 2026, with the following result:

- In favor: 4
- Opposed: 0
- Abstaining: 0

Accordingly, the NMSU Naming Committee respectfully recommends that the President and Board of Regents approve the naming of Pan American Center as White Sands FCU Arena at the Pan Am Center, subject to the following conditions:

1. Execution of a final written agreement documenting the annual investment of \$ 1,300,000, the payment schedule, the intended use of funds, and the responsibilities of all parties.
2. Establishment of a naming term of 10 years, beginning on September 8, 2026, unless otherwise approved by the Board of Regents.
3. Review and approval of all signage, logos, donor-recognition elements, and related materials in accordance with applicable University branding, facilities, and signage standards.
4. Confirmation that the University retains the authority to modify or discontinue the name under the conditions established in the final agreement and applicable University policy.
5. Completion of any additional legal, financial, administrative, or due-diligence review required by the University.

The committee submits this recommendation for the President's consideration and for presentation to the Board of Regents for final approval.

Respectfully submitted,



Berta Zubiarte

Chair, NMSU Naming Committee

Director of Campus Planning & Space Management

COMPARABLE DEALS

Naming rights comps

NMSU x Pan American Center

- 3% escalator
- 10-year term
- \$1.376M AAV

Year	Fee
1	\$1,200,000
2	\$1,236,000
3	\$1,273,080
4	\$1,311,272
5	\$1,350,611
6	\$1,391,129
7	\$1,432,863
8	\$1,475,849
9	\$1,520,124
10	\$1,565,728
Total Fee	\$13,756,655
AAV	\$1,375,666



Conference	School	Deal Start	Term	Gross Fee	AAV*	Brand/Venue	Category
Big Ten	Washington	2015	10	\$41,000,000	\$4,100,000	Alaska Airlines Arena at Hec Edmundson Pavilion^	Airline
ACC	Syracuse	2022	10	\$32,500,000	\$3,250,000	JMA Dome^	Tech./Hardware
SEC	Tennessee	2023	10	\$20,000,000	\$2,000,000	Thompson-Boling Arena at Food City Center	Supermarket
Big Ten	Illinois	2013	30	\$60,000,000	\$2,000,000	State Farm Center	Insurance
Big 12	West Virginia	2025	10	\$20,000,000	\$2,000,000	Hope Coliseum	Energy/Utilities
Big 12	Arizona	2026	15	\$27,700,000	\$1,846,667	McKale Center at ALKEME Arena	Insurance
MWC	New Mexico	2026	10	\$17,400,000	\$1,740,000	The Pit - Powered by Nusenda	Financial Services
Big Ten	Minnesota	2026	10	\$17,000,000	\$1,700,000	The Barn by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota	Insurance
Big 12	Central Florida	2023	12	\$20,000,000	\$1,666,667	Addition Financial Arena	Financial Services
SEC	Kentucky	2020	14	\$21,000,000	\$1,500,000	Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center	Financial Services
ACC	Louisville	2020	11	\$16,300,000	\$1,481,818	KFC Yum! Center	QSR
Big Ten	Rutgers	2021	20	\$28,000,000	\$1,400,000	Jersey Mike's Arena	QSR
Big East	Creighton	2018	20	\$23,600,000	\$1,180,000	CHI Health Center	Health Care
Big 12	Texas Tech	2020	15	\$16,000,000	\$1,066,667	United Supermarkets Arena	Supermarket
Big East	Providence	2022	10	\$9,000,000	\$900,000	Amica Mutual Pavilion	Insurance
Big West	CSU Northridge	2022	10	\$8,300,000	\$830,000	Premier America Credit Union Arena	Financial Services
Big Ten	Maryland	2002	25	\$20,000,000	\$800,000	Xfinity Center	Telecommunications
Big 12	Colorado	2021	15	\$12,000,000	\$800,000	UCHealth Champions Center	Health Care
WCC	UC San Diego	2022	7	\$5,000,000	\$714,286	LionTree Arena	Financial Services
Sun Belt	Stony Brook	2014	10	\$7,000,000	\$700,000	Island Federal Credit Union Arena	Financial Services
A-10	George Mason	2015	10	\$6,600,000	\$660,000	EagleBank Arena	Financial Services
SEC	South Carolina	2015	10	\$6,500,000	\$650,000	Colonial Life Arena	Insurance
MAC	Buffalo	2026	10	\$6,305,134	\$630,513	Broadview Arena	Financial Services
MWC	UIC	2023	15	\$9,300,000	\$620,000	Credit Union 1 Arena	Financial Services
MWC	San Diego State	2009	10	\$6,000,000	\$600,000	Viejas Arena	Gaming/Casino
MAAC	Siena	2021	5	\$3,000,000	\$600,000	MVP Arena	Health Care
SEC	Florida	2016	10	\$5,900,000	\$590,000	Exactech Arena at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center	Health Care
MWC	Boise State	2019	15	\$8,400,000	\$560,000	ExtraMile Arena	Supermarket
CUSA	Florida International	2024	10	\$5,600,000	\$560,000	Ocean Bank Convocation Center	Financial Services
Horizon League	Oakland	2023	10	\$5,000,000	\$500,000	OU Credit Union O'Rena	Financial Services
MAAC	Quinnipiac	2018	10	\$5,000,000	\$500,000	M&T Bank Arena	Financial Services
Big West	Hawaii	2020	10	\$5,000,000	\$500,000	SimpliFi Arena	Financial Services
Big 12	Cincinnati	2006	20	\$10,000,000	\$500,000	Fifth Third Arena	Financial Services
Ohio Valley	Southern Indiana	2024	20	\$10,000,000	\$500,000	Liberty Arena	Financial Services

*Ranked by Average Annual Value (AAV)

^Contains football and basketball