



**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF REGENTS ORIENTATION  
June 22, 2021 and June 23, 2021 8:00am**

Milton Hall #85  
McFie Circle  
Las Cruces, New Mexico

**Regents of New Mexico State University**

Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chairwoman Dina Chacón-Reitzel, Secretary/Treasurer Arsenio Romero, Christopher Saucedo, Neal Bitsie

**University Officials** - Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu, Ph.D., President John D. Floros, Ph.D., Provost Carol Parker, J.D., Vice Chancellor Ruth A. Johnston, Ph.D., Senior Vice President Andrew Burke, Ed.D., General Counsel Roy Collins III, J.D.

**Others attending the meeting** – Adam Cavotta (BOR Chief of Staff), Melody Munson-Mcgee (President’s Chief of Staff), Spri Aubrey (BOR Executive Assistant)

**MINUTES**

Topic	Presenter
<b>1 Call to Order</b>	<b>Chairwoman Devasthali</b>

The Orientation was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chairwoman Devasthali.

Chairwoman Devasthali noted that this is an orientation with questions and discussion and no votes or official action will be taken.

<b>2 Overview of NMSU LEADS 2025</b>	<b>President Floros Chancellor Arvizu</b>
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President Floros began the presentation by acknowledging the response the university system had to the pandemic. NMSU moved more than 4,000 courses to online education. The NMSU administration communicated to the NMSU community throughout the pandemic. Community health, especially the health of faculty, staff, and students were prioritized.

President Floros continued the presentation by giving an update on the Strategic Plan LEADS 2025. The changing demographics at NMSU was discussed. It is important for NMSU to meet the needs of their current demographics. NMSU has been a federally designated Hispanic Serving Institution for many years. Today the student population is two-thirds Hispanic, whereas the majority used to be white. The average student at NMSU is low income and first generation. Social mobility is important and is defined by NMSU as taking the average student and moving them upwards in the higher strata. The desire is to increase diversity in faculty so students can see themselves in their faculty.

In Goal 1 (Enhance Student Success and Social Mobility), enrollment is one of the most important pieces. Enrollment has been declining; however, they have not lost a significant number of students at the NMSU Las Cruces campus. Unfortunately, the community colleges have suffered a great loss of students. The goal of LEADS 2025 is to reach 16,000 enrolled students by 2025. For Goal 2 (Elevate Research & Creativity), NMSU is setting out to recapture the highest Carnegie research status (R1). To reach that status it is important to note that the first 150 universities who meet the qualifications of R1 are classified as such, which means what other

universities achieve is a factor as far as whether NMSU reaches R1 status as well. NMSU has a desire to raise faculty and staff salaries. An NMSU-wide challenge is that faculty and staff are hired at low wages, gain expertise and experience, then are recruited by other universities who offer better salaries.

NMSU has significantly less research expenditures; however, expenditures are increasing again. Faculty are going for larger grants and changing the way they think about research. Faculty are becoming more collaborative and successful. NMSU is hopeful that this trend will continue. A large portion of research will come from the Physical Science Laboratory (PSL). Student enrollment numbers are steady. Improvements are being made in student success, academic excellence, research expenditures, moving to R1 status, outreach and extension, faculty compensation, and building a robust university. A survey to collect feedback from employees on employee satisfaction is anticipated but has not yet been conducted.

### **3 NMSU Community Colleges Overview**

**Community College  
Executive Director Van  
Winkle &  
Vice President Brooks**

Vice President Kelly Brooks presented for Doña Ana Community College (DACC) on behalf of Dr. Torres, who is traveling. The focus of DACC is on opportunity and impact so that citizens in Doña Ana county can access and benefit from resources at DACC. Resources at DACC include: adult education, such as ESL and high school equivalency, workforce degrees, certificates, industry-recognized credentials, transfer degrees, and the Small Business Development Center. Between 2010 and 2021, 64% of students are first generation, 69% are Pell Grant eligible, and the median GPA is 2.60. In the Fall of 2020 full-time enrollment was 58% and part-time enrollment was 42%. Of those students, 44% are Career Technical Education (CTE), 28% are transfer students who intend to move on to a 4-year degree, and 28% are not seeking an award. Students who were most impacted by the pandemic are first generation students, Pell Grant eligible students, and students with families or dependents. Through the pandemic, DACC began an iPad distribution project in which they distributed iPads to students who needed them to complete their coursework. DACC invested in training and support for faculty so that they had the support they needed to better support students when they needed it. DACC did more online support and services for students during the pandemic.

Enrollment dropped by about 1,000 students or a 13% decrease. This decrease was largely due to class size limitations resulting from social distancing requirements. Although they opened their lab from morning to night, they were not able to serve all students who needed those classes. Some courses, such as Welding and other CTE courses, are not able to be taught in a different setting.

Enrollment increases are anticipated for the fall semester. Retention is currently at 63.2% with a goal of reaching 65%. Their 3-year graduation rate is 14.4%. One of the challenges noting regarding efforts to increase graduation rates is that some students enroll and they are not seeking a degree. Between 2010 and 2021 DACC students earned 14,813 awards. In the same time frame, there were 5,395 students who transferred to NMSU main campus.

DACC is due to have a meeting with the regents to update their Operating Agreement. It is in progress of being scheduled. The advisory board for DACC is made up of members from three different school districts: Las Cruces Public Schools, Gadsden Public Schools, and Hatch Public Schools. The duties of the DACC Advisory Board is to: enter into agreement with the regents, subject to biennial review, act in advisory capacity to regents, approve annual operating budget for recommendation to regents, certify tax levy to county commissioners, conduct elections for community college tax levies.

Projects that have emerged from the pandemic are as follows: continuing to improve online/hybrid instruction by leveraging remote tools and professional development, integrate credit/non-credit instructions in ways that increase workforce opportunities for community members, launch an integrated service center that will provide information and referrals to campus and community resources, and progress toward a 100% paperless business environment.

Community College Executive Director Van Winkle presented about the three other branch campuses: Alamogordo, Grants, and Carlsbad. The commonality in the three branch campuses is that they are established in these smaller communities to help students who need access to higher education. They are supported by the local mill levy and tied to workforce, public school systems, early college high school and economic development in the region in which they serve. The branch campuses serve many first-generation students, which makes up at least 50% of student population.

Enrollment dropped for all campuses, but is picking back up. The pandemic and changes to inter-campus enrollment policies contributed to the decrease enrollment head count. In 2010 Alamogordo's head count was around 4,000 students, but many were main campus students. Fall 2021 enrollment is up by 17.5%. Also, in Fall 2020 there were 65 students enrolled who were main campus students, whereas in Fall 2021 there are 3 main campus students registered. Alamogordo campus received a Title V grant that focuses on mentoring and advising students. The campus is now host to 100% Otero. It is a local organization based on the 'Anna, Age Eight' model, which is to alleviate barriers students face. They are located on campus.

At the Grants campus, enrollment has jumped by 83.9% from Fall 2020 to Fall 2021. Last fall there were 45 students, who were main campus students enrolled at the Grants campus. In Fall 2021 there were 4 enrolled. The Grants campus received an AT&T scholarship for students going into Creative Media Design in the amount of \$10,000. Grants campus applied for the New Mexico Re-Start grant and received \$80,000 for being the first applicant. On September 10<sup>th</sup> there will be a ribbon cutting for the Indoor Ag Research Project.

At the Carlsbad campus enrollment increased by 8.9% between Fall 2020 and Fall 2021. In Fall 2020 there were 49 students who were main campus students and in Fall 2021 there is 1. The Carlsbad campus is moving forward in preparations to become independent as Southeast New Mexico College.

All branch campuses have an advisory board that is made up of members from local school boards. At the Alamogordo campus the advisory board includes Alamogordo School system, Tularosa School system, and Cloudcroft School system. The Grants campus advisory board includes the Grants School system and Cibola County School system.

#### **4 NMSU Affiliated Entities Overview**

**Director Hansen, CEO  
Eschenbrenner, President  
Dictson**

Director Hansen gave a presentation about Arrowhead Incorporated. Arrowhead is 501(c)3 registered in New Mexico. Arrowhead's purpose is to promote prosperity of New Mexicans, foster economic development, create partnerships for research parks and promote mentors to advance education, science, research and economic development. The Memorandum of Agreement with NMSU will be re-worked this year. Arrowhead is a blended component unity of NMSU and included in the NMSU annual audit. They are the parent company of Arrowhead Innovation Fund, GP. The Arrowhead Innovation Fund is a for-profit wholly owned subsidiary of Arrowhead Incorporated, which is a co-investment fund, and created for investment

purposes. Regarding investment, Arrowhead looks for differentiation and for technologies that are ready for commercial development, prototype development, and testing. Their investment range is \$25,000 to \$200,000. The return to Arrowhead is 20% profit after the return to investors. There are 17 companies that Arrowhead is currently invested in and those companies have secured \$5 million in grant funding and have raised \$15 million in investments. Those companies are responsible for 100 new jobs in New Mexico.

Arrowhead's net income for FY21 is projected at \$236,245. Annualized total expenses is \$528,905, which is 42% of their budget of \$1,271,331. A major contributor to the difference between budget and annualized is the decrease in expenses.

There is 175 acres of available land at Arrowhead Park. They are in the process of updating the master plan for the park. Employment stayed steady in FY21 with 21 tenants and 320 employees. There is a new NMSU business located there named "Young Guns Chile." There was discussion around Arrowhead's involvement with 4-H. Arrowhead is part of the 4-H summer conference. They always spend a lot of time getting into schools to get people participating and they have a natural partnership with the schools.

CEO Eschenbrenner presented on Aggie Development Incorporated (ADI). The project for the Courtyard by Marriott hotel was completed in 2019. Courtyard by Marriott has been very successful and has already reached their 3-year projection. Track C on Pan Am land was sold to multiple family developers. There was discussion around Aggie Uptown's plan including the potential for an assisted living community and an update on I-25 construction.

Vice President Dictson gave a presentation on the Foundation. The Foundation mission is to build long term relationships with alumni and donors and raise money for NMSU. Planned gifts and pledges amounted to \$15,540,000. Thus far, the Foundation has received a little more than \$20 million. The Foundation is an independent 501(c)3 organization. The Foundation is charged with coordinating all fundraising efforts and alumni relationship efforts with the university. The office of University Advancement is an internal unit and the Foundation is the external unit. The office of University Advancement and the Foundation have the same staff. There are 29 tasks within the collaboration agreement between NMSU and the Foundation. The Foundation has completed 44% of those tasks. The remaining tasks are in progress. Distribution of scholarship funds and total gift funds were discussed. The Foundation raises funds and the university determines how to spend said funds. The Foundation will work with the new Vice Provost to develop a standard operating procedure to better address fund distribution going forward. The Foundation would like to set up a donor stewardship plan in which they will communicate to the donors what students got awarded to their specific scholarship.

## **5 Overview of NMSU LEADS: Goal 2 Elevate Research and Creativity Vice President Cifuentes**

Vice President Cifuentes gave a presentation on Goal 2 of NMSU LEADS 2025. Co-Chair is Dr. Kathy Hansen. Joining Vice President Cifuentes was Dr. DeLeon, Dr. Flinchbaugh, Dr. Schaub. The imperative goal of Goal 2 is to reach Carnegie R1 status. The Goal 2 team members are taking tactics and developing that can be utilized over the next few years. Plans include description, outcomes, and alignment with 2025 objectives. Along with the plans are a series of timelines, actions, and metrics. Reasons for becoming R1 are as follows: improve recruitment and retention of students and faculty, student success, reputation, credibility, ranking, and recognition. To reach Goal 2 it is essential to increase strategic investment in people, core facilities, graduate programs, and strategic support.

Dr. Schaub presented about Core Facilities. Research Core Programs are identifying large critical research resources that may be beyond the ability of a single unit to support them. Chemical Analysis and Instrumentation Laboratory, High Performance Computing, Microscopic Imaging Core Suite, DNA Sequencing Facility and X-Ray Laboratory were among the programs discussed. The most recent awards are as follows: NIH Heart Attack Metabolomics \$888,000, NSF Proteomics \$1.2 million, USDA Instrumentation \$335,000, DoD Perfluorinated alkylated substances (PFAS) approximately \$300,000. Research Core Programs touch on other goals in LEADS 2025 as well. In relation to Goal 1, they provide resources that are increasing student opportunity through funded research assistantships, elevate graduate education and student career pathways and marketability. In relation to Goal 3, they host workshops for STEM training and integrate them into coursework material. In relation to Goal 4, the Research Core Program is trying to improve operational excellence.

Dr. Flinchbaugh provided an overview on the graduate programs. Graduate programs will help NMSU achieve Goal 2 and reach R1 status. This can be reached by developing interdisciplinary academic degrees aligned with research capabilities in the emerging area. Realigning resources with strategic priorities will contribute to accomplishing Goal 2. One of the programs is targeted at undergrad students through the Master's Accelerated Program. Undergraduate students with a GPA of 3.0 or higher can take up to 12 credit hours of master's level courses and count it toward their undergraduate and graduate degrees. Recently, the Master's of Agricultural Strategic Communications has been launched. It is a completely online degree. There are two other master's degrees that are expected to launch in FY22. They are MA in Higher Education and MS in Organizational Leadership. A Master's in Integrative Health and Wellness does not have a set date. There are several graduate certificates that are expected in FY22. These new degrees and certificates will hopefully increase enrollment as well as increasing graduate assistantships for Ph.D. students, growing humanities and social sciences Ph.D. programs, and automating graduate school workflow processes that improve Ph.D. completion.

Dr. DeLeon gave an overview on strategic support in maximizing enterprise solutions. This supports NMSU LEADS Goal 2 and 4. NMSU runs a major research enterprise with over \$100 million in annual expenditures and over 150 active grants and contracts. Each year NMSU faculty and research submit approximately 700 grant proposals valued at over \$400 million. NMSU does not have a comprehensive integrated commercial IT system to support the research enterprise, unlike nearly all the R1 and R2 institutions. Vice President Cifuentes has made a commitment to deploy a system in the next fiscal year. This system will enhance NMSU's ability to more effectively complete work in administrative grants and contracts. Also, it improves NMSU's ability to collect, store, analyze, and share data enabling NMSU to report information about the enterprise to improve collaboration, proposal preparation, and strategic decision making. Additionally, it reduces the compliance and administrative burden of the faculty, departments, colleges, and the central institutional staff. NMSU and UNM selected Streamlyne as their system and expect to sign the contract later this month. Streamlyne will integrate the primary functions of the research enterprise into a single system.

Support for new faculty was discussed. Startup supplies, space, equipment as well as training needs to be provided to them for them to be competitive and successful. NMSU needs to improve the capacity for department heads to move faculty along, mentor them, and put them in a position for success. Managing R1 faculty is different from managing faculty from R3 universities. There was an emphasis placed on the need to provide training. Grant writing regarding faculty's writing and contribution to grant proposals was discussed. The Research Development office mostly does project management with grant proposals. Occasionally, NMSU will hire an outside contractor to work with faculty and the Research Development office in putting together a grant proposal. Undergraduate and graduate research was discussed. More undergraduate students need to be recruited to do research. NMSU faculty have given feedback suggesting that recruiting from undergraduate research programs is an effective way to find the best prepared graduate students. The

Goal 2 team is working on formalizing a better undergraduate research program, which is considered a feeder to the graduate research program.

Requirements to become an R1 university was further discussed. Land-grant institutions focus on current critical needs. NMSU is here to contribute to the economic development of the State of New Mexico and the country. NMSU wants to be an R1 that meets their land-grant mission and contributes to the needs of the state through creating the capacity for greater research in targeted areas water, health analytics, artificial intelligence, machine learning. Faculty rely heavily on graduate students to execute on the grant or contract in conducting research in the lab. Feedback from faculty suggests that it is increasingly difficult to recruit the very best graduate students to NMSU. One of the investments that would be beneficial to NMSU is including tuition and health care in a graduate or doctoral fellowship package as well as improving faculty startup packages. It needs to become the norm in teaching assistantships as well as research assistantships. In FY20 NMSU put together 24 startup packages valued at around \$4.2 million. In managing this, the request for those 24 packages was double that amount. The department heads and deans needed \$8 million. There were some offers that have gone out to prospective faculty and they specifically cited that the faculty startup was insufficient for them to do their best work at NMSU. The future of the university is in the new faculty.

## **6 Overview of Legal Compliance Matters**

### **General Counsel Collins III**

General Counsel Collins gave an overview on legal compliance matters. The legal framework as to NMSU and NMDA is the New Mexico Constitution and N.M. Stat 21-8 which establishes the Board of Regents legal authority. The governance framework at NMSU is in the Regents Policy Manual (RPM), which broadly sets forth the Board's issued policy, explicitly delegates or reserves authority within NMSU, and includes Board of Regents Bylaws that govern and direct the Board's internal operations. The University General Counsel (UGC) is comprised of the General Counsel (GC) and Chief Legal Officer, Associate General Counsel, and two Assistant General Counsels who all represent NMSU and NMDA. The Attorney-Client Privilege is about the Board as an entity. It "belongs" to Regents as a joint body, or to administration on behalf of the Regents. External governmental authority, such as a court, cannot compel UGC attorney to disclose communication between attorney and NMSU/NMDA official. There is no privilege between an individual board member and an attorney. It is waived if a board member or administrator discloses to a third party. Responses and initiation of contact in e-mail communication will be to all board members via "Bcc" to avoid an unintentional Open Meetings Act violation. Upon receipt of any legal document pertaining to NMSU or NMDA, regents are requested to notify UGC immediately and make a record of how it was delivered and when it was received. The Marketing and Communications office is the preferred outlet and clearinghouse for outgoing and incoming media communication. Any press inquiries should be directed to that office, who will be able to help in giving the most appropriate response. In the Open Meetings Act, the agenda must be available at least 72 hours before convening the meeting. The agenda cannot be changed once it is posted. If it is an emergency meeting, the deadline is 24 hours. Civil Rights laws were also discussed.

## **7 Adjourned**

### **Chairwoman Devasthali**

Chairwoman Devasthali recessed the orientation session until the following day at 8 AM.

## **1 Call to Order**

### **Chairwoman Devasthali**

The second day of Orientation was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chairwoman Devasthali.

Chairwoman Devasthali noted that this is an orientation with questions and discussion and no votes or official action will be taken.

## **2 Overview of Academic Affairs and NMSU On-Demand Provost Parker, Vice Provost Kollmann**

Provost Parker presented regarding Academic Affairs. The Provost reviewed several Regents Policy Manual (RPM) policies and well as some Administrative Rules and Procedures (ARP) as it relates to the board of regents role in the process workflow. The University Program Approval Committee (UPAC) plays a role in approval of new or modified academic programs. There is no strategic plan in place presently for new degree programs and the vision is to have a multi-year master plan for these programs. The current status of the college merger was also discussed.

Vice Provost Kollmann gave an overview regarding NMSU Online and NMSU On Demand. NMSU Online aims to increase social mobility, decrease racial achievement gaps, and remove geographic divides. The adult learner is where they are focusing in designing programs and courses and the goal is to create a learning environment that is rich for students and provides a standardized professional look and feel. There is an opportunity to attract New Mexico students who may have been taking online degrees at institutions in other states. The scalability of new programs, improving processes, removing technical barriers, while maintaining academic integrity, will help in increasing enrollment. Data from Grey Associates that was collected on the demands for degree programs was discussed. The data is important because it identifies what degrees are in demand as well as what job openings are available for those degrees. This also helps in determining what programs may be nearing the end of their life cycle. Marketing strategies were discussed in this context. Some of the mentioned marketing strategies are interviewing alumni, using AI technology, and improving and optimizing websites. A marketing strategy is needed and will include processes. NMSU On Demand had a soft launch and is starting off with non-credit offerings that can later be applied to a full degree program.

## **3 Overview of Recruitment and Retention Vice President Scott**

Vice President Scott gave an overview on recruitment and retention. At census date for summer enrollment, NMSU was up 0.4%. Graduate enrollment in the summer was up 12% and NMSU-O is a big contributor to that increase. NMSU is up by 156 students in the first-time freshmen category. NMSU is on target to have just over 2,200 freshmen. Market groups for potential enrollment and rates were discussed. The undergraduate adult learner is a growing market. Approximately 70% of students are in-state and the other 30% are out-of-state. Retention principles and best practices were discussed such as, college readiness, building connections, first year program and residential life programming, and advising. Student mentoring was also discussed and it was noted that students take part in planning on-boarding activities.

## **4 Overview of NMDA Director Witte**

Director Witte gave an overview on the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA). In 2019 NMDA was rated the second-most favorable industry in the State of New Mexico by the Garrity Group. It was reported that 41% of agricultural producers in New Mexico are female and 95% of ranches and farms are family owned. New Mexico is ranked No. 1 in chile production (78.6% of U.S. total), No. 2 in pecan production, No. 4 in

cheese production, No. 5 in dry onion production, and No. 9 in milk production. New Mexico is one of the oldest states in the country in the agricultural industry. New Mexico is one of the top states with new people coming into agricultural industry. Priority #1 is Marketplace and Economic Development and Priority #2 is Food and Feed Production. On site is Veterinary Diagnostic Services as well as a State Laboratory building were discussed. Priority #3 is Regulatory Compliance and Consumer Protection. NMDA sponsors and promotes pesticide programs throughout the state. The United States Department of Agriculture approved NMDA's state hemp production regulatory plan in October 2020.

## **5 Overview of NMSU LEADS Goal 3, Extension and Experiment Stations**

**Associate Dean Boren and Associate Dean Edgar**

Associate Dean Boren gave a presentation regarding NMSU LEADS Goal 3 (Amplify Extension & Outreach), and provided an overview of Cooperative Extension Service (CES) and Experiment Stations. The Cooperative Extension Service operates on \$28.4 million annually. Approximately 55-60% of the overall budget is from state appropriations. The Cooperative Extension Services Program is best known for 4-H Youth Development, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Community Economic Development. The Cooperative Extension Service has been involved in addressing natural resource issues and workforce readiness. The New Mexico 4-H program prepares 1 in 9 NM children for workforce. Youth in 4-H are two and a half times more likely to engage in civic development, two times more likely to participate in STEM programs, half as likely to use drugs, and 4.9 times more likely to graduate from college. CES reaches more than 200,000 citizens annually through workshops on nutrition, parenting, and physical fitness. The needs for programs around nutrition, parenting, physical health, behavioral health, and wellness were discussed. CES partnered with the New Mexico Department of Health to start a Vaccination Education program that provides information about COVID-19 and the vaccinations as well as offered mobile vaccination clinics. The dairy industry was targeted first and was expanded to other agricultural industries across the state. This program addresses vaccine equity issues.

Amplifying extension and outreach tactics were discussed. Conducting faculty and staff annual outreach conferences, outreach activities, promoting outreach and extension, implementing strategies to connect extension networks to colleges and units, providing incentives and rewards, extension and economic development were also discussed.

Associate Dean Edgar gave a presentation on the Agricultural, Consumer, Environmental Sciences (ACES) and its Agricultural Experiment Station. The Agricultural Experiment Station supports fundamental and applied science and technology research to benefit New Mexico's citizens in the economic, social, and cultural aspects of agriculture, natural resources management and family issues. There are 12 agricultural science centers. The Agricultural Experiment Station is not a physical site. It's a connection of researchers across the state conducting the research. They received just over \$15 million in state appropriations and that was 44% of their funding. The remainder of those funds come from federal appropriations, faculty and researchers that are bringing in grants and contracts, or in sales and services that are provided out of their Agricultural Experiment Stations. Projects addressing safety issues in buildings are moving forward. AES is in the process of completing an Economic Impact Assessment at the Agricultural Experiment Station. AES had three research projects that went to the National Data Base. The first is the use of portable spectrometer using LEDs to identify pathogens in food products and how to catch that earlier. The second is focused on improving production, the diet, and growth of their beef cattle. The last is focused on water and water variability. This focuses on unique ways of capturing and re-using water and sharing it directly with producers. The state is in the most severe drought that we've ever had.



## **6 Overview of Annual Budget Process**

**Vice President Burke**

Vice President Burke gave an overview about the annual budget process. Section 21-1-33, NMSA 1978 – mandates the development of accounting, budgeting, and fiscal reporting manual. Processes through determining and setting budgets was discussed. There are different restricted and unrestricted fund groups. The following categories are in the I&G budget: academic support, student services, institutional support, and physical plant. Student Social and Cultural, Research, Public Service, and Intercollegiate Athletics are non-I&G budgets and are preparing their own budgets within the state appropriated amounts that they received with the guidelines that are provided with salary increases. There’s an opportunity for the research and public services areas to receive money from the state request additional new funds from the state appropriations allocation. That process is run with the Government Affairs Department, with the Budget Office being involved in the review process. The process in building the budget begins with identifying the dollars that they want to allocate during the fiscal year in advance. Different tuition rates for NMSU Online and regional reciprocity agreements were also discussed.

## **7 Overview of NMSU Athletics**

**Athletic Director Moccia  
and Deputy AD/COO  
Cartwright**

Director Moccia gave an overview of NMSU Athletics. There are 16 sports teams, which is 10 women’s and 6 men’s. That is 400 student athletes and 80% are coming from five areas: New Mexico, Texas, California, Arizona, and International. WAC added four schools, which made them a 13-team league. The WAC added football as well. There are 7 football playing institutions. For an FBS league to be created 8 teams are required. Sources and outlook for alternative revenue were discussed and it was noted that revenues from such sources are expected to increase over time as the number of licensed products increases. Construction of lights at the soccer field, the score board at the Pan American Center, and other construction projects were also discussed.

## **8 Overview of NMSU LEADS 2025 Goal 4: Vice Chancellor Johnston Build a Robust University**

Vice Chancellor Johnston presented on the topic of NMSU LEADS 2025 Goal 4 (Build a Robust University System). The three objectives are as follows: advancing equity, inclusion and diversity and effectively supporting students, faculty and staff; cultivating faculty and staff excellence, enhancing productivity and improving the work climate; nimbly responding to a dynamic higher education environment, optimizing systems, processes, and space utilization. Marketing and communications strategy and the need to reach out to the community to “tell the story of NMSU” and the many achievements within the system were discussed. There was discussion of the need for a strategic communication plan.

## **9 Overview of Schedules, Agendas, and Chief of Staff Cavotta Annual Meeting Calendar**

Chief of Staff Cavotta gave an overview regarding Board of Regents schedules, agendas, and the annual meeting calendar. There are different types of meetings that are defined in the Open Meetings Act and in the bylaws. There must be four regular meetings, one per quarter. Special meetings are scheduled in between the regular meetings when the Board needs to decide on something before the next regular meeting. Regent

committees are formed by the Board and each committee must meet four times a year. The Board-to-Board engagements are advisory boards to the Board of Regents meetings. Planning and scheduling those meetings has the following considerations budget cycle, audit cycle, academic approvals cycle, capital outlay cycle, legislative calendar, and strategic planning. Election of officers is the second Monday in March. Before the pandemic, past practices include a meeting in Santa Fe during the legislative session, meetings at community college campuses, and strategic planning retreats.

**10 Adjourned**

**Chairwoman Devasthali**

Chairwoman Devasthali adjourned the orientation.

**Meeting Minutes Approved on September 16, 2021 by the New Mexico State University Board of Regents.**



Ammu Devasthali  
Board of Regents Chair



Arsenio Romero  
Board of Regents Secretary/Treasurer