

Administration and Finance
Weekly Activity Report
Week Ending: April 4, 2014

- **STudent Audit Requirement system (STARs) V.4.0 upgrade is complete** - Working closely with the Registrar's Office, ICT has completed its upgrade of STARs. With STARs, NMSU students are not only able to audit their degree progress online, but can now save those audits to Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) formatted files for later review. STARs V4.0 has other benefits as well: it is Web 2.0 friendly, runs on the latest server technology, and allows ICT to retire older, less efficient computers.



- **Autism Awareness Month -**

Facilities and Services teamed up with Alpha Xi Delta sorority to celebrate National Autism Awareness month. The A will be illuminated in blue every night during the month of April from 7:30 PM until 11:00 PM. This is a community service project for AXD and we are in our second year of supporting the student organization.

- **NMSU Regents approve new, linearized tuition model, budget guidelines and rates for FY 2015** - The New Mexico State University Board of Regents approved a new, linearized tuition model for NMSU's Las Cruces campus students as well as budget guidelines for the 2015 fiscal year. The new tuition model will provide a financial benefit for students to take at least 15 credits per semester. In addition, the Regents approved housing, meal plan and parking rates for the same period. For additional information, go to <http://www.nmsu.edu/~budget/reports.html>.
- **AggieGuest wireless access now available on the Las Cruces campus.** ICT introduced "AggieGuest", wireless internet access service offered to guests of the NMSU's main campus. AggieGuest users can browse the Internet without needing to complete the network registration process for their internet-connected devices. This service is provided free of charge and limited to Internet web browsing in one-hour increments. NMSU students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use "AggieAir", NMSU's unrestricted full service wireless network. For more information, email ICT's Network Operations group at noc@nmsu.edu.
- **NMSU scores an "A" for its Domain Name Systems (DNS) setup and configuration.** NMSU Office of Audit Services performed an informal audit of NMSU's DNS servers using a web-based audit tool that checks an organization's DNS setup and configuration. Audit Services determined that NMSU rates at an "A" scoring a 497 out of 500 possible points in its DNS operations that translate website names, such as www.nmsu.edu, to their respective numeric Internet Protocol addresses. The rating reflects the proactive measures taken by ICT's networking department to minimize risk and exposure of NMSU data by

redesigning and re-implementing the way DNS services are delivered across the NMSU system.

- **NM Best Building 2014 Award** - The Arts Complex Phase or Center for the Arts has received one of the prestigious AGC (Associated



General Contractors) NM Best Buildings 2014 Awards for “Best Construction Management-at-Risk” category. Orasa Vaught and Jon Padilla, FS – PD&E Project Managers represented NMSU and received this award on March 29, 2014 in Albuquerque.

- **ICT server upgrade complete.** ICT’s Systems Administration group completed its upgrade of nine primary physical servers that are host to 215 virtual servers. The virtual servers support systems critical to NMSU’s mission, such as Banner SelfServe, Microsoft Exchange, SharePoint, Wordpress, and Cognos. The upgrade was completed without downtime or impact to any system or service.



- **Safety comes first** – FS Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) conducted an onsite inspection at Taos for the Room Rodeo Kick-off. EH&S checked the electric cords, cushion surrounding the activity, liability waiver, insurance certificate, and someone had to test the mechanical bull for safe operations. Assistant EH&S Director, David Shearer, stayed on the bull for a short time, had fun and landed safely. This modernized Aggie tradition includes an activity review and inspection.

There are approximately 90 safety reviews each year of Campus Activities that involve various types of events.

- **Improved ISO Rating for NMSU Fire Department** - FS FIRE received notification from the Insurance Services Office (ISO) on the results of our Public [Protection Classification \(PPC\)](#) survey, which was completed in 2013. The results from this report are generally regarded as the report card for a Fire Department. As part of the report, ISO grades the Fire Department, Emergency Reporting (Dispatch) and our water supply. This is **GREAT news for the NMSU community!** Our new rating rewards our efforts in risk reduction and continued efforts in making our community safer for students, faculty, staff and visitors.

