

Administration and Finance
Weekly Activity Report
Week Ending: April 3, 2015

- **Fitch Affirms NMSU Bond Rating** – Fitch Ratings has affirmed its “AA –“rating on the outstanding issues of improvement or refunding revenue bonds issued by the Regents of New Mexico State University. Their rating outlook is *Stable*. The key rating drivers cited by Fitch were *state support* (good), *enrollment pressures* (declining, but actively being managed with retention and admissions strategies), *mixed operating performance* (NMSU is managing expenses in light of declining enrollment), *low debt burden*, and an *adequate balance sheet cushion*.

- **Green Hornets take 4th Place** – The competition is officially over. On behalf of our Facilities & Services Green Hornets, we would like to congratulate all of our Aggie RecycleManiacs for the tremendous support. Because of all of you, we finished the competition in 4th place in the Grand Champion Category. This is absolutely incredible when you consider that there were over 390 colleges and universities competing in that division nationwide. Official results will be posted on the Recyclemania website, recyclemaniacs.org on Monday, April 13, 2015.



- **Italian Spring Buffet** – a full dining room at the 3rd Floor Bistro in the Fulton Center enjoyed the “bounce back from spring” buffet luncheon served by Sodexo Dining Services. The Italian menu ranged from short ribs braised in wine to bite-sized cannoli and refreshing gelato. April 15th – Hawaiian Luau!
- **Mindful Mondays/Real Food, Real People Initiative** – Monday lunches at Taos Restaurant represents collaboration between the NMSU Campus Health Center and Campus Dining. Healthy eating strategies are combined with healthy foods from recipes provided by the Sodexo staff. This week’s recipes were contributed by Rosa Albada.
- **Faculty/Staff Meal Plans** – Sodexo Dining Services is offering new plans for faculty and staff members. Their marketing team began distributing postcards and freshly baked cookies to departments across campus announcing the new plans with great savings.
- **High School Golf Tournament** – The Dona Ana Classic, hosted by the NMSU Golf Course and Las Cruces Public Schools, had over 90 high school golfers participating. The Golf Course thanks Food & Beverage Manager, Bryan Foster, for the past 3 years improving the image of the Players Grill Restaurant. He is now moving on to other opportunities.

- **Autism Awareness** - The Electric shop helped support the Alpha Chi Delta Sorority community awareness project for Autism. The “A” on A-Mountain will be lit using blue bulbs for the month of April. This is the third year that Facilities and Services have worked with Alpha Chi Delta to promote Autism Awareness.

- **Central Utility Plant Boiler Feed Water Pumps** - Replacement of Boiler Feed Water Pumps project at the Central Utility Plant is near completion. A partial-campus steam outage on 24 March allowed the contractor to fix a faulty isolation valve on the boiler feed system which then allowed him to replace the last two of the five pumps. Facilities and Services is grateful to the patience of the NMSU students and staff during this and other required outages.



- **Restricting off-campus remote logins pays big security dividends** - On average last year, NMSU received more than 700,000 daily unauthorized remote desktop login attempts to student, faculty, and staff computers attached to NMSU’s network. As part of ICT’s ongoing efforts to better secure NMSU data, ICT restricted remote logins to only allow connections from on-campus computers or computers connected to NMSU’s Virtual Private Network (VPN) at off-campus locations. Since the restriction that was put in place in January, no unauthorized remote login attempts have been detected by ICT’s Information Security group.
- **Information technologies surveys are underway** - Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) department is currently conducting two information technology surveys, one for students and the other for faculty and staff. The results of the surveys will help ICT identify the technologies that are currently in use by the Las Cruces campus community as well as the technologies the community would like to see implemented at the university. The surveys will run until April 18th at 11:59 p.m. The survey locations and times can be found at <http://studenttech.nmsu.edu>, as well as the online version of the surveys that can be taken at any time before the survey close date.
- **Undergraduate Learning Center** - The Student Technology & Planning and ICT Technology Support are taking a new shape. The photos below are taken from the East stair of the Branson Library in May of 2014 and March of 2015.

