



News Bureau

University Communications and Marketing Services
MSC 3K/New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30001/Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
Phone: (505) 646-3221 Fax: (505) 646-2099
E-mail: Ucomm@nmsu.edu
www.nmsu.edu/news.html

News Release

Jan. 30, 2008

WRITER: Julie M. Hughes, (575) 646-1953, juhughes@nmsu.edu

CONTACT: Dr. Cynda Clary, (575) 646-2307, cclary@nmsu.edu

New Mexico State University to undergo accreditation evaluation

New Mexico State University's Las Cruces and Grants campuses will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit April 28-30 by a team representing The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. A separate HLC team also will visit the Dona Ana Community College campus during this same time period as part of its process for independent accreditation.

NMSU was first accredited by the commission in 1926. Its accreditation is at the doctoral degree level and includes degree sites at various other locations within the state.

The Higher Learning Commission is one of six accrediting agencies in the U.S. that provide institutional accreditation on a regional basis. Institutional accreditation evaluates an entire institution and accredits it as a whole. Other agencies provide accreditation for specific programs. Accreditation is voluntary. The commission accredits about 1,100 institutions of higher education in a 19-state region. The commission is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

For the past two years, New Mexico State has been engaged in an extensive institutional review called a self-study, addressing the commission's requirements and criteria for accreditation. The evaluation team will visit the institution as part of the process to validate the content of the self-study report. HLC team members will meet with individuals and groups from across the campuses. The team will recommend to the commission a continuing status for the university; following a review process, the commission will take the final action.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the university to:

Public Comment on New Mexico State University
The Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. They must be in writing and signed or may be submitted online and should include the name, address and telephone number of the person providing the comments. Comments must be received by March 28. The commission cannot guarantee that comments received after the due date will be considered. Comments will not be treated as confidential.

Individuals with a specific dispute or grievance with an institution should request the separate Policy of Complaints document from the commission office. The Higher Learning Commission cannot settle disputes between institutions and individuals. Complaints will not be considered third party comment.

To submit comments online, visit <http://www.ncahlc.org/>. For more information on the NMSU accreditation process, visit <http://accreditation.nmsu.edu>.