

## Results of Employer Interviews Conducted in December of 1999

A combination of phone interviews, e-mailed questionnaires and faxed questionnaires was used to determine if NMSU is meeting the needs of the surveying community. Over eighty surveys were distributed but only 13 responses were collected. The questionnaire was sent to surveyors in New Mexico, Texas, Arizona, Utah, Colorado, and Oklahoma. Contacts were selected from website address listings as well as from departmental contact lists which have been maintained over time.

The responses which were received were primarily from Registered Surveyors who own and/or manage surveying operations at companies which perform surveying and engineering work.

### Size of Company or Agency

- Average total employees - 14
- Surveying or survey related employees make up half of the workforce
- Four of the respondents employ only one registered surveyor, the other nine respondents employ an average of 5 registered surveyors.
- Half of the companies which responded have no surveying interns; the other half employed one or two.

### Multi-disciplinary Teams

When asked if work at their company or agency is performed by multi-disciplinary teams, the vast majority of the employers reported yes. This was consistent with expectations and with the results of the alumni survey which had been conducted earlier however, when asked about which disciplines are represented on those teams, employers listed only engineers and planners. The alumni respondents report working on teams which include engineers, realtors, photogrammetry, architects, landscapers, title and finance, and human resources.

### Graduates employed

- 25% of the respondents currently employ a graduate of a four year surveying program
- 42% currently recruit employees who are graduate of a four year surveying program

### Proficiencies students should have upon graduation from a four year surveying program

- Surveying Topics  
Field techniques, CAD, trig, PLSS, research, boundary law, computer skills, GPS skills, description writing.
- Non-surveying topics  
Ethics, writing, communication, business, computer skills, logic, math, CAD, teamwork