

Date: February 7, 2006

To: NMSU Faculty, Staff, and Students

From: Mike Martin, President

Subject: 2006 Legislative Session Update

We are almost a week away from the end of the 30-day legislative session. So far we have been successful in introducing a number of bills in two areas: (1) initiatives supporting systemwide higher education improvements proposed by the Council of Presidents and (2) initiatives specific to NMSU.

Be assured anything can change over the next several days. Still here's where we stand now on several important issues:

- Salaries: 4.5 percent plus .75 percent for the retirement system
- Tuition credit: 2.0 percent
- BR&R - Building Renewal and Replacement systemwide: \$60 million
- Endowment match systemwide: \$20 million
- For NMSU we have several requests in play to allow us to:
 - better serve PreK-12 education
 - advance economic development in New Mexico
 - serve underserved New Mexicans, and
 - improve NMSU as a major university
- We hope to receive capital outlay funding to renovate and expand Gardiner Hall, build the Native American Cultural Center, and complete several other campus improvement projects.

Our team in Santa Fe is functioning well. We will keep you posted as events unfold.