



New Mexico AMP CURRENTS **June-July 2007**

The Summer Community College Opportunity for Research Experience (SCCORE) program, which is being held for the third time at New Mexico State University (NMSU) from July 9-August 15, has awarded scholarships to 16 students statewide. These students include Cassandra L. Amesoli, NMSU Grants; Nicole Caimi, Sandia High graduate; Patricia Coriz, Santa Fe Community College (SFCC); Purity Huskay, Dine College; David I. Lopez, SFCC; Sandra Jacquez, SFCC; Donna Lopez Rios, SFCC; Andrew Montano, Luna Community College (Luna CC); Iris Olivas, NMSU Alamogordo; Jessica Palafox, SFCC; Mario Perez, Luna CC; Ferdinand Rivera, NMSU Grants; John Rivera, NMSU Grants; Delia Tsadiasi, Central New Mexico Community College (CNMCC); Michelle Lynn Saunders, NMSU Grants; and Gerry Torres, Mesilla Valley Christian Schools (MVCS) graduate. The program provides research opportunities, fosters student success, and assists students in the transition from community college to participating New Mexico AMP baccalaureate-granting institutions. Three Institutional Coordinators (IC's) are helping New Mexico AMP staff with the instruction of the program: Andrew Feldman, Luna CC; Phyllis Baca, SFCC; and Cathy Aguilar Morgan, NMSU-Alamogordo.

Researchers and educators met together from July 11-13 for the New Mexico Nanoscience Education Initiative workshop and lecture series in an effort to develop a statewide educational network for the teaching of nanoscience at New Mexico research universities and community colleges. Among the speakers for the series were Vincente Lombrana, IC at NMSU-Alamogordo; Kamala Sharma, IC at University of New Mexico-Gallup; Elba Serrano, long-time New Mexico AMP mentor; and Lisa Frehill, Bridge to the Doctorate Evaluator.

Delia Valles-Rosales, NMSU Assistant Professor of Industrial Engineering and New Mexico AMP Co-Director, is collaborating with other faculty from several departments at NMSU on a project that will optimize chile processing for farmers and processors. The process will save chile farmers money and will prevent wasted crops.

The concrete canoe team at New Mexico State University placed in the top 10 at the National Concrete Canoe Competition, which took place June 14-16 in Seattle, Washington. Former New Mexico AMP program students, Eric Lopez, and Kristin Fajardo participated in the competition, with Eric winning first place for his technical paper and Kristin participating as a team member.

A root washer designed and built by engineering students in a successful semester-long project in SMET 101 has recently been moved to a working organic farm. SMET 101 is one of the classes in the Integrated Learning Community (ILC) and is sponsored by a grant from the Hewlett Foundation.

Karen Lieberman, New Mexico Mathematics, Engineering, and Science Achievement (New Mexico MESA) Southwest Region Coordinator, has resigned her post. Ms. Lieberman has been a faithful and dedicated supporter of New Mexico AMP and its activities and events for many years. She will be greatly missed, and we wish her the best with her future plans.