



**Administrative Council Notes
September 2, 2026 Fireplace Room**

Attendees: Chad Cole, Lindsay Fincher, Craig Leager, Eric Mann, Brad McFadin, Stephanie Miles, Veronica Munoz, Veronica Panebouef, Shawn Powell, Jacob Puckett, Destinee Salayandia, Martha Staab, and Amalia Tafoya

I. Shawn Powell provided remarks on the following topics

- a. Last week the US Department of Justice (DOJ) filed law suits against five states including New Mexico for allowing undocumented citizens to pay in state tuition.

The DOJ filed lawsuits against 21 states on the same grounds. In five of these states (e.g., Texas, Illinois, Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Nebraska) the courts agreed with the DOJ, and blocked those states' ability to allow undocumented students to pay in state tuition. As we learn more information will be shared with campus as the NM court case proceeds.

- b. All campus TRiO and Gear Up programs were renewed for the next year.
- c. The National Championship Air Races will be held September 16 to 20. A campus operating plan for the air races was emailed campus wide yesterday with corrections to the PEC hours sent today.
- d. For 9-11 we will send a flyer campus wide to commemorate the day.
- e. In preparing for the 2026 statewide General Obligation Bond our campus will be seeking funding for air conditioning and signage. In Chaves County we will partner with NMMI for community presentations. In Artesia we will partner with SENMC for community presentations. There are typically three statewide bond ballot questions: Senior Centers, Libraries to include our library, and Higher Education Capital Outlay. This is a tax neutral ballot question; taxes do not increase if it passes statewide and do not decrease if it fails. As a reminder we can say vote **on** this tax neutral bond question.
- f. We will start the data collection efforts for a revised strategic plan in the summer of 2027.

II. Area Reports

Eric Mann – The OTA program will have an accreditation site visit September 21 and 22; Developing lists for faculty and staff coverage for the fair; Adding course fees into Coursedog; Nursing expansion space is being used for classes. Some work on the partition in one of the classrooms is needed.



Jacob Puckett – The new Teams phone system has been approved for implementation. The Roswell campus will be the first campus in the system to have new phones. There is not a timeframe yet for the conversation. IT is working to develop conference style classrooms.

Chad Cole – We have a food contract with Sodexo, as soon as a permit is received we will be able to offer food service in the dining hall. Finalizing the RFP for the aviation maintenance technology building construction phase. Hiring process for a Small Business Development Center Director is ongoing. Additionally, the Portales campus is going to pilot an electronic business process in Ruidoso.

Lindsay Fincher – Math 1130 will be offered in a 12 week course format starting 9.14.2026. The Community News Network grant is in process. Candace Cantu and Shawn Hughes will be on the Mike Winters Radio Show next week to discuss the grant. Teacher education MOUs are being developed.

Veronica Panebouef for David Castro - Professional Senate will meeting Friday and has a September 10th Disc Golf event for faculty and staff.

Veronica Panebouef - Support Staff is considering sending out a newsletter with a QR code survey. With Q & A for feedback.

Amalia Tafoya for Edna Yokum - Our new automotive faculty member started on Monday and he started classes today. Thank you to Destinee and her team for helping us figure out the Auto schedule to accommodate the late start. Hiring search for a HVAC instructor is ongoing. School of Technical Education Advisory Board Dinner will be September 24th in OTC 124 from 6:00-9:00. Dusty Baker is teaching full-time this year due to an unexpectedly high return rate of students in their second year. If you typically need him for something, please come to me first because Amalia and I are trying to help manage his director duties. We have doubled our livestock team to four students, they will be competing at five competitions this fall.

- I. Tri-State Fair – Amarillo, TX (Sept. 26th)
- II. Texas State Fair – Dallas, TX (Oct. 5th)
- III. Tulsa State Fair – Tulsa, OK (Oct. 9th)
- IV. American Royal – Kansas City, MO (Oct. 19th)
- V. North American International Livestock Expo – Louisville, KY (Nov. 16th)



Craig Leager – The Tuition and Fees Committee will meet September 23rd 8:00 am co-chairs with Chad Cole. Collaborating with RISD for Dual Credit, it has been five years since this MOU has been reviewed. There are ongoing conversations regarding tutoring gaps due to title grants sunseting. Lindsay Fincher will speak with the faculty in Arts and Sciences regarding offering tutoring services, more information to follow. HLC accreditation preparation has started within the ENMU system to offer the documents using one voice with consistent documentation. The system report will include both branch campuses in their HLC report. Our campus will continue to prepare for our HLC visit October 18 and 19, 2027. The plan is to have the campus assurance argument uploaded and “locked” prior to the fall 2027 term. An HLC liaison officer and two associates will be on campus in October for an opportunity for us to meet them as a campus to ask questions.

Brad – The new phone system will allow emergency messages to be sent to all phones on campus. A tabletop exercise for the air races has been cancelled. Hobson will not be open during the air races. Traffic will be diverted through Martin St. in front of University High School. This may effect traffic flow to campus during the Air races, especially Thursday and Friday. There will be more RVs parked by the AMT building this year compared to last year. Security and Safety has purchased two electric bikes which will be used during the air races. NMMI allows us to use their indoor range to qualify. All campus security officers present passed. Two campus security officers will offer a live ALICE class with Student Affairs being the first group on campus to go through the training. The training is mandatory with some options to participate or not participate in portions of the training.

Stephanie Miles – Medical leave bank donations are being accepted. Medical insurance premiums will increase effective with the September 11th paycheck, the premiums are collected a month in advance. Open enrollment for medical insurance options open October 1st. HR is focused on filling open positions. The AVP in Student Affairs position finalists have been selected and will visit campus later this month.

Destiny Salayandia – Student Affairs will conduct a debriefing for the recruitment and enrollment registration processes. Recruiters are visiting southeast NM. Strategy planning is ongoing for recruiters. Student refund checks went out last week. Scholarship applications close 9.4.2026, students who want to apply need to submit applications by Friday at noon. The applications will be reviewed by Student Affairs and then the Foundation.

Veronica Munoz – upcoming activities

- September 9th – Spirit Day Wear your favorite team jersey
- September 15 – Oct. 15 – Hispanic Heritage Month Activity
- September 17 – Constitution Day Celebration
- October 12 – Trip to Santa Fe Plaza for Indigenous Peoples day, St. Johns
- January trip to capitol to meet with legislators with students, ENMU Day, and ENMU Alumni reception.
- March 8th Tentative - International Women’s Day
- Career Fair



Martha Staab – Shoutout to IT for software purchase. Plan to continue to improve public relations outreach on campus and in the community. The Campus Connect Newsletter was published. Journalism workshop videos featuring our faculty are currently on social media. Activities committee is working to finalize the events for the fall. Preparation for the fair booths is ongoing, get sign ups for booth from the Deans/AVP's. It would be great to have more students in the booths.

Shawn Powell – The CCB will meet 9.9.2026 at 4:00 pm. Looking ahead in addition to preparing for the HLC accreditation visit we will start collecting data for the development of the next strategic plan as the current one runs through calendar year 2027. The goal is to have it approved by the two board in December 2027 to allow it to be in effect by January of 2028. If you have faculty and staff, including part time and adjunct faculty members, recommendations for the campus Leadership Fellows Class please send them to Stephanie Venegas. The strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) analysis comments from the Supervisor Discussions Summer 2026 have been compiled. The Core Team will look at them and develop action plans intended to improve campus operations.