Family and Consumer Sciences

2016

Nov. 12

Military and Family Communication Panel - Dr. Merranda Marin presented on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder as part of the Military and Family Communication Panel held on November 14. The panel discussion was one of the events held during Military and Veterans Appreciation Week at NMSU. Dr. Marin and the other panelists discussed ways to help military families cope with deployment and reintegration afterwards.

Campus Visit - Over 65 students from Chaparral Elementary School learned about careers in food science and technology on November 11. Dr. Stu Munson-McGee talked to the students about the science and history of chocolate. Dr. Damien Reyes and student Jesus De La Cruz demonstrated how to spray dry milk and how to make an extruded snack food from cottonseed meal.

Nov. 10

New Honor Society - The Nu Alpha Theta chapter of the Kappa Omicron Nu National Honor Society for the Human Sciences was chartered on November 10 at NMSU. Kappa Omicron Nu is the leading honor society for students in the human sciences, and has 98 active chapters and 150,000 members in the U.S. Twenty-four outstanding students were initiated into the inaugural class of the honor society by the executive director, Lisa Wooten Booth. Dr. Sharon Bartley and Dr. Efren Delgado are the advisors.
Nov. 5

Vanessa Martinez, graduating in December with a master’s degree in Family and Consumer Sciences, has been selected as a 2017 USDA Graduate Fellow. Vanessa completed a thesis examining the prevalence of food insecurity among college students at NMSU. She was one of five NMSU graduate students selected to participate in a mentoring and scholarship program called SAFE (Southwest Agriculture and Food Security Education: Preparing Future Leaders for a Safe and Secure U.S. Food Supply System) in conjunction with Texas State University.

Out of 400 degree programs in Family and Consumer Sciences, the department at NMSU was ranked #28 by Great Value Colleges. The ranking was created based on graduate degree opportunities, research opportunities, and internship and scholarship opportunities. Data was collected from the NCES College Navigator database, Payscale.com and school websites.

Sept. 30

Student Community Service - About 40 students enrolled in Family and Consumer Science Education classes with Dr. Sharon Bartley assisted judges of baked goods at the Southern New Mexico State Fair. Students learned about the responsibilities of Family and Consumer Sciences county agents and the organizational skills required for conducting events.

Outstanding Alumni - Lois McKinley Melton was honored as the Outstanding Alumni in Family and Consumer Sciences at the Homecoming Recognition Breakfast sponsored by the College of ACES. Mrs. Melton taught at Las Cruces High School for many years and won awards for teaching. She spoke with students in a Family and Consumer Sciences Education class about her experiences as a teacher. A scholarship in her name was recently endowed to support students in the department.

Sept. 23

Middle School Recruitment Event – Food Science and Technology faculty and students in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences hosted 70 students from Sierra Middle School on September 21. The students tasted gelato and sorbet from Sam Steel Café, watched the extrusion of a new snack food made from cottonseed meal, talked with graduate students about their research projects, and learned about career possibilities in food science. Dr. Nancy Flores organized the event.

Sept. 2

The documentary Everyone's Business: Protecting Our Children was nominated for an Emmy award. The documentary highlighted NMSU's efforts to prevent child maltreatment. It featured Shelly Bucher and Esther Devall discussing the Child Advocacy Studies (CAST) minor at NMSU and the mock child abuse investigation house located on campus. The awards ceremony will take place on October 8 in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Malnutrition Seminar for Students and Dietitians Gaby Phillips and Kathy Vineyard, directors of the combined Dietetic Internship/master’s program in Human Nutrition and Dietetic Sciences, hosted a
seminar on September 1 for almost 40 students and dietitians in the community. The speaker demonstrated how to conduct a nutrition-focused physical exam to identify malnutrition in hospital, acute care, and nursing home patients. Many dietitians are not taught how to conduct physical exams, which is an important diagnostic tool. Malnutrition greatly increases the likelihood of patient falls and the development of pressure ulcers and surgical site infections.

May 14

As part of their final class project students, Juan Carrasco, Zachary Garcia, Alejandra Gonzalez, Isaac Lawrence, and Amanda Nicole held a fashion show to showcase the garments they created as part of their Apparel Design by Draping course. The 75 people who attended the event commented on the talent and creativity of the student designers. Melinda Chavez, Clothing, Textiles, and Fashion Merchandising faculty member, is the course instructor.

Thirty students from Hatch Valley High School toured the Family and Consumer Sciences department and learned about majors and career opportunities in the department. They tasted gelato, observed the demonstration of a spray food dryer, and heard presentations from students and faculty members.

May 7

Wanda Eastman was appointed as the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) Representative to the Council of Future Practice for the 2016-2017 Academy program year. Wanda's commitment to the Academy supports empowering members to be the food and nutrition leaders.

Academy successes are directly related to the contributions of member leaders like Dr. Eastman. It is a high honor to be appointed a representative on this council. We in ACES are proud of Dr. Eastman's success.

Stuart Munson-McGee, Food Science and Technology faculty member, received an award for outstanding service from the Faculty Senate in honor of his leadership as Chair.

April 30

Student Fashion Show - The original creations of Clothing, Textiles, and Fashion Merchandising students Esther Flores, Tingting Laub, Savannah Ruden, Drisana De La Torre, and Brooke Stevens were featured in a fashion show at Barnes and Nobles on campus.

Over 200 people attended the student show that was produced under the direction of Dr. Roselyn Smitley and emceed by students Lauren Effle and Jonathan Mirabal.

Student Recruitment - Thirty students from Hatch Valley High School toured the department and learned about majors and career opportunities in Family and Consumer Sciences. They tasted gelato, observed the demonstration of a spray food dryer, and
Fashion Show – Students Juan Carrasco, Zachary Garcia, Alenjandra Gonzalez, Isaac Lawrence, and Amanda Nicole held a fashion show to showcase the garments they created as part of their Apparel Design by Draping course. Dr. Melinda Chavez, Clothing, Textiles, and Fashion Merchandising faculty member, is the course instructor.

Play Therapy Conference - Traci Laney, Ana Maestas, and Kendra Wood, graduate students in marriage and family therapy, attended the New Mexico Association for Play Therapy conference in Albuquerque along with Dr. Kourtney Vaillancourt, Family and Child Science faculty member.

Marriage and family therapy students provide play therapy to children and families at the NMSU Family Resource Center located in Cervantes Village. Play therapy uses toys and games to engage children and their families in their own language, that of play. Through play, children are able to express themselves and work through stress, anxiety, and even trauma in a safe and fun way.

April 16

Student Recruitment – Drs. Stu Munson-McGee, Efren Delgado, and Esther Devall visited the University of Chihuahua April 12 to recruit undergraduate and graduate students into the Food Science and Technology major at NMSU. They met with the dean and faculty members in Chemistry and gave a presentation at the international graduate school fair. In addition, they met with the dean and faculty members in Agriculture and Forestry Sciences in Delicias on April 13.

April 9

Child Abuse Awareness Week – Students enrolled in CAST 301V (Introduction to Child Advocacy), taught by Dr. Merranda Marin, sponsored several events the week of April 4-8 to highlight the importance of preventing child maltreatment. They handed out materials about child abuse on the International Mall and in Corbett Center, collected toys and clothing for Jardin de Los Ninos and La Casa, and sponsored the showing of the “Tough Love” documentary followed by a discussion of community professionals.

April 2.
Tejada Ribbon Cutting - A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on March 30 for the "ACES in the Hole" food manufacturing pilot plant located in Tejada Hall (see attached photo). Over 70 people attended the event to hear faculty and students in Food Science and Technology (FSTE) talk about the program and demonstrate food products being made. Students in the FSTE major run "ACES in the Hole" and sell their products, including gelato and brownies, in the Sam Steel Café located in Gerald Thomas Hall 150.

Preceptor Appreciation Dinner - Dr. Wanda Eastman and Gaby Phillips, Human Nutrition and Dietetic Sciences, held an appreciation dinner for New Mexico preceptors of the dietetic internship at St. Claire's Winery on March 30. Over 20 people attended. Preceptors are nutrition professionals who supervise graduate students enrolled in the dietetic internship during their clinical, community, and food service rotations.

GradNation Keynote Speaker - Dr. Esther Devall, department head, was the luncheon keynote speaker for the GradNation Community Summit held on April 1 at Corbett Center. Over 150 people attended the summit, which had community and student tracks to discuss strategies for improving the high school graduation rate to 90 percent. Dr. Devall spoke on engaging family and community for student success.

Mar. 5

Community outreach – Dr. Wanda Eastman, director of the Dietetic Internship program, and Gaby Phillips, co-director, hosted a meeting of the El Paso Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics on February 23 in El Paso. Over 50 people attended. Gaby Phillips gave a presentation entitled “Dietary Guidelines 2015: What is New and Different.” Many of those in attendance were NMSU alumni and/or preceptors for NMSU students.
Food Science Field Trip - Dr. Efren Delgado and Dr. Ginger Scarbrough, Food Science and Technology faculty, arranged for their students enrolled in FSTE 263G: Food Science 1 to tour the Leyendecker Plant Science Center and the New Mexico Shrimp Company (see attached photo). Students learned about innovative new products using glandless cottonseed to increase the profitability of the cotton plant, including growing shrimp fed on cottonseed meal. In their next lab class, students made extruded puffed snacks using cottonseed meal.

Council of Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences meeting – Dr. Esther Devall, department head of Family and Consumer Sciences and Extension Family and Consumer Sciences, hosted the annual meeting of the Council of Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS) at the Hotel Encanto February 16-19. Thirty-five deans and department heads from around the United States attended. Their mission is to strengthen family and consumer sciences in higher education through the development of excellence in administration. Participants learned strategies for holding crucial conversations overcoming leadership challenges, understanding their leadership style, and working with difficult employees.

Feb. 20

History of Chocolate Dr. Stu Munson-McGee, Food Science and Technology, and his student researcher Danielle Peltier-Thompson were featured in a Youtube video on the History of Chocolate: https://youtu.be/QnkzSOe6suU. Dr. Munson-McGee teaches an Honors course entitled Journeys of Discovery that focuses on chocolate. An article appeared in the Sun News on Feb. 13

Feb. 13

STAR events Dr. Sharon Bartley, Family and Consumer Sciences Education, hosted over 100 middle and high school students from 13 schools who are members of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). The students were competing in regional Students Taking Action with Recognition (STAR) events. Students and faculty in the department

Child Abuse Awareness Week – Students enrolled in CAST 301V (Introduction to Child Advocacy), taught by Dr. Merranda Marin, sponsored several events the week of April 4-8 to highlight the importance of preventing child maltreatment.
served as judges for events such as culinary arts, entrepreneurship, fashion design, interior design, and leadership. Winners of the event will compete in the state competition in Albuquerque.

Dietetic Internship accredited The Dietetic Internship, a graduate program in the Human Nutrition and Dietetic Sciences major, moved from candidacy status to full accreditation status with the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). Dr. Wanda Eastman is the director of the Dietetic Internship.

Nutrition and Dietetics Day at the State Legislature Six students in the Dietetics Internship program went to Santa Fe on February 3 for Nutrition and Dietetics Day at the Legislature. They were accompanied by Dr. Wanda Eastman, director, and Gabby Phillips, assistant director, of the Dietetic Internship. The students met with state representatives and senators and attended a session of the Senate. They enjoyed running into Chancellor Carruthers in the hallway at the Roundhouse.

National office Dr. Wanda Eastman, Human Nutrition and Dietetic Sciences, was elected as chair-elect for the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). This is the national governing board for nutrition and dietetic education in the U.S. She will serve a three-year term.

Feb. 6

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) is the national governing board for nutrition and dietetic education in the United States. The ACEND voted NMSU Dietetic Internship a seven-year term with full accreditation status, ending our candidacy status; Dr. Wanda Eastman was elected chair-elect of the ACEND. This election is a high honor, and we are proud Dr. Eastman is part of ACES. Gabby Phillips and Dr. Wanda Eastman took the dietetic interns from the class of 2015-2017 to Santa Fe for Legislative Day sponsored by the New Mexico Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The interns were able to experience the legislative process, visit representatives and senators as well as meet
President Caruthers.

Student Conference Presentations - Six graduate students presented research posters, and one graduate student gave an oral research presentation, at the New Mexico Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics meeting in Santa Fe. They were accompanied by Human Nutrition and Dietetic Sciences faculty members Dr. Wanda Eastman, Gaby Phillips, and Brigit Dooley. Dr. Eastman also gave an oral presentation at the conference.

Jan. 30

Recruitment Event - Roselyn Smitley and Dr. Melinda Chavez, Recruitment Event Clothing, Textiles, and Fashion Merchandising faculty members, met with 40 students and two teachers from Hanks and Bel Air High Schools on January 28. Dr. Chavez and her CTFM 476 students presented their fashion design projects. Dr. Smitley spoke on fashion merchandising and textiles, and then took students to view sheep at the NMSU barn to learn more about wool.