As the month of March begins, we here at the New Mexico State University (NMSU) Grants campus Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institution (NASNTI) program, are not only anticipating the arrival of spring, but also the continued development within our program. So far, we have had tremendous success in establishing our two outreach centers located within the Acoma and Tohajiilee communities and are currently working hard to assist these community members with their pursuits of a higher education.

In addition, we have begun to create and develop our three summer dual enrollment academies which will focus on Computer Science and Technology, Health Science, and Southwest Studies.

Yet, as our program continues to grow and evolve, we look forward to working with our fellow Cibola County Communities whom we serve. For this reason, we have created this newsletter as a way of reaching out to those community members so that we may begin to foster and develop a continuous relationship.

The Leadership Council Meeting which was held February 7, 2013 was a great success! This meeting, which was comprised of leaders from several Cibola County Communities, discussed lots of amazing news and developments taking place within their own areas.

So far, all of the Community Outreach Centers we serve have received new computers for their community members to utilize. The Thoreau Outreach Center has received 5 desktop computers, as well as, 10 laptop computers. With these new computers, they plan to offer some online college and GED Preparatory courses.

The Thoreau Outreach Center has done an excellent job in reaching out and helping the members of their community. Priscilla Manuelito and Maria Martinez reported that, “their community center offers after school programs for students, karate classes, AA meetings, parenting classes, as well as, library and ABE/GED classes free of charge.” In addition, they would like to get more members of their community involved with the numerous programs they

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The Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institutions (NASNTI) Grant here at New Mexico State University has been operating since February of 2012. We have made several strides in promoting higher education, adult education/GED services, and establishing our outreach centers in the Acoma Pueblo and Tohajiilee Navajo community. As part of our five year grant from the U.S. Department of Education, we celebrate and honor our communities in Cibola County by providing access to educational opportunities for all residents.

It has been an exciting time as the Acoma Center is being established with the assistance of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Education Programs. Rachelle Simpson, our Adult Education Instructor has been offering computer literacy classes for Acoma residents including elders. As part of the computer outreach lab, we have assisted three students from Laguna Acoma High School in completing the rigorous Gates Millennium Scholarship application process. In addition, we are offering two on-site college prep courses. We also welcome Ergil Vallo, our new professional tutor at the Acoma site who is providing supplemental assistance to our GED/Adult Education students.

The NASNTI grant has also established the Tohajiilee Outreach Center which provides adult education/GED courses, dual enrollment opportunities with Tohajiilee High School, and educational online courses for adults. We are using the old daycare facility as our outreach site and have 26 GED Adult Education students enrolled. In addition, we are offering five courses at the Tohajiilee site which include computer literacy, college prep, and Issues in Indian Education. Marcella Begay is our GED/Adult Education instructor and Jordan Etcitty is our professional tutor what will be assisting with all of our outreach activities.

In addition to establishing our outreach centers, the NASNTI grant has contributed to several projects on the NMSU-Grants campus which include the renovation of the engineering lab with technology access, the hiring of three professional tutors, and sponsoring two dual enrollment summer academies. We plan on sponsoring two Spring events on campus that are geared toward college prep for high school students.

We would like to thank the NMSU Grants administration, Title V, UNM Valencia Coop Grant, Con Alma Foundation, and the tribal partnerships for supporting our programs. Most of all, we would like to thank the students who have taken an active role in participating in our educational opportunities and programs. We look forward to a great 2013 Spring term.

Sincerely,

Shawn Secatero, Ph.D.
NASNTI Program Director
Meet the NASNTI Staff!

Shawn Secatero, Ph.D., NASNTI Director
Canoncito Band of Navajo)

Dr. Secatero is from the Tohajiilee Community and has recently earned a doctorate in Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies from the University of New Mexico’s College of Education in 2009. He has directed various educational programs including the Canoncito School to Work and Youth Opportunity Grant Program, Tohajiilee Community School Bilingual Education Program, and served as Coordinator of Student Services at the American Indian Graduate Center’s Gates Millennium Scholars Program. Furthermore, Dr. Secatero has taught language arts, bilingual education, and career development for ten years in the Albuquerque Public School system and the Tohajiilee Community School. He has also worked as a post-doctoral scholar at the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey and has taught college courses at the University of New Mexico and Central New Mexico Community College. His educational background includes earning all degrees from the University of New Mexico which include an educational specialist certificate in educational leadership, teaching endorsements in language arts, bilingual education, and teaching English to Speakers of other languages, and a masters in secondary education and bachelors degree in journalism and English. His dissertation study, “Beneath Our Sacred Minds, Hands, and Hearts, Stories of Persistence and Success,” received highest honors of distinction at UNM in 2009. Dr. Secatero has presented his indigenous based well-being model at many universities and conferences across the United States, Australia, and New Zealand. His articles have appeared in New Mexico Magazine, People Before Columbus Journal, Winds of Change, and Journal of Multicultural Education, the Albuquerque Journal, and Visions Journal. He continues to serve on various committees including the Source for Educational Empowerment and Community Development, the Native American Male Initiative in higher education, Canoncito Band of Navajo 12 member traditional council, and the NMSU Grants Retention & Success Committee, Campus Council, and the Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institutions Grant Leadership Council. In addition, he serves as the founder of the Striking Eagle Well being Education Circle and director of the New Mexico American Indian Basketball Classic and Education Fair.

Eileen M. Martinez, Administrative Assistant

Eileen Martinez has been a professional with 25 plus years of responsible experience and administrative management skills, strong, planning, organization development and management qualifications. She has worked extensively in the private sector as well as the public sector as Grants City Clerk. She has served as an elected official in the capacity of Cibola County Clerk where she served two consecutive terms from 2000 to 2008. Mrs. Martinez has been married to Antonio Martinez for over 40 years and is the mother to three daughters that she is very proud of. She has two granddaughters that she adores. Her son-in-law, daughters and granddaughters all live in California, where she and her husband travel frequently. Mrs. Martinez earned her Associates of Social Services Degree and Associates of Arts Degree from NMSU in 2011. She also received the “Alumni Faculty Award” and “Outstanding Award” in 2011 and achieved the Phi Theta Kappa status in 2010.
Olivia Rael, Testing Center Coordinator

Olivia Rael, received her bachelors from the University of California and a Licensure in Elementary Education from New Mexico Highlands University. Her past work experience include: Early Interventionist for developmentally delayed infants and most recently, as an Intervention Specialist in Higher Education. Olivia is very passionate about assisting under resourced students in achieving their academic goals. She is currently the Testing Center Coordinator, at NMSU Grants, and is available to help students with study strategies, time management as well as in Reading Comprehension. Olivia and her husband are very busy raising their 5 children and helping with a grandson.

Rachelle Simpson, Adult Education Instructor

(Acoma/Jemez)

Rachelle Simpson is from the Pueblos of Acoma and Jemez. She is the Adult Education Instructor for To’hajiilee. Rachelle received her A.A. in Pre-Business, Arts, and Sciences with a Certificate in Digital Film Technology from NMSU Grants. Currently, she is in the process of completing a B.B.A. in Marketing via Distance Education from NMSU. Rachelle has worked as a College Instructor for NMSU Grants, in which she taught Computer Basics. Coupled with her involvement with higher education, she is an intern evolved documentary filmmaker for Littleglobe Productions. In her spare time, she enjoys art endeavors, laughing, and outdoor activities. Ultimately, her goal is to provide welcoming and resourceful instruction at the Acoma Outreach Center.

Ergil Vallo Jr, Professional Tutor (Acoma Outreach Center)

Ergil Vallo Jr is a member of the Acoma Pueblo and a recent college graduate. He has received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology-Criminology Option, Magna Cum Laude, from Fort Lewis College in Durango Colorado. While pursuing his undergraduate degree, he has interned for the Sixth Judicial District La Plata, San Juan, & Archuleta County Probation Department working under Senate Bill 94. He has also had prior experience being a Peer Tutor for the TRIO Program for Academic Advancement. Ergil is a very outgoing person who loves to laugh and learn. His personal philosophy is, “Education and learning never stops, everyday you learn something new.”
Marcella Begay, Adult Education Instructor
(Tohajiilee Navajo)

Marcella Begay is from the To’Hajiilee Navajo Community and is a proud mother of two wonderful boys, five siblings (2 sisters and 3 brothers), 5 nieces, 2 nephews, and two grandchildren. She has taught bilingual education and computer basics for seventeen years in the Albuquerque Public School system and the To’Hajiilee Community School. She received her Associates degree in Teacher Education from Central New Mexico Community College in Albuquerque, NM. She is completing her B.A. in Elementary Education from University of Phoenix and serves as a College Instructor for NMSU Grants, teaching Computer Basics. In her spare time, she enjoys indoor and outdoor sport activities, sewing, beadwork, and spending quality time with family and friends. Ultimately, her goal is to give back to the Tohajiilee community and educate her people. She is currently stationed at the Tohajiilee Adult Education Out-

Jordan Etcitty, Professional Tutor
(Canoncito Band of Navajo)

Jordan Etcitty is from the Tohajiilee Community, and has recently earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics from the University of New Mexico. Jordan has voluntary hours working with community centers across Albuquerque that serve students who live in diverse socioeconomic environments. In his spare time he enjoys playing sports, such as, Basketball and Volleyball. Ultimately, his goal is to help his Native American people who are in need of education, because he believes that education is the key to success.

Janet Prewett, Adjunct Math Instructor and Tutor

Janet Prewett is currently a Part-Time Math Instructor at the New Mexico State University Grants Campus, as well as, a Tutor for the NMSU Student Success Center. Janet has received her Associate’s Degree in Electronics Technology, a Bachelor’s Degree in Languages, and has much experience in education. Janet’s main career is teaching math, but she has had prior experience tutoring in subjects such as, English, Chemistry, Physics, and basic French and Spanish. Her work history includes being a tax preparer, pizza deliverer, fry cook, and working in manufacturing at Intel. Janet claims that she still doesn’t fully know what she would like to do with her life, but she loves being a tutor.
Carol Prewett, Professional Tutor

Carol Prewett is from Billings, MT. She has received her B.S.Ed. in Biology & Music from Eastern Montana College. Carol has had 15 years experience of substitute teaching and has taught full time for 3 years in the Billings School school district. She and her husband moved to Tohatchi New Mexico and taught at Tohatchi High School in 1990. In 1994, Carol received her masters (M.A.T.) in Sp. Ed. From WNMU. In 1999, she moved to Milan New Mexico and taught at the Laguna Acoma Jr./Sr. High School until May 2012 when she retired. In addition, Carol has taught for 3 years at Los Alamitos Middle School. Since retiring, she has been working part time at NMSU. Carol is currently teaching College Success and is working as a professional tutor for the NMSU Student Success Center.

Hola, Lola, Ninja, & Kung Fu, NASNTI Turtles

Hola, Lola, Ninja, and Kung Fu are new additions to the NASNTI program. As turtles, they are sacred and provide a positive environment to the NASNTI office. In addition, they give support and encouragement to the students who stop by and visit our program office. Their favorite activities include swimming, eating, and living the good life!

Up Coming Events!!!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 18, 2013</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>NMSU Dual Enrollment Acoma-Tohjiilee visit</td>
<td>New Mexico State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20, 2013</td>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Dual Enrollment Meeting</td>
<td>Room 3 NMSU Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 25-29, 2013</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>NASNTI Directors Meeting</td>
<td>Washington DC</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 29, 2013</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Campus Closed</td>
<td>NMSU Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 4, 2013</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>NASNTI Leadership Council Meeting</td>
<td>NMSU Native Center &amp; Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 11, 2013</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Acoma College Day</td>
<td>Acoma Community Center</td>
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The 2012 NMAIC Basketball Tournament

RIO RANCHO NM. — The Second Annual New Mexico American Indian Classic (NMAIC) and Education Fair took place at the Santa Ana Star Center and Bernalillo High School which featured 32 basketball teams from across the state on December 27-29, 2012. NMSU Grants Native American Club and the NMSU Grants Associated Student Government were honored to spearhead this important event which highlights well-being, sportsmanship, and uniting tribal teams.

The NMAIC tournament which is the largest Native American high school basketball tournament in the state attracted 3,071 spectators, 44 volunteers and 473 players which also included an education fair which featured 12 workshops highlighting college prep, health issues, and cultural ways of life. “We are very honored to sponsor this huge event that continues to grow each year,” says Shawn Secatero, the Director of the NMAIC and the NMSU Grants Native American Program, “We hope to continue this tradition by creating future academic competitions for all students to participate.”

The Laguna-Acoma Hawks boys basketball team captured championship honors in the Eagle Bracket by posting a close 59-58 victory over Shiprock. In the girls Turtle bracket, Albuquerque Academy edged Navajo Prep in a 35-34 nail-biting victory. In the Bear Bracket which is the small school competition, the Magdalena Steers were victorious by claiming a 84-59 victory over the Walatowa Charter School Cougars. The Jemez Valley Lady Warriors won the Roadrunner Bracket with a 83-55 victory over the Shiprock Northwest Lady Falcons.

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What’s Happening in Pine Hill/Ramah?

Oso Vista Ranch Project

“Serving the Ramah Navajo Community”

We have enjoyed an active month during February. 84 community members utilized the computer lab during February, doing homework, research, connecting to social media, checking email and registering for state, tribal and federal support programs.

Our IRS certified Tax Help NM site has been very popular and much appreciated. We have completed over 140 free tax returns during February netting community members approximately $150,000.00 in returns. The community is very grateful that we are offering this service and saving the community thousands of dollars in tax preparations and loan fees.

Our youth programs continue to thrive. The teens have decided to start their own peer to peer support group. They decide the agenda, plan ice-breaker and youth leadership activities and schedule guest speakers. They also schedule in time for board games and birthday parties.

-Margaret Merrill
Greetings, everything is going well here at our To’Hajiilee Outreach Center. I am happy to announce that we have a new staff on board here at the Outreach Center, he is Jordan Etcitty our Professional Tutor. We currently have 26 GED students enrolled whom we provide services to Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm at their convenient time. Our GED students who attend regularly have been working hard as they have set goals for themselves in taking the official GED test before the new changes go into effect in January 2014.

We are continuing to assist the GradPoint Credit Recovery Program for the To’hajiilee high school students who attend Albuquerque Public School. This is an online educational program that gives the students the opportunity to earn the complete credits that they are lacking. There are at least 5 students who attend on a regular basis after school, and they are eager to earn and complete their courses.

In addition, the To’Hajiilee Outreach Center is currently offering Spring 2013 courses in two sessions that are both eight weeks long. Our Spring 2013 classes consist of dual enrollment students from To’Hajiilee High School who are transported from the local high school to attend classes, as well as, community members who are continuing their higher education.

A The outreach center is always busy as we continue to work closely with local programs services as we all have a goal in meeting the needs of community members. Local program services always has an open invitation for us to attend their monthly resources meetings as they would like an update on the program and provide information of how we can be of services to their programs. Attending these meetings has giving us the opportunity to do so as they are able to share the information with their clients and community members. Lastly, we are continuing to provide services to community members with workforce development and the continuation of higher education.

-Marcella Begay,
So far things have been going great here at the Acoma Adult Education Outreach Center! As of last month, four of our computers were updated with the Compass software program so now students will no longer have to travel to Grants to be Compass tested. In addition, we are currently working on installing the Accutrack program, as well as, the PLATO courseware program.

Once these programs are up and running, we plan on enrolling all of our GED students within the PLATO program so that they may begin to take courses that will further assist them in attaining their GED.

Furthermore, the Acoma Adult Education Outreach Center has hired a new professional tutor Ergil Vallo Jr. Ergil specializes in writing and will be conducting two GED writing workshops on Wednesday March 13, 2013 from 4:00pm-5:00pm and another March 20, 2013 from 4:00pm-5:00pm. Students who are interested in attending these writing workshops are encouraged to stop by the Acoma Adult Education Outreach Center office and sign up with Ergil or call him at (505)552-5135.

In-Class Testing for the Month of March

Rachelle Simpson, Adult Education Instructor, would like to remind students that In-class testing for the month of March will be held on the following days:

- Monday March 25, 2013 9:00am-5:00pm
- Tuesday March 26, 2013 9:00am-5:00pm
- Wednesday March 27, 2013 (review day)
- Thursday March 28, 2013 9:00am-5:00pm
- Friday March 29, 2013 9:00am-5:00pm

*As a reminder, students who are planning on taking the official GED test will have to come into the Acoma Adult Education Center for In-Class testing! Also, Walk-ins are not allowed for the official GED testing.

Ready To Take Your GED Test?

Here are some things to keep in mind when it comes to taking the official GED test:

- Students will have to come in for In-class testing week
- Students who are ready to take any official GED tests must be referred by one of the Acoma Adult Education Outreach Center staff members to take the GED Practice Test at NMSU Grants campus
- Students will also have to attend a onetime GED Workshop prior to taking any GED Test.
- Students must have a Valid ID and pay for any GED tests they will be taking. Payments
they offer, and would love to have individuals with unique talents, skills, or knowledge teach course at their Outreach site.

Similarly, the Pine Hill Outreach center has had major success in the growth and development of their Outreach Center! Margaret Merrill has reported to The Leadership Council that, “the computer lab in Pinehill is running great! There are 12 computers for the students to use, but other community members are utilizing those computers as well.” Furthermore, Margaret has stated that, “they are currently moving from a 1000 sq. ft. building to a 2000 sq. ft. building which will accommodate the influx of students coming in to use the computer lab, as well as, the staff who work there.”

Likewise, Olivia Rael, Testing Coordinator for the Student Success Center at NMSU Grants, has reported that, “there will be changes made at the Student Success Center as it will be remolded soon!” In addition, Olivia has stated that, “the testing center will be getting 14 new computers, new cameras, mirrors, and a WEPA machine for students to use.” The Student Success Center has already made huge developments when it comes to helping the students they serve. For example, they have already hired two professional tutors that offer “one-on-one” tutoring sessions for students seeking help in several courses NMSU offers.

In addition to all the Outreach Centers success, Dr. Shawn Secatero, Director of the NASNTI Program, reported major success with the NMAIC Basketball Tournament which was held during the month of December 2012. Dr. Secatero stated that, “there were 32 teams that participated in this event, and more than 3000 people were in attendance.” During this event, Laguna and Shiprock played for the finals, but it was Laguna who took first place.

Furthermore, Dr. Secatero had mentioned to the Leadership Council that there were three students from the Cibola County School District that qualified for the Gates Millennium Scholarship and he hoped that they would be chosen to receive this scholarship. The three qualifying students are Shawn Aragon, Emile Platero, and Dillon Lowden. Dr. Secatero had also commended Rachelle Simpson, Adult Education Instructor, for assisting these students with the scholarship application process.

All in all, this Leadership Council meeting proved to be a a great success, as it shows that we are making excellent progress towards developing programs and community centers aimed at helping individuals continue on with their higher education. Furthermore, all the members of the NASNTI program would like to thank Mr. Earl Prewett and Mr. Stanley Garcia for the benches they donated to the NASNTI office. Mr. Prewett and Mr. Garcia have received certificates of appreciation from Dr. Secatero and Rachelle Simpson. In the end, we would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication; it is because of your efforts that all the Outreach Centers and programs have achieved great success. Thank You!
This Spring Semester at NMSU Grants’ Student Success Center, our phenomenal tutors have been busy tutoring our college students, who are seeking to reach their own academic goals.

The goals of the tutoring program include teaching students effective study skills, guiding students with their course essays and research papers, and other academic skills needed to nurture and develop students’ self-confidence to pursue degree completion.

In the near future the testing center will be fully renovated to meet the new Pearson Vue requirements which will allow the center to offer the GED computer-based testing.

The staff and students at the Student Success Center would like to express our gratitude to the Title V Grant for the new high quality Dell Computers the center received for the computer lab.

- Olivia Rael

“The Third annual NMAIC is scheduled to take place at January 2-4, 2014 at the Santa Ana Star Center. We are seeking volunteers, certified referees, scorekeepers, bookkeepers, and tournament personnel for next year’s tournament and education fair. Please contact Shawn Secatero at (505) 908-2645 for more information.

The NMSU Native Program would like to thank all of the sponsors which included the Santa Ana Star Casino, NMSU Grants Administration, Albuquerque Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Rio Rancho Chamber of Commerce, Laguna Development Corporation, the Canoncito Band of Navajos, D & B Trophies, volunteers and the participating teams for making the NMAIC a success.

“We had 205 student athletes participate in the workshops which took place at the Santa Ana Star Event Center and 90 percent of our evaluations were positive,” Secatero added, “We hope to bring more workshops to the NMAIC and possibly even local celebrities and role models.”
Again we would like to thank Mr. Earl Prewett and Mr. Stanley Garcia for the benches they donated to the NASNTI office! And we would like to wish the three candidates for the Millennium Gates Scholarship good luck!!!

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY GRANTS CAMPUS IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE 2013 SUMMER DUAL ENROLLMENT ACADEMIES!!!!

COMPUTER SCIENCE ACADEMY

Think you got what it takes to be a hot shot entrepreneur?

Well come join us for the Computer science academy where you will learn what it takes to create a marketable business plan using the latest computer programs.

SOUTHWEST STUDIES ACADEMY

July 22-August 1, 2013

Have you ever wondered how people came to settle in the Southwest region? Ever wanted to know more about the Southwest’s history, culture, and its people?

In this academy, students will participate in the construction of an adobe horno oven, learn about agricultural planting, as well as, explore the history of the Southwest people!

SCIENCE, MATH, ENGINEERING, AND TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

Come learn more about the natural environment and its impacts/influences within the healthcare field!

In this academy, students will explore some of nature’s amazing medicinal qualities and learn about nature’s healing herbs.

ELIGIBILITY

- Cibola County Service Area Resident
- Enrolled at least half-time at a high school
- Be an incoming high school student, Junior or Senior attending Grants HS, Laguna Acoma HS, Pine Hill HS, or Tohajiilee HS.
- 2.50 GPA preferred or higher
- Application Deadline: March 15, 2013

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Complete the Dual Enrollment Summer Program Application
2. Send Official High School Transcripts
3. Complete the NMSU Dual Credit Form
4. Review and sign NMSU Grants Student Code of Conduct

Letter of recommendation from teacher, counselor, or tribal leader (non-related) is strongly encouraged as each Academy is limited to 30 spaces.

Application packets can be sent to our address in this brochure before the priority deadline date.