

Campaign update

The New Mexico State University Foundation kicked off the Doing What Counts Comprehensive Campaign in December 2003 with an initial goal of \$150 million by December 2008. Priorities for this campaign included funding for new academic chairs and professorships as well as endowments for both undergraduate and graduate students. Capital construction projects included renovating O'Donnell Hall, the Native American Center and the Center for the Arts.

As we worked to achieve these goals, our hope was that we would also increase participation of the university family – alumni, faculty and staff. It is support from those who have benefited the most from their association with this university that will really signal success on all levels.

We surpassed our initial goal very quickly thanks to a generous gift to the College of Engineering from the PACE Partnership (General Motors, UGS, EDS, and Sun Microsystems). Since the campaign's priorities were not fully realized, the Foundation's board of directors decided to increase the goal to \$225 million by December 2010.

As we near the five year mark of this seven-year campaign, we can point to many successes. We closed the 2007-08 fiscal year with just under \$200 million received from the private sector. This includes funding for 7 chairs, 6 professorships, and 173 scholarship endowments.. Nearly a third of gifts received to date have come from university faculty and staff. Over 800 faculty and staff contribute regularly through payroll deduction.

The fall semester opened with the College of Education back 'home' in the newly remodeled O'Donnell Hall and plans for the Domenici Institute taking its place in the capital projects funding. Funds to start phase one of the Center for the Arts will come from the passage of GO Bond D on the November ballot.

Along the way we have discovered many Partners in Excellence as we work to raise the university a new level of excellence in both academics and research across the system. It is the strong support from the private sector that has made New Mexico State the world-class institution that it is.