



Office of the Chancellor

MSC 3Z

New Mexico State University System

P.O. Box 30001

Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001

Phone: (575) 646-2035 Fax: (575) 646-6334

chancellor.arvizu@nmsu.edu

DATE: June 6, 2018

TO: NMSU Faculty and Staff

FROM: Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dan E. Arvizu'.

SUBJECT: Getting started

I continue to enjoy the warm welcome I've received to New Mexico State University and the Las Cruces community from everyone I've met. President Floros and I are thrilled about this opportunity and we're excited to get started.

Although President Floros does not assume his duties until July 1st, he has been onsite, and we have collectively had an opportunity to meet and receive briefings from deans, administrators and the leadership of ASNMSU, Faculty Senate and Employee Council. Additionally, former Chancellor Garrey Carruthers and Provost Dan Howard have offered their assistance during this transition, which we appreciate. We are also actively reaching out to NMSU's outstanding partners, alumni, donors and supporters.

We are evaluating recommendations to improve NMSU's effectiveness in recruiting and retention, streamlining institutional processes and capitalizing on strategic initiatives and opportunities. To assist in this work, the university has engaged Wheless Partners to help in spurring the growth we envision. The data gathering aspect of this work has already begun. Their work will also include interviews with university personnel, analysis of our functions and processes.

Wheless Partners will be on campus June 25 for face-to-face interviews with organizational leaders to better understand the needs of the university and conduct a gap analysis. This process will generate recommendations about organizational structure, roles and responsibilities for President Floros and I to review. I want everyone to understand this is an important process. Please give the Wheless team your full cooperation and your best feedback on issues, concerns and opportunities for the university.

In order to make sure we are able to begin moving quickly, I'm making some immediate organizational shifts to start implementing our strategy. Effective today, NMSU's Marketing and Communications unit, as well as the Institutional Analysis unit, will report directly to the Chancellor's Office. In addition, I'll soon be adding a chief of staff and creating the Office of Strategic Initiatives to house our most critical projects and strategic priorities.

I'll continue to keep everyone posted as things progress throughout the summer. Thanks, so much, for your time and attention.