



School of Education

NETL CONNECTIONS

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

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MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

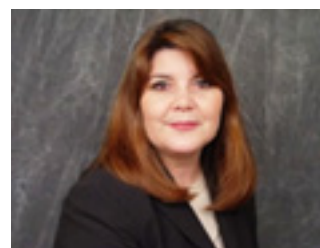
Greetings from Silver City, New Mexico and the School of Education at Western New Mexico University. Western has a long and distinctive reputation in the southwest for the preparation of educators and has been pioneering teacher education in the west since 1893.

Why would you select Western over other universities? Following are the "Top Ten" reasons for enrolling in our education programs. These reasons are:

Western is...

- 1) where the most gentle climate in the continental United States is experienced;
- 2) where a nationally accredited teacher education program (National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education-- NCATE) thrives;
- 3) where students experience one-on-one advisement by full-time faculty;
- 4) where multi-level and multi-discipline field experiences are a given;
- 5) where you can enjoy a unique multi-cultural and bi-lingual arts/recreation community;
- 6) where you learn with culturally diverse and qualified students and faculty;
- 7) where students with children have access to quality child care at a nationally recognized Child Development Center;
- 8) where big city life does not exist, but you are within a half day of Tucson, AZ, Albuquerque, NM, and El Paso, TX;

- 9) where graduation requirements exceed state and national accreditation standards; and
- 10) where... it's all about Teaching and Learning.



Dr. Patricia Manzanera-Gonzales

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The SOE logo is a Classic Mimbres Black-on-white geometric bowl from the Eisele Collection of Southwestern Artifacts and Pottery, a permanent collection of Western New Mexico University Museum (Accession Number 73.8.337). The prehistoric Mimbres people made the bowl between A.D. 1000 and 1140 during the Classic Mimbres period. Richard C. Eisele, a well-known looter of archaeological sites in the Mimbres area in the 1920s and 1930s, removed this bowl from Coulson Ruin in Grant County, New Mexico, during that period.

Your feedback is greatly appreciated. Please send all comments to: David Goeckel goeckeld@wnmu.edu

ONLINE COURSE

A course that is 100% accessible to all students via the Internet and delivered through WebCT. An online course may have optional face-to-face or instructional television sessions.

MODIFIED ONLINE COURSE

An online course in WebCT that is supplemented by other forms of technology such as instructional television and telephone.

WEB-ENHANCED COURSE

A face-to-face or instructional television "hybrid" course that uses WebCT as an additional means of communication or presentation of instructional or illustrative course-related material.

WHAT IS NETL?

The Network for Web-based Teacher Licensure (NeTL) project was initiated at WNMU in Fall 2004 with funding from the NM Higher Education Department. The principal objective of NeTL is to reduce the growing shortage of fully certified and licensed teachers in New Mexico's schools. NeTL offers a distance learning option for teacher licensure and endorsement coursework through web-based courses that help teachers overcome barriers to continued education imposed by geographic isolation, employment schedules, and economic, cultural, and linguistic factors.

NETL

NETWORK FOR
WEB-BASED
TEACHER
LICENSURE

A survey in early 2004 of 13 school districts in seven western and southern NM counties found that in some districts up to one-third of all teachers were working with less than full credentials. NeTL offers the advantage of making coursework required for licensure and professional

advancement accessible in those areas where the lack of full credentials is most serious. The goal is to offer 100 percent of its licensure/endorsement courses web-based on a rotating schedule. The School of Education (SOE) will also carefully evaluate the effectiveness of this method of course delivery.

NeTL is the result of a NM Higher Education Department legislative appropriation to the SOE. In Fall 2004, Dr. Karen Murphy, who had just retired from a faculty position at Texas A&M University, began her work as the NeTL Faculty Developer for the SOE at WNMU. She teaches a variable 1-3 credit online professional development course called Designing an Online Course each academic semester. SOE faculty who register for her online course adapt one of their own courses to either online or web-enhanced mode using WebCT, which is the university's course management system. In the faculty development course, faculty learn through a combination of approaches: doing assignments in the online course; meeting regularly with a collaborative

group and the Faculty Developer either face-to-face, WebCT real-time chat, or instructional television; and developing their own course in WebCT.

According to the most recent quarterly NeTL report to the NM Higher Education Department, faculty have completed a total of 1,530 contact professional development hours since fall 2004. The result has been approximately 52 WebCT courses in all 9 programs that have been adapted and/or taught with NeTL funding.

NETL MAJOR OBJECTIVE

Western New Mexico University proposes to reduce the growing teacher shortage in New Mexico by creating an easily accessible option for teacher licensure and endorsement coursework through its Network for Web-based Teacher Licensure.

NEW FULL-TEXT ELECTRONIC RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Five new full-text electronic resources are now available on the Miller Library website <http://voyager.wnmu.edu/> according to Katherine Warren, Acting Public Services Manager.

History E-Books

– An online, fully searchable collection of high-quality books on history. Book content is available in full-text. From the Library's home page click on Find Books and More > E-Books > History E-Books.

History Research Center

– A comprehensive full-text history reference database designed for secondary schools, public libraries, junior/community colleges, and undergraduate research.

From the Library's homepage click on Find Articles and More > Databases by Title > History Research Center.

JSTOR

– Provides the complete digitized full-text back runs of core scholarly journals,

starting with the very first issues, some dating as far back as the 1600s. From the Library's home page click on Find Articles and More > Databases by Title > JSTOR.

NetLibrary

– A collection of nearly 3,000 unique electronic books available in full-text format and searchable by keyword. From the Library's home page click on Find Books and More > E-Books > NetLibrary.

Opposing Viewpoints

– Provides full-text resources on the pros and cons surrounding many of today's most controversial issues. It includes reference sources, images, statistics, and articles from magazines, scholarly journals, and newspapers from more than 2,428,000 articles. From the Library's homepage click on Find Articles and More > Databases by Title > Opposing Viewpoints.

GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES PLAN FOR STATEWIDE E-LEARNING

On October 27, Governor Bill Richardson announced his plan for a statewide e-learning program that invests in technology and new opportunities for New Mexicans to access school programs no matter where they are in the state.

The program, called Innovative Digital Education and Learning in New Mexico, or IDEAL-NM, calls for a \$10.8 million investment next year to start the program and leverage existing technology initiatives to provide a coordinated effort.

About \$28 million will be invested over five years to maintain the program. IDEAL-NM leverages several existing technology initiatives and provides a coordinated program infrastructure.

"I truly believe that we are at a point where we must take advantage of technology that is currently available to our schools," Governor Richardson said. "If we don't, our children will never be prepared to compete with their peers around the world. It is our responsibility to make sure our kids have

access to all of the tools they need to succeed."

The Governor's plan includes a common statewide platform or managing system, hosting services, and a statewide cyber academy that would act as a coordinated service center.

"We envision every school district having a cyber academy like this one in Rio Rancho, where students meet, with supervision, and use a block of time every day to take classes over the Internet," Governor Richardson told students

during a visit to the Rio Rancho Cyber Academy. "They would choose from courses offered at other schools, school districts or colleges – but coordinated through the New Mexico Learning Network. They would work at their own pace, and be tested at the end of the course."

To join the email list for the New Mexico Learning Network, send an email to majordomo@chechs.net and in the body of the message include the text... **subscribe nmln**

SOE STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM NETL

Students in Dr. Gail Gruber's face-to-face Elementary Methods & Curriculum I class this semester experienced live drama in one of their lessons.

The class that was offered during the summer, however,

was online, so that students at that time experienced drama in WebCT by referring to web pages and sharing their perceptions in a discussion. In that summer class, one of the students wrote,

"It is very close to being a face-to-face class without us being in a classroom. Actually, it is better than a face-to-face class because you are very prompt in emailing me back with answers and suggestions."



Elementary Methods & Curriculum I Students Fall 2006

NETL
ENABLES
 MULTICULTURAL
 EDUCATION
 TO REACH
 TEACHERS
 AND
 STUDENTS
 IN

MEXICO:

- Ciudad Juárez
- Chihuahua

NEW MEXICO:

- Deming
- Gallup
- T or C

NETL IN MEXICO AND NEW MEXICO

One of the first School of Education's truly bilingual and multicultural education courses offered through NeTL, Linguistics 1 for Second Language Teachers, reaches students located in Ciudad Juárez and Chihuahua in Mexico; and Gallup, Truth or Consequences, and Deming in New Mexico. The purpose of this course, which is required for teachers in Mexico to earn an Interdisciplinary Master of Arts degree, is to enhance teachers' comprehension of second language acquisition.



Dr. Roy Howard

How does Dr. Roy Howard, who teaches the course from Gallup, communicate with his 43 students? He logs onto WebCT, where the students

submit their assignments in the discussion topics and will take their final exam by using the testing tool. In addition, Dr. Howard visits his students in Mexico once at each location during the semester.

Dr. Howard, who is multilingual, has been using WebCT to teach courses online for approximately five years. Teaching in this manner allows Dr. Howard to travel, as he can log onto WebCT using his wireless connection from motels and other locations.

Dr. Trinidad Tolar, Field Experience Director, arranged the students' cohorts while visiting the Tecnológico de Monterrey campuses Ciudad Juárez and Chihuahua, México. The first cohort from the Ciudad Juárez campus began during summer 2005 with ten students. These ten students will graduate in December 2007. Currently we have 14 students who teach middle

and high school at the Tecnológico de Monterrey, Ciudad Juárez campus and 13 students teaching at the Tecnológico de Monterrey, Chihuahua. The students in Gallup are primarily from the Zuni and Navajo reservations, and the students in southwestern NM are located in Truth or Consequences and Deming.



Students in Chihuahua, Mexico

Dr. Karen Murphy, NeTL Faculty Developer, assisted Dr. Howard with the redesign of his course for this unusual class composition, which includes three language groups not counting English. The students are organized into one of three discussion groups to discuss the course readings, and they form their own small teams to work on their final projects.

NETL OFFERS ONLINE COURSE FOR TEACHERS

A new course is being offered for the first time this semester to classroom teachers and school administrators who want to learn to teach online. The course, Creating an Online Class for Classroom Teachers, is available to teachers throughout the state. This semester the students are using WebCT to

communicate with each other and their instructor, Dr. Karen Murphy, and to create their own courses. In the future, this course might use Moodle, an open source course management system. One student this semester commented, "Yahoo! I am excited to have an instructor who is excited." This

approach is timely because of the new statewide plan to provide coursework to Pre-K – 12 classroom students at a distance. Contact Karen at murphyk1@wnmu.edu for further information. To register for the course in Spring 2007, contact the Registrar at (505) 538-6118.

NMPED: LICENSURE COMMITTEE PROPOSES CHANGES

NMPED proposed four changes for the Professional Practices and Standards Council recently. First, the Alternative Licensure Review Panel would phase out the panel at the end of January 2007 in favor on an online review process. A second proposed action involves alternative licensure. This

amendment would establish an online portfolio submission system for alternative licensure beginning February 2007. A third proposed action would establish fees for online portfolio submission for alternative licensure beginning February 2007. The fourth proposed rule change involves P-12 distance

learning. These changes apply to P-12, but not to higher education or government agencies. This initial draft proposes to support students having a wide variety of e-learning options, while allowing those students to remain "enrolled" in their local schools.

NMPED LICENSURE COMMITTEE PROPOSES CHANGES:

ONLINE
REVIEW PROCESS

ONLINE
PORTFOLIO
SUBMISSION

ONLINE
PORTFOLIO
SUBMISSION FEES

P-12
E-LEARNING
OPTIONS

NMPED: EXPANDED PERFORMANCE STANDARDS CHANGES

By Martha Gomez

Over the past nine months, the NMPED's Alternate Assessment Advisory Council has been revising the Expanded Performance Standards that define performance expectations for students with significant cognitive exceptionalities.

After reviewing the current standards, the Council recognized a need to move from standards applied across all grade levels to content across appropriate grade bands. The three grade bands used in general education content standards were used for the new Expanded Grade Band Expectations in order to more closely match grade level expectations by targeting specific linkages

with Grade Level Performance Standards. Thus educators would be able to more accurately align Grade Level Performance Standards within each benchmark, in each content area, with a specific grade level expectation within the grade band. The content areas focus was established primarily by No Child Left Behind: math, reading and science with the additional requirement from the state for writing. (Social studies, health and physical education will be developed in the coming year).

With the new state standards in place, a revised Alternate Assessment is likewise being developed to align to the new competencies. Our need to establish increased test standardization and define

access to grade level content, supported by the development of new achievement level descriptors, has led to the new New Mexico Alternate Performance Assessment, which is in its final draft stages for operational testing in spring 2007. Training sessions for the administration of this assessment will be held throughout the state in February 2007.

Once the Secretary has signed the new Expanded Grade Band Expectations, they will be uploaded onto the Public Education Department website and available for educators to cite in the development of Individual Educational Plan goals and objectives.

10 TIPS FOR ONLINE TEACHING SUCCESS

1. Do your homework!
2. Get up-close and personal.
3. Set clear objectives.
4. Engage students in hands-on activities.
5. Make your online course a global experience.
6. Be a facilitator, not a dictator.
7. Speak up!
8. Create a library of course reference materials.
9. There's more than one way to assess your students.
10. You can reach me at (for students to contact you supply your email address).



School of Education

NETL CONNECTIONS



School of Education Main Campus

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Main Campus

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Deming Extension

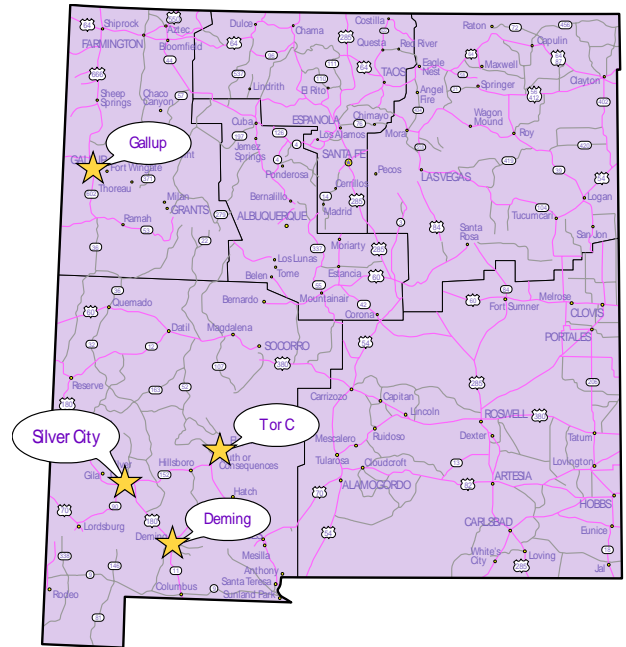
Mimbres Valley Learning Center
 2300 East Pine
 Deming, NM 88031
 (505) 546-6556

Gallup Extension

Gallup Graduate Studies Center
 2055 State Road 602
 Gallup, NM 87301
 (505) 722-3389

T or C Extension

T or C Gardner Learning Center
 601 Sunset Street
 Truth or Consequences, NM 87901
 (505) 894-9050



FALL 2006

Faculty Retreat	WED., AUG., 16
Classes begin at 8:00 a.m.	MON., AUG., 21
Last Registration Fee begins 8:00 a.m.	THURS., AUG., 24
Last day to register or add/drop w/o instructor's signature	FRI., AUG., 25
Labor Day (University closed)	MON., SEPT., 4
Last day to register or add/drop w/ instructor's signature	FRI., SEPT., 8
Census date	FRI., SEPT., 8
Last day to change grade option from Audit/Grade or Grade/Audit	FRI., OCT., 13
Mid-semester grades due in the Registrar's Office by 4:00 p.m.	MON., OCT., 16
Last day to withdraw from a class	FRI., NOV., 3
Thanksgiving Recess (Faculty/Students)	M-F, NOV., 20-24
Thanksgiving Recess (University closed)	TH-FRI., NOV., 23-24
Last day to totally withdraw from all classes with a grade of "W"	FRI., DEC., 8
Last day of class meetings (except Monday only classes)	FRI., DEC., 8
Last day of class meeting for classes that only meet on Monday	MON., DEC., 11
Final exam week	M-TH, DEC., 11-14
Commencement at 7:00 p.m.	FRI., DEC., 15
Fall grades due in the Registrar's Office NO LATER THAN noon	MON., DEC., 18
Holiday, Season	TO BE DETERMINED