

NEWS RELEASE

October 25, 2011
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Abe Villarreal
Phone: 575.538.6336
news@wnmu.edu



RON HALL AND J.D. WILLIAMS RECEIVE ALUMNI AWARDS

Silver City, NM – The Alumni Affairs Office has recognized Ron Hall as the Outstanding Alumnus Ambassador and J.D. Williams as the Distinguished Alumnus Ambassador for 2011.

Ron Hall is the recipient of the Outstanding Alumni Ambassador Award for demonstrating significant contributions to WNMU and donating time and talents to the University.

Hall was born and raised in Tucumcari. He attended Northern Oklahoma Junior College on a football scholarship before transferring to WNMU.

“I had my car and a sea bag of clothes and was homeless,” said Hall about his arrival to Silver City. “WNMU was not only an educational opportunity, but my home.”

After earning a degree in academic studies, Hall’s career included 25 years with the Silver City Police Department and 16 years as a magistrate court judge. He has been active with the Grant County alumni chapter for many years and currently serves as president of the chapter.

“I feel very humbled to be recognized as the Outstanding Alumni Ambassador doing what I really enjoy doing and supporting the institution that gave me a lifelong home,” said Hall.

J.D. Williams is the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Ambassador award for demonstrating excellence in his chosen profession and excellence in his contributions to society.

Williams was raised in Anthony, New Mexico and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1964. After college, Williams began a 25-year career in the Federal Bureau of Prisons and rose through ranks from Recreation Director at La Tuna Feral Correctional Institution in Anthony, Texas, to Assistant Director of Programs in the Bureau’s Central Office in Washington, D.C.

- more -

After retiring, Williams joined GEO, a private prison company and retired as Regional Vice President in 2004.

“My years at WNMU were fulfilling in both the educational and social aspects of my life,” said Williams.

Williams played for the Mustang football team and was co-captain in 1962.

“This award means I have learned something along the way,” said Williams. “Continue to support our university so that present and future students will benefit as much as we have.”



Pictured is Danielle Moffett, Alumni Affairs Director; Dr. Joseph Shepard, WNMU President; Ron Hall, Outstanding Alumni Ambassador award recipient; J.D. Williams, Distinguished Alumni Ambassador award recipient; and Jack Howell, Alumni Association President.

Located in Silver City, New Mexico, Western New Mexico University has served the people of the state of New Mexico and its surrounding areas as a comprehensive, regional, rural, public coeducational university since 1893 and caters to a student body diverse in age, culture, language and ethnic background.

###