

NEWS RELEASE

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WNMU Establishes Partnership for Exchange, Projects with Spanish University

Silver City, NM – A memorandum of understanding has been signed by Western New Mexico University President Joseph Shepard with the Universidad de Oviedo, from Asturias, Spain.

WNMU established a new partnership with the Spanish University after a week-long visit by two of the schools representatives, Dr. Maria de los Angeles Pascual, Assistant Director of the Department of Education; and Dr. Javier Fombona Cadavieco, Dean of International Faculty Coordination in the College of Teacher Training and Education.

“Initially the aim was to verify to what extent we could materialize ideas of academic cooperation between the two universities that had already started with our contacts through the Internet,” said Dr. Fombona. “This agreement established a general partnership that benefits the mobility of students and university professors.”

The international visitors spent most of their visit with WNMU’s School of Education, which has already established partnerships with other European universities in Barcelona and Valencia.

“Given the global market, the need for global perspectives, the unique cultural and linguistic strengths of WNMU’s faculty and students, and the similarity between our curriculum at the master degree level, this is a natural fit between our institutions,” said Dr. Patricia Manzanares-Gonzales, School of Education Dean.

The memorandum of understanding signed by both universities established the development of joint research projects, dual master degrees and the possibilities for exchange of faculty, students, publications and cultural projects.

“For us WNMU is an important partner,” said Dr. Fombona. “It is always good to have friends in the United States and we share many commonalities including the types of studies, cultural aspects and research interests which will make the agreement successful.”



Pictured from left to right are Dr. Maria de los Angeles Pascual and Dr. Javier Fombona Cadavieco of the Universidad de Oviedo; Dr. Joseph Shepard, WNMU President; Dr. Faye Vowell, WNMU Provost; and Dr. Patricia Manzanares-Gonzales, School of Education Dean during the signing of the MOU.

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.

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