

*Are you **lucky!** You have in your possession the **NMSU INVOLVEMENT PLANNING TOOL**
Outside the classroom involvement is a **critical** complement to your academic experience. Start here and now to think, plan, explore, look ahead!*

USE THIS DOCUMENT IN CONCERT WITH YOUR DEGREE PLAN. THINK AHEAD ABOUT WHAT COURSES THAT YOU NEED ARE OFFERED WHICH SEMESTER. IDENTIFY (AT LEAST TENTATIVELY) WHICH SEMESTERS LEND THEMSELVES TO MORE OR LESS INVOLVEMENT ON YOUR PART. **WHAT kind OF INVOLVEMENT???** Just look:

- *Special Interest** As you look over the list of current groups, some might resonate with the activities or areas that are of interest to you 'just because'. Maybe there is a group or activity that you were involved with throughout high school (karate, guitar) or something you have never heard of or done before that piques your interest (cricket, voices for peace). These groups add an additional dimension to your experience and help round out your involvement.
- *Hall Councils (Housing)** Here's a built in opportunity for those living in the residence halls. You will have a budget to bring events/activities to your Hall. Right from the start you can be contributing!
- *ASNMSU** (Associated Students of New Mexico State University) YOUR student government. Here you can be an elected official or an appointed position. This group is responsible for allocating and using the student fee dollars each student pays along with tuition. They offer the SAFE Ride program, Escort service, an attorney for consulting; they fund the AC, Tutors, Campus Activities, part of Student Health...
- *Greek** If you decide to join the Greek system, a wide array of opportunities and experiences are possible within the system. It would be typical to become very involved with your chapter from the very beginning. Each successive year would offer a different kind or different level of leadership experience, from being a chair within your house to serving the Greek community on Panhellenic or Inter-Fraternity Council. Choosing to 'Go Greek', unlike choosing student organization leadership or National Student Exchange experience, will bring with it structure and involvement for your entire undergraduate career.
- *Major** until you decide on a major, attend meetings of different DEPARTMENTAL and/or PROFESSIONAL organizations to help you decide. Once you have settled on a Major, choose one or two departmental organizations to become involved with for the rest of your undergraduate years. In general, you should plan to 'move through' the organization by first becoming a member (attending meetings, volunteering to help at times), a participant (increasing your responsibility for activities and events, belonging to planning committees); and leader (an elected officer with specific duties or committee chair(s) and/or person responsible for project/activity).
- *National/International Student Exchange** Explore these two possibilities. They add immeasurably to your 'co-curricular' experience (on the resume) and to most peoples' personal growth. You may or may not choose to take advantage of these opportunities, but if you think you might, start to plan your academic schedule and your other involvement taking into account when you might do an Exchange.
- *Community Service** Community service projects may be a part of any number of organizations you could choose to join, or may be the focus of a group. All organizations that apply for ASNMSU funding are required to do community service. It is advisable to keep a separate 'category', especially for resume and Co-curricular transcript purposes.
- *Honoraries** Most of these will be affiliated with a major or college and have a specific set of criteria. In general, if you meet the group's criteria you will be invited and/or nominated to become a member. For the most part, honoraries are open to upper division students.
- *Employment** In general, working on-campus offers a better possibility of your being involved and contributing to the campus community (than off campus employment) Positions such as RA, ASNMSU exec, Orientation Leader, Student Support Services Mentor or Tutor, Corbett Center employee could result in both gainful employment and campus involvement/contribution. All employment does broaden your experience, whether through working with different kinds of people or having different/additional responsibility, or being assigned a project for the first time.



Almost as important is getting involved is formally documenting your activities on the NMSU Co-Curricular Transcript.
Sign up now! Information available at sil.nmsu.edu or 646-3200 or Campus Activities, Corbett Center Student Union, Rm. 235.

