



Transforming the Future Together

Academic Excellence

- Through a joint legislative resolution and enacted by the New Mexico governor, WNMU was designated as the state's only Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences university, providing an education focused on providing a more holistic education that included critical thinking, effective communication and reasoning.
- In 2014, WNMU received reaffirmation of accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission. Through a campuswide collaborative effort and a steadfast commitment to academic excellence, WNMU is now undergoing the review process for its next reaffirmation.
- Designated by the New Mexico legislature, WNMU is home to the New Mexico Center of Excellence for Early Childhood Education.
- To better serve students as they work toward completing their goals, WNMU created a University Academic Advising Center, providing one-on-one guidance and consultation to students from first year through the completion of their chosen academic program.
- In 2024, the Men's Golf team was recognized as the top academic performing men's golf team in the NCAA Lone Star Conference.
- The Bachelor and Master of Social Work programs became the largest in the state and consistently rank among the top in the nation for quality and affordability.
- The Master of Science in Nursing program gained initial accreditation and has experienced significant growth (over 200%) in the past year.
- The Master of Science in Nursing program provides one of the few programs that train nurses in rural/frontier health, continuing a commitment to addressing the health care challenges and shortages in rural New Mexico.
- Social Work programs received a \$14.5 million in legislative funding to support the increasing need of social workers throughout New Mexico.
- The WNMU School of Nursing has been awarded a \$1.2 million grant for student centered Holistic Nursing Education which prioritized mental health and social support throughout students' nursing education.
- WNMU Bachelor of Science in Nursing program's most recent graduates had a 100% NCLEX pass rate.
- School of Business students consistently earn the highest exit exam scores in the country, surpassing many schools holding similar accreditation.
- The WNMU Applied Technology program has helped dozens of students achieve national certification in welding.
- WNMU Healthcare Workforce programs has helped dozens of students acquire certification as certified nursing assistants and phlebotomists, filling the gap in health care services in southern rural New Mexico.
- In 2024, Adult Education Services helped 17 students achieve their high school equivalency, a 54% increase over 2023.

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- In 2024, WNMU opened the John Arthur & Janette Smith Learning Center in Deming, home to the university's health sciences programs, allowing for expanded education and training opportunities for traditional and nontraditional students in southern New Mexico.
- In response to statewide economic workforce shortages, the WNMU welding electrician and construction programs have been expanded to Deming.
- WNMU received \$1.2 million in legislative funding to support apprenticeships and internships for workforce development programs, including trade programs, health care programs, education and behavioral health.

Beautification & Expansion

- In collaboration with the Town of Silver City, WNMU upgraded and modernized the main entrance to the university campus along College Avenue. This project included the relocation of overhead power lines into underground networks, improved lighting, upgraded sidewalks and expanded landscaping.
- In 2023, WNMU was recognized as an official Tree Campus by the Arbor Day Foundation through the work of establishing a community forest on the WNMU campus.
- With a continued focus on campus revitalization, WNMU completed construction of Regents Square, the center of campus activity that hosts campus and community events including concerts, art shows and admissions recruiting events.
- Over the past decade, and through voter support of General Obligation Bonds for Higher education, the university has worked to upgrade campus buildings, modernize science laboratories and improve campus technology.
- In response to the growing needs of the student body, WNMU completed work on a central Information Technology Resource Center located in J. Cloyd Miler Library. This central hub provides students access to a wide range of computers, printing services and access to modern study rooms inclusive of the latest technology.
- As part of the university's Master Plan, a recent renovation of 10th Street includes upgraded campus lighting, new sidewalks and expanded landscaping.
- In 2019, the university's Ben Altamirano football stadium received upgrades that include the installation of artificial turf, stadium lighting to allow for night games and an upgraded scoreboard and jumbotron.
- In 2023, the WNMU softball field received a facelift that included the replacement of dirt and grass with a synthetic turf infield and outfield, a state-of-the-art video board and sound system and lighting.
- With a commitment toward maintaining buildings and facilities already invested in by the New Mexico taxpayer, WNMU rehabilitated historical buildings for modern use, including Ritch Hall, currently home to Aldo Leopold Charter High School and university offices.
- To address increases in campus enrollment, WNMU broke ground on modern residence halls in 2012. Mustang Village houses 223 students and is consistently at capacity year over year and highly in-demand.
- To better serve the growing online student population, WNMU implemented a Virtual Desktop Image infrastructure, providing students access to critical learning tools including scientific notebooks, Adobe products and other critical software.

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Campus Safety

- For more than a decade, WNMU has worked to create a safer campus for both students and members of the community through increased lighting and expanded walkways throughout campus.
- The university's campus police force continues to receive modern patrol vehicles, additional officers and access to the latest campus surveillance made possible through the installation of modern cameras across campus that provide more than 350 views delivered from 165 security cameras, ensuring the safety of the campus community.
- Blue light emergency call boxes have been installed in and outside of buildings throughout campus.
- In addition to campus law enforcement, the campus police force provides escort services for students and staff, emergency vehicle assistance and student outreach events including the annual Burgers & Cops grill out.
- In 2015, the university launched the RAVE Alert emergency notification system designed to launch emails and text messages to the campus community in the case of a campuswide emergency.

Community Engagement

- For more than a decade, the university campus has acted as the hub for community discussion, events and thought, providing spaces for community gatherings, debates and provoking presentations.
- In 2015, the university unveiled a new fitness center, inclusive of an indoor saltwater swimming pool, a fully equipped gym as well as intramural gyms and indoor racquetball courts, with the recent addition of a modern indoor climbing wall, all available to the public through monthly memberships.
- In 2015, the university established the Department of Cultural Affairs, charged with bringing worldclass performers, speakers and other cultural offerings to the WNMU campus, with dozens of offerings each year, including the President's Chamber Music Series, the Distinguished Speaker Series and the community holiday favorite, Jingle & Mingle.
- Through the Arts in Public Places program, WNMU has committed to increasing access to public art across campus available for public viewing in buildings throughout the university and in exterior locations throughout the university's grounds.
- In a continued effort to maintain the university's cultural and historical roots to Mexico and Central and South America, the university's signature event, ¡Fiesta Latina! brings thousands of visitors to the WNMU campus every summer.
- As one of the nation's original Hispanic Serving Institutions, the university founded Mariachi Plata de WNMU, a student mariachi ensemble that has been globally recognized as one of the top performing mariachi groups
- In 2021, the Mimbres Press of Western New Mexico University was launched, the premiere university press in the southwest region of New Mexico. As of 2024, the Mimbres Press has produced 11 publications that include the Maverick, the student-led arm of the university press.

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Environmental Stewardship

- WNMU is taking the lead in New Mexico with the goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.
- Through the installation of energy efficient lighting systems, building HVAC control systems, low flow water fixtures and high efficiency transformers, WNMU has seen an average savings in annual utility costs of \$220,000.
- Entering into the Solar Direct agreement with the Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) in 2019, WNMU began to receive power through clean-energy sources, including the PNM solar array located outside of the Farmington area.
- As of 2024, 50% of the university's energy is generated through carbon neutral sources that include clean energy from the PNM Solar Direct program, on campus photovoltaic panels that provide 15% of campus energy, as well as greater efficiency within buildings that have reduced annual energy consumption by 22%.
- In collaboration with community partner Freeport-McMoRan, WNMU has installed six rapid electric vehicle charging ports on campus that are available for free to the community.

Fiscal Stability

- To gain greater insight into university finances, WNMU has commissioned an independent special audit to identify opportunities for enhancing internal processes and maximizing returns on investments.
- For more than a decade, WNMU has been awarded "clean audits" with no additional requirements from state or federal oversight bodies.
- WNMU has maintained healthy reserves greater than the state required 3% with six of the last 12 years maintaining a reserve of 20% of instruction and general funding expenditures.
- The University Foundation's total current assets have experienced continued growth of 172% in five years.
 - WNMU Foundation net position change: \$712,451 in FY ending 2011 increase to \$28,856,228 in FY ending 2024 = 395% increase
- Annually fundraising consistently over one million dollars.
- Privately Funded Scholarships
 - 23/24 academic year, The Foundation awarded \$304,811.89 in private scholarship funds, the largest amount awarded since 2018.
 - 158 individual students received Foundation scholarships, resulting in 360 awards provided as many students qualify for multiple scholarships.
- In just the past two years, WNMU has secured \$8.7 million in grant funding, supporting a diverse range of initiatives that include enhancing the university's identity as a Hispanic-Serving Institution and advancing an urban forestry project aligned with the university's broader commitment to environmental sustainability.

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Food Security & Sustainability

- To address the challenges of food insecurity, WNMU established the Office of Food Security and Sustainability as part of a larger community initiative to stem the increase of food insecurity in and around the campus community.
- As part of the food security and sustainability initiative, planning for a new greenhouse to be constructed on campus has been complete, with pre-construction work underway.
 - This project will provide produce, grown and cultivated on the WNMU campus, to the university dining hall as well as provide important learning opportunities for students who will assist in the food production process.
- Made possible through statewide collaborations with organizations such as the New Mexico Roadrunner Foodbank, the WNMU One Stop, with locations on the WNMU main campus and in the WNMU Deming Mimbres Learning Center, provides food, hygiene products and fresh produce in unlimited quantities to students and employees alike.
 - The One Stop experiences an average of 600 visits each month resulting in 5,000 visits between 2023 and August 2024.

Global Connections

- WNMU has established a unique program that allows international students the opportunity to earn dual undergraduate degrees from both their home university and WNMU.
- Through a sustained effort toward cultivating a culturally vibrant and diverse student population through international agreements and partnerships, the university's international student enrollment has experienced continued growth of 181% during the previous five years.
- Transfer agreements with major higher education institutions in Mexico provide students the opportunity to expand their worldviews, gain exposure into cross-cultural experiences and establish a foundation of personal cross-border success

Policies & Procedures

- In 2024, WNMU initiated a comprehensive review and revision of all university policies to ensure full alignment with state statutes and maintain compliance across the campus.
- In 2011, the university began the process to simplify the tuition and fee structure, proving greater clarity and transparency to the student body.
- To assist in student success and ease financial barriers associated with the cost of education, WNMU implemented a student payment plan and online payment portal.
- Developed procedures to track and account for Debt Service both in revenue collections, expenditure schedules, and trend analysis.
- Restructured Student Fee procedures to work closely with Student Government to enhance and educate students on the use of fees. This has allowed administration to be more transparent with students as well as empower Student Government to understand shared governance.

- Restructured Lab/Course Fee procedures to improve departmental spending. This process also has allowed Business Affairs to be more transparent with Academic departments on funding sources.
- Through the WNMU|Access program, the cost of required class textbooks are included in the cost of tuition and fees for every WNMU student, providing access to the tools needed for success.
- WNMU led the way as the first university in New Mexico to transition to a Cloud-based information management system designed to better protect and streamline the management of student, employee and alumni data.

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