108+ Years of Agricultural Economics at New Mexico State University – Department of Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business

Beginnings:

1904: Rural Economics. History of agriculture, farm management, and rural law. *Required for Agricultural Seniors – 2nd term, 3 hours practice.*

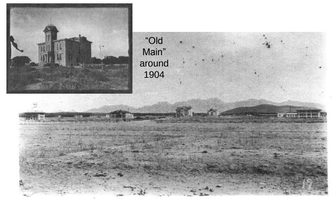
Political Economy. In this subject, the student is made acquainted with the laws of production, the principles of money, foreign trade, tariff and taxation, the influences which affect exchange, the various theories of distribution and consumption, and the history of economic development. *Required of all juniors – 2nd term, 4 hours practice.*

1907: Farm Accounts. The day has arrived when the farmer as well as other business men must know his assets and liabilities. He must know whether he is losing or gaining money as a result of his operations, not only as a whole, but each crop and herd or individual of that herd must be made to answer searching questions of profit or loss. In this day of specialism no one factor has so great an influence for success as business methods. Realizing the importance of this subject to every agriculturist this institution has installed a brief course in farm accounts which includes the books to be used, the definition of general terms, feed records, lands, crops, household, etc. *Required of Agricultural Sophomores, 2nd term, 2 hours credit.*

1925: The Department of Agricultural Economics is founded: "The successful farmer needs a knowledge not only of physical and biological forces but also of economic and social forces. Not only the matters which influence crop and animal production, but also those which affect markets, prices, transportation, and general economic conditions have become of vast significance to the individual farm manager and to the solidarity and prosperity of our agricultural industry, our greatest natural economic asset.

The recognition of this fact has led to the increasing development of teaching and research work in Agricultural Economics both in Colleges and Experiment Stations and on the part of the Federal Government. It has brought with it an increased demand for men trained in agricultural economics. More and more research workers, agricultural teachers, county agents, and other leaders of agricultural thought are realizing the need for training in the field.

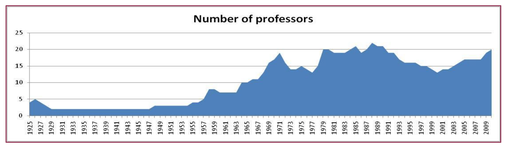
The recently passed Purnell bill carrying additional appropriation for experiment stations stipulates that part of the funds be used for research work in agricultural economics. This will mean a further need for trained men. This college has accordingly arranged to offer a major course in Agricultural Economic which may be pursued by agricultural students who have completed their freshman and sophomore years.



"Old Main" around 1904

Campus then

Campus now



Taught by: Luther Foster, M. S. A. Professor and President of NMCA&M

LOOKING UP COLLEGE AVENUE

Wilson Hall, first occupied in February 1909 housed Ag Econ until it was destroyed by fire on September 5, 1937.

"Agricultural Building" (later named Foster Hall) was built in 1930.

NMSU/NAMA 2010 National Student Marketing Competition Champions

The "2 million dollar" Agricultural Building completed in 1963

Four options of study for undergraduates: Farm and Ranch Operations, Professional Agricultural Economics, Water Resources, and Agricultural Business

A few of our graduates:

Thomas F. Pogue, Emeritus Professor, Economics, University of Iowa - BS 1957. **Bob Lansford,** Professor (retired) AEAB NMSU – MS 1962. **Tim Arend,** President, Bank of the Rio Grande – BS 1963**. Garrey E. Carruthers**, Governor of New Mexico 1987-1991, Current Dean of the NMSU College of Business - MS 1965. **Terry Crawford**, USDA/ERS bureau Chief (retired), Professor and Department Head NMSU AEAB – BS 1966. **Joe Williams,** Professor, Dept of Agricultural Economics Oklahoma State University - BS 1965 MS 1967. **Joe E. "Eddy" Ratliff,** CEO and president of Farm Credit of New Mexico – BS 1968. **Charles F. Dickerson,** Charles F. Dickerson Inc., International Auctioneers – BS1968. **Gerry Campbell** Professor Emeritus of Agricultural and Applied Economics at University of Wisconsin Madison/Extension – MS 1969. **Nasser al-Aulaqi** Professor University of Sana'a - BS 1969 MS 1971. **David W. King**, New Mexico District 2 Commissioner Public Regulation Commission – MS 1971. **James W. Richardson,** Co-Director Agricultural & Food Policy Center, Regents Professor & Senior Faculty Fellow, Dept of Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University - BS 1971. **Wesley Grau**, New Mexico House of Representatives 42nd and 43rd Sessions - BS 1972. **Phelps Anderson,** President Sun Valley Energy, 2 terms in NM Legislature – BS1974. **Lowell B. Catlett**, Futurist and Dean of NMSU College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences – MS 1974. **John M. Fowler,** Professor NMSU AEAB – MS 1974. **Arley Larson** Associate Professor/chairman Dept of Ag Northwest State University – MS 1975. **Burton English** Professor & Research Coordinator, Dept of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Tennessee – MS 1976. **Randall L. Eubank** Professor, Dept of Mathematics and Statistics, Arizona State University - BS 1974, MS 1976/ **Patrick H. Lyons**, NM Commissioner of Public Lands – BS 1976. **Larry Makus**, Professor Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, University of Idaho - MS 1976. **Larry Sanders**, Professor and Extension Economist, Dept. of Agricultural Economics, Oklahoma State University – MS 1979. **Mesghena Yasin** Professor of Economics, Morehead State University – MS 1979. **John Lee** Professor Agricultural Economics, Purdue University – BS 1981. **R. Max Best**, Attorney & Counselor at Law, General Counsel to the Governor 1989-90 – BS 1977 MS 1982. **Paul Gutierrez,** Vice Provost for Outreach, NMSU – MS 1982. **Randall D. Little**, Professor Agricultural Economics, Mississippi State University – BS 1982. **Tamara G. Hurt,** CPA CFP, Deming, NM – BS 1983. **Vernon Lansford,** Professor Agricultural Economics, Texas Tech – BS 1983 MS 1985. **Jeff Witte**, Assoc Director Southwest Border Food Safety and Defense Center, NMSU – BS 1984 MS 1985. **Rod McSherry**, Senior USDA foreign service officer for Afghanistan – MAG 1986. **William Riggs**, Associate Professor, Oregon State University Klamath Basin Research and Extension Center - BS 1987 MS 1989. **Paul Gutierrez**, NM State Director of USDA Rural Development , Deputy Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights - BS 1992. **Tom Bagwell,** Assistant Director NMDA and NM Deputy Secretary of Agriculture – BS 1990 MS 1992. **Jerry Hawkes,** Professor NMSU AEAB – BS 1992 MS 1993. **Mark R. Manfredo,** Professor Morrison School of Agribusiness and Resource Management, Arizona State University – MS 1994. **Chaddy Robinson**, Executive Member Southern NM State Fair Board, Promotions Director Carzalia Valley Produce - BS1996 MS 1998. **Jennifer Smith**, Bureau of Indian Affairs Mescalero Agency – MAG2010

If you graduated from New Mexico State University and were not included in this list, please accept our apologies and let us know!

Visit us at: **www.aeab.nmsu.edu**

Purnell Act Feb. 1925

Courses listed 1931 Bulletin:
101. Farm Records and Accounts
105. Farm Organization and Management
108. Marketing Agricultural Products
110. Cooperation in Agriculture
111. Agricultural Statistics and Research Methods
112. Agricultural Prices
115. Farm Finance

NMCA&M Campus 1930

1937 course addition : Land Economics

Course descriptions change to reflect the new post war economy:
Agricultural Prices – A study of price trends and an analysis of factors affecting price; special attention given to price problems in connection with New Mexico products; government price stabilizing measures and post-war price problems.
Land Economics – A study of the physical, economic and institutional factors affecting the use of agricultural land and the conditions preventing desirable adjustments; economics of conservation; government policy in relation to agriculture, and post-war agricultural problems.

Now the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business

The department is renamed. Now "The Department of Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business"

W.I. (Bill) Gorman joins the faculty

Future AEAB Dept. Head Terry Crawford receives BS degree

Future ACES Dean, Lowell B. Catlett receives MS degree

1862-1962 Land Grant Colleges and State Universities

Master of Agriculture – Agribusiness degree introduced

Increase in options for study:
Farm Business Management
Ranch Business Management
Agricultural Marketing and Sales
Agricultural Business Management
Agricultural Finance
Agricultural Economics
Computer Applications and Data Management
Agricultural Communications
Natural Resources Management

National Agri-Marketing Association Student Club is formed on the NMSU campus

Lowell Catlett, interim

NMSU/NAMA wins 1st place in the national marketing competition

Doctor of Philosophy in Water Science and Management

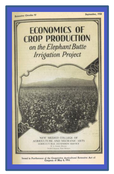
Doctor of Economic Development degree, a joint effort between AEAB and Economics and International Business. Extension Economics merges with AEAB.

A. W. Walker 1925-1934 | Percy W. Cockerill 1934-1954 | H. Ralph Stucky 1955-1965 | George R. Dawson 1965-1985 | Lynn W. Robbins 86-89 | John J. Waelti 1990-2001 | Octavio Ramirez | T. Crawford

1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012

W.I. (Bill) Gorman is still here…

The Department of Agricultural Economics is formed on the campus of New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts



Agricultural Cooperatives – Principles of cooperation and methods of organization, operation and management of cooperative sales, purchasing and service associations.
Ranch Economics – Economic principles related to the efficient and conservative operation of NM stock ranches. Effect of size, type, diversity and productivity upon ranch income. Relationships between production practices and the marketing of range livestock. Current practices, problems and suggested improvements in marketing range cattle and sheep.

Agricultural Policy – A study of the objectives of farm programs and the economic, legislative and historical background of public policies; analysis of farm policy problems, of farm organizations and pressure groups, and of agricultural legislation in the United States and New Mexico.

Master of Science degree offered for the first time and the university is renamed New Mexico State University

The new Ag. Building is completed. NMSU gets a new logo.

Option change from Water Resources to Environmental and Resource Economics

New course: Introduction to Biometrical Applications

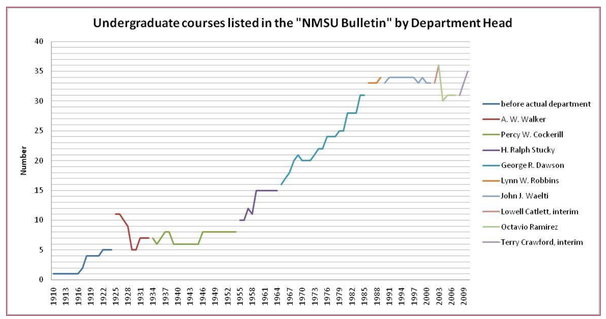
Constance Falk, first woman faculty member joins the department.

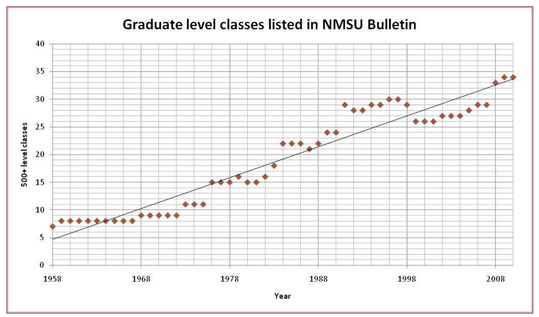
More options for study:
Agricultural Chemical Sales
Agricultural Equipment Sales
Agricultural Records and Financial Controls

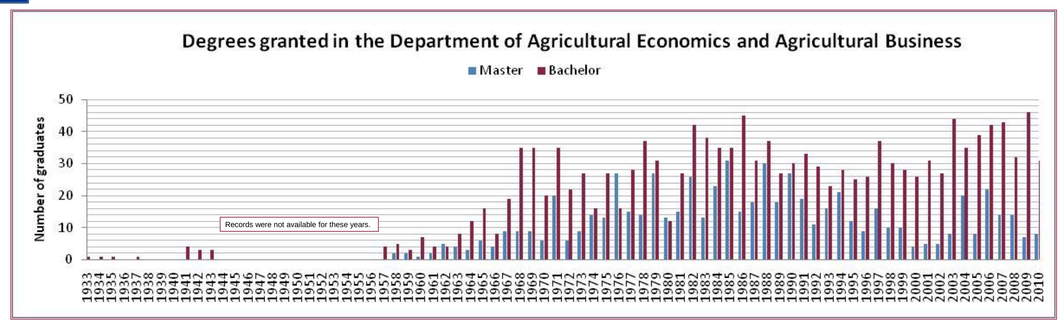
NAMA Outstanding Chapter Award! Drop from options:
Agricultural Equipment Sales
Add to options:
International Agricultural Economics
International Development
Environmental Economics

Master of Business Administration - Agribusiness

NMSU/NAMA wins the 2010 National Agri-Marketing Student Marketing Competition







Our former faculty in administrative positions:

Tom Bagwell – Former Assistant Director NMDA and NM Deputy Secretary of Agriculture
Lowell Catlett – Dean of College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
Garrey Carruthers – President of NMSU
Cynda Clary – Associate Dean at OSU
Rex Kirksey – Former Superintendent of the Agricultural Science Centers at Tucumcari and Clovis
Jim Libbin –Associate Dean, and Director of Academic Programs – ACES
Jeff Witte – Director/Secretary of NMDA

Join our group on facebook

Source: New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts Bulletin (1904-1957), later New Mexico State University Bulletin/Catalog (1958-2010).