Thai Contingent Visits Teaching Academy

The NMSU Teaching Academy was visited by a contingent of seven Thai educators last fall. The educators came to North America after Dee Fink, the president of the North American faculty development association, POD Network, was sent by the U.S. State Department to a conference in Thailand on higher education reform. While there, Dr. Fink met with the Thai Ministry of Education and suggested that Thailand send a Thai delegation to the U.S. to visit his campus and one other teaching center in preparation for establishing their own centers.

President Fink has visited more than a hundred teaching centers because he is the author of two key books and a much sought after speaker on issues of teaching and learning. He has visited New Mexico State twice and he said, “I recommended to the educators from Thailand that they visit New Mexico State University because of the remarkable achievements of the NMSU Teaching Academy.”

The Thai contingent of seven educators included one representative from the Thai Ministry of Education, professors from five different universities, one vice president and one dean.
Teaching Academy Gala Honors 217

The second annual Teaching Academy Gala was held for 2004-2005 to honor 217 Teaching Academy members. The theme was “A teacher’s worth is without measure.”

Provost Flores presided. When he turned on the stained-glass Teaching Academy lamp for the first time at the grand opening, he said, “Education lights up our world.” The lamp now sits on those words, and Dr. Flores opened the ceremony by turning on the lamp once more.

The most distinguished graduate student was Alma Rodriguez, Ph.D candidate in the Department of SPED/Communication Disorders.

The most distinguished faculty member was Ereney Hadjigeorgalis, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics and Business.

The most distinguished department was Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business. Other outstanding units were the Department of Educational Management and Development and the Department of Nursing.

Three honorary members were inducted: Waded Cruzado-Salas, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences as well as Pam Hunt and Lisa Frehill, NSF ADVANCE. All have contributed much to professional development at NMSU.

NMSU participants in the 2005 Boot Camp for Profs, held in Leadville, CO, were (l–r) Elizabeth Alderman, Jean Conway, Tara Gray, Amal Mostafa, Shakir Manshad, Rossio Kersey, Al Berryman, and Amiya Bhattacharya.

How you can help: Backers, Builders, and Founders!

The Teaching Academy has initiated a new development program to raise much-needed funds to purchase new instructional materials for the library, provide scholarships to conferences and institutes, and develop new curriculum. Already, the Academy counts 38 individuals as Backers, Builders, or Founders. We recognize donors at the following levels:

- **Backers**
  - $5 a month through payroll deduction, or $100 outright annual gift

- **Builders**
  - $25 a month through payroll deduction, or $500 outright annual gift

- **Founders**
  - $50 a month through payroll deduction, or $1,000 outright annual gift