

OVERVIEW

THE EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM TO STIMULATE COMPETITIVE RESEARCH

The New Mexico Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NM EPSCoR) is a multi-faceted, multi-institutional program aimed at improving the research, human resources, and cyberinfrastructure required for New Mexico to achieve its energy, education, and workforce development potential. NM EPSCoR was established in 2001, and the current grant (RII4) began in 2013. In that short time, NM EPSCoR has contributed approximately \$108 million to New Mexico in direct EPSCoR awards and co-funded awards.

The overarching mission of EPSCoR on the national level is to assist the NSF in its statutory function “to strengthen research and education in science and engineering throughout the United States and to avoid undue concentration of such research and education.” NM EPSCoR is achieving this mission by making the state more competitive in securing NSF funding.

ENERGIZE NEW MEXICO: YEAR 2

Year 2 of the *Energize New Mexico* grant began on June 1, 2014 and officially ended on May 31, 2015. Building on the successes of Year 1, the project invested in more equipment and personnel at participating universities, including hiring more diverse faculty and students. Each component achieved at least 95% of their Year 2 goals in the *Energize New Mexico* strategic plan, and several components are ahead of schedule.

NM EPSCoR’s web team spent a most of Year 2 evaluating, analyzing, and redesigning the main website, nmepscor.org to be more accessible and user-friendly. Several other EPSCoR states have used the newly designed website as a model for their own sites, and our web developers are leading the way in creating a new, dynamic reporting portal for all EPSCoR jurisdictions.

Members of the NM EPSCoR office, including co-PI Mary Jo Daniel, Education Coordinator Selena Connealy, and Diversity Coordinator Chelsea Chee, conducted numerous visits across the state to research, tribal, and community college campuses, providing information about collaboration and funding opportunities, STEM education efforts, and current research.