

Welcome to this thorough overview of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, most often referred to as New Mexico Tech, or simplified further, as NMT or Tech.

Our institute is dedicated to and recognized for our accomplishments in advancing research in STEM, for employing creative and forward-thinking methods, and for expecting excellence. A student-centered university, we involve our undergraduate and graduate students in these endeavors. It probably goes without saying that to maintain our focus on excellence and to continue our renowned accomplishments, we expect -- and are also known for -- a rigorous curriculum. As this document will show, we provide our students with the necessary support to help them succeed. And, as is evidenced in this report, opportunities await our graduates, for they leave NMT industry-prepared and advance-degree-prepared.

Of course, we expect rigor, excellence, and forward-thinking and planning of the faculty, staff and administrators who contribute to the education of our students. At NMT, we continuously plan and realize those plans that support and strengthen our mission of educating and providing opportunities for students in STEM. In fact, as this document is being finalized for review, we are also in the final drafting stages of our Strategic Plan, 2015-2019. Thus, this highly-evidentiary Assurance Report reflects our improvements from yesterday, our accomplishments of today, and our planning as we step into tomorrow.

There are always challenges and plans to improve with steps for doing so; as STEM researchers, we apply -- to our research and to the education of our students -- what we have learned to what we need to discover, and then we test methods or pilot programs, gather data, make changes, and test or pilot again. This is our continuous improvement through assessment.

This report articulates the following:

New Mexico Tech is a student-centered institution that is completely mission-focused. Our faculty, students and staff are selected based on our mission: specifically, through creative approaches, NMT solves technical and scientific problems and communicates that knowledge. Our fiscal, human and physical and technological resources support this focus.

Our sound planning has resulted in clean audits for twenty years, stable faculty and staff employment and no layoffs or furloughs even during the economic downturn, citations and patents that advance the scientific and technology community (and thus the world), and, in the last four years, our highest student enrollment in our history. Emphasizing research opportunities and the strengthening of Math skills in the Freshman year, we now (for Fall 2014) report our highest retention rate (79%), which we expect to see have a positive impact on our IPEDS graduation rate beginning with the cohorts of First Time Freshmen who entered in 2011.

Maintaining our consistent solvency and adherence to our mission, NMT prepares its graduates for high-paying positions within STEM and for graduate studies (as is described in 1.A.), remains a major employer of the city of Socorro, and employs internationally-renowned researchers.

We hope you enjoy this document. Through it we are saying, Welcome to New Mexico Tech!

Daniel Lopez

President

New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology