

## EXPLOSIVE ACTIVITY PROMISED AT 49ERS 2008

49ers Weekend 2008 promises two opportunities to take in the explosive activity at EMRTC, plus a tour of Magdalena Ridge Observatory, multiple food events, and, of course, music at The Capitol Bar with the legendary Vigilante Band, plus fireworks. Make plans now to be in Socorro October 23-26 for all the fun and the opportunity to catch up with friends and faculty.

### THE WEEKEND LINE-UP:

#### Thursday, October 23

- Campus tours with the Hi-Tech Ambassadors
- Afternoon tour of EMRTC
- Evening reception at the home of Don ('69) and Rosie Tripp



Aircraft Explosives Test

#### Friday, October 24

- Campus tours with the Hi-Tech Ambassadors
- Gold Rush Golf Scramble and breakfast, hosted by the SPE Student Chapter
- Water Canyon picnic and hiking at noon
- Tour of Magdalena Ridge Observatory



- Pygmies Rugby Team take on the Alumni Ancients



- Dinner party at The Capitol Bar (the Alumni Ancients host other alumni to a round)

#### Saturday, October 25

- Alumni breakfast and Annual General Meeting at the Fidel Center food court – eat just like students!
- 49ers Parade at 11 a.m. – This year's theme: "I should'a made a left at Albuquerque"
- Alumni are invited to attend the KNME Science Café, including lectures and EMRTC tour, plus food and evening fireworks

#### Sunday, October 26

- Climb "M" Mountain (rides to the top available)
- Farewell breakfast

Watch your mail for your 49ers brochure with complete details. A number of events will require reservations to assure that we have enough of everything it takes to assure you a wonderful time.

## COMMENCEMENT 2008

On May 17, after years of differential equations, thermodynamics, and computer programming, New Mexico Tech graduated 303 students, comprising the Class of 2008.

Geza Keller ('76), president of the New Mexico Tech Alumni Association, presented awards to alumni.



Left to right: Alumni Association President Geza Keller ('76); Distinguished Achievement Award recipient Bryan Ulrich (83, 85); Distinguished Service Award recipient Dr. J. Michael (Mike) Kelly (72, 96, 00); and Class of 1958 members John Powell and Morris Worley at Commencement 2008.

He opened by recognizing John Powell and Morris Worley of the Class of 1958, who were present to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their commencement.

Geza presented the Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Award to Dr. J. Michael Kelly. Mike has been a lifelong supporter of New Mexico Tech. He earned his bachelor of science degree in 1972 and put his petroleum engineering education to work in the industry, first, as president of his family's Elk Oil Company, and then of his own company, Keltic Oil Services.

From 1992 to 1997, Mike served on the New Mexico Tech Board of Regents, of which he was president in 1995. He then returned to Tech as a student, earning his master's degree in 1996, and his Ph.D. in 2000, both in petroleum engineering.

Since then, he has been an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Petroleum and Chemical Engineering, as well as continuing to be an independent oil consultant. He has been a strong supporter of Tech's student chapter of the Society of Petroleum Engineers, participating in many of their functions and arranging career-related field trips for students. New Mexico Tech's petroleum engineering students named Mike "Distinguished Faculty Member of 2008."

Mike chaired the Commitment to Excellence Capital Campaign in 2001. Most recently, he has lent his support to the project of funding an endowed chair

position for the Petroleum Engineering Department. He is actively involved in the Roswell Section of the SPE and has helped the department in recruiting in the Artesia/Roswell area.

Geza then presented the Alumni Association's Distinguished Achievement Award to Bryan Ulrich.

Bryan is considered to be an expert in several fields, including use and interpretation of in situ tests, propensity for static and earthquake-induced liquefaction, material property derivation, laboratory analyses, and slope stability analysis.

His more-than-20 years of experience include geotechnical engineering, project management, design and construction, mine site investigations, soil mechanics, the design of tailings dams, and earthquake hazards.

Bryan holds two degrees from New Mexico Tech: mining engineering, which he earned in 1983, and geological engineering, received in 1985. He also holds a master's degree in geotechnical engineering from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada, earned in 1996.

Currently, Bryan is Vice President in charge of Nevada Operations for Knight Piésold, a world wide engineering consulting firm. He is a member of the Society of Mining Engineers and the Canadian Geotechnical Society and has authored or co-authored over two dozen professional papers and articles. Because of his firm belief in continuing education, Bryan has taken an active role in several international conferences. He has been instrumental in recruiting New Mexico Tech graduates to fill important roles in Knight Piésold.

Since both Geza and Bryan were unable to attend their own Tech commencement, 2008 was their first opportunity to don their Tech robes and tassels and process with the graduates.

## GOOD RESEARCH LEADS TO RING RETURN

Techies adventure far and wide, and sometimes leave things behind. The Tech alumni office is a good resource for reconnecting with objects and friends.

Office for Advancement student assistant Katie O'Toole received a call in early June from a woman in Hawaii who found a New Mexico Tech class ring while swimming in the ocean. She told Katie that the initials on the ring were "AH" and that it was a 2006 ring.

With a little research Katie found alum Arthur "Gar" Hassall (B.S., Math and EE, 06). She contacted Gar, who lives in Hawaii, and found that his ring had slipped off his finger while swimming. He had assumed it was lost forever. But armed with contact information from Katie, Gar and his class ring were successfully reunited.

## JACK KRUPPENBACH RECEIVES ALUMNI AWARD

Jack Kruppenbach (BS, geology, 51) was awarded the Alumni Award in April at the President's Club banquet.

Kruppenbach has been a longtime financial supporter of his alma mater. For many years, he and his wife, Mabel, have sponsored two scholarships at Tech. Jack has also provided opportunities for Tech students to attend professional conferences and has been a major supporter of the Tech solar racing team.

Kruppenbach earned a bachelor's in geology after serving



in the Army. His distinguished career included work that resulted in patents pertaining to seismic explosive formulations and seismology. He was published in a wide range of areas, including remote sensing, logistics and boat design.

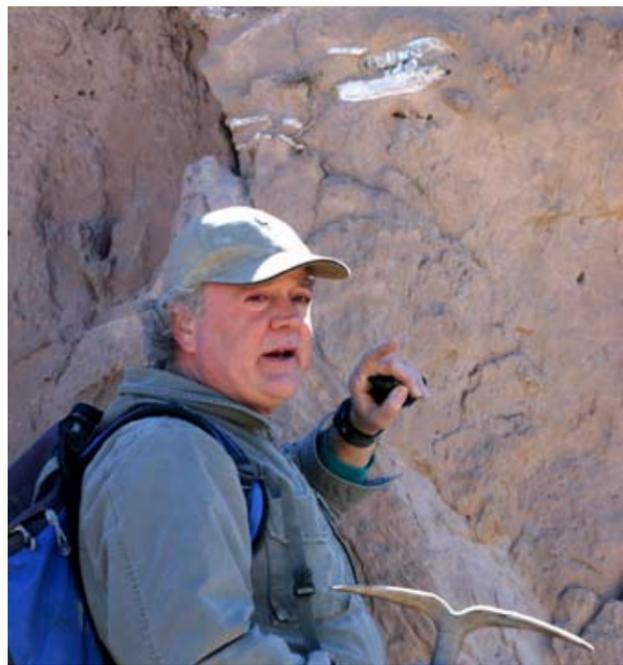
In addition to his research, Kruppenbach was an entrepreneur. He founded Energy Analysts Inc., a worldwide consulting company that gathered seismic data.

He stayed with Energy Analysts after selling the company in 1987. In 1990, he founded another company, Pool Forge Group Inc., which "seeded" new enterprises.

In addition to his industry contributions, Jack also started a bank in the Dallas area, Riverside National Bank.

## MIOCENE FOSSIL DISCOVERED BY TECH GEOLOGISTS

Three New Mexico Tech geologists, including two alumni, discovered an unusual and unexpected fossil at Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge in February.



David Love and Richard Chamberlin (BS, geology, 67; MS, geology, 75), both of the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, and graduate student Colin Cikoski (BS, earth sciences, 07) were conducting a mapping project on Feb. 22, when Love spotted something in the wall of an arroyo.

The object turned out to be the skull of an oreodont, an extinct group of hoofed animals that lived during the Miocene era, between 10 and 15 million years ago. When it was recovered by a team of paleontologists from the New Mexico Museum of Natural History, the skull turned out to be accompanied by most of the animal's skeleton.

Through an agreement with the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science the fossils will be added to the museum's collection. In the future, the fossil, or a replica, may be put on display at the museum or at Bosque del Apache Visitors Center.

## EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### COLORADO CHAPTER

Tech alumni from the class of 68 through the class of 07 (and every decade in between) turned out for the May 10 meeting of the Colorado Chapter of the Tech Alumni Association. In spite of the rain and gas prices some Tech grads drove more than 60 miles to attend the potluck picnic.

The chapter hopes to increase membership, especially since 400 alumni are scattered throughout Colorado. Some fun events are planned, including the New Belgium Brewery tour and tailgate in Fort Collins on August 9 (with free beer samples), a caravan to Socorro for 49ers, and an outing to Amazing Jake's on January 24.



One of the Colorado Chapter's goals is to recruit high school students. Tech admissions will provide training to alumni who volunteer to recruit at high schools in Colorado. The recruiting season starts early, so please volunteer soon to recruit future Techies.

**Next get-together: Be there Saturday, August 9, at the New Belgium Brewery, 400 Linden in Fort Collins.**

Tours at 1:30 and 2 p.m., picnic until 5 p.m. Share a visit to the brew house that makes Fat Tire Ale and other favorite microbrews. The tour and samples are free! Bring "tailgate" type of food and drinks and we will picnic at the grassy park area outside the brewery after the tours. Please bring everything you need such as plates, cups, etc. The tour will provide some free beer samples, of course, but for other refreshments and drinks please BYOB.

## MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD Input sought on Alumni Association Strategic Plan

The New Mexico Tech Alumni Association Board of Directors is undertaking a strategic plan process to determine how the association can best serve alumni and the university. The end result will be a five-year strategic plan setting specific goals and objectives that will direct board activity on your behalf.

**Your input is critical!** The following survey is the first step in a process that will include targeted telephone calls and focus group meetings.

*Please take time to complete the survey below and return it to Carol Lynn Tiegs at Office for Advancement, New Mexico Tech, 801 Leroy Pl., Socorro, NM 87801 by July 31, 2008.*

### NEW MEXICO TECH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION STRATEGIC PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE

What would you like to get from your New Mexico Tech Alumni Association?

In what ways would you like to contribute/be of service to the New Mexico Tech Alumni Association?

As a Tech alum, what two or three things would you like to get from New Mexico Tech?

In what ways would you like to contribute/be of service to New Mexico Tech?

New Mexico Tech has chapters in Albuquerque, Dallas, Houston, Santa Fe/Los Alamos and Colorado. If you live in these areas:

1. Have you attended a chapter event?  Yes  No
2. What activities would you like the chapter to undertake?

What type of alumni activities would you like to see in your area?

If you also graduated from another university, what is their Alumni Association doing that you wish Tech would do for you?

What do you see as the principal purposes of an alumni association?

What else would you like to tell us?

### Other upcoming events:

- October 23 -26, 2008 - 49ers caravan to Socorro and back
- Jan 24, 2009 - Amazing Jake's Family Fun Center outing- Denver

To stay up-to-date with the Colorado Chapter, visit the web at: <http://www.nmt.edu/mainpage/alumni/colo.html>

### SANTA FE/LOS ALAMOS CHAPTER

The chapter will meet on Saturday, August 2 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the home of **Charlie Goodman (74)**, the chapter president, at 33 Teddy Bear Trail in Santa Fe. The agenda calls for food, friendship, election of officers and plans for the year ahead. RSVP to Carol Lynn Tiegs at [ctiegs@admin.nmt.edu](mailto:ctiegs@admin.nmt.edu) or 575.835.5292.

Watch the website, your email and your mailbox for more information on the following upcoming alumni events:

#### 2008

- **Tuesday, September 23** – Nevada alumni event in connection with MinExpo 2008 in Las Vegas;
- **Tuesday, September 30** – Colorado alumni event in connection with Society of Petroleum Engineers annual ACTE in Denver;
- **Wednesday, October 8** – Houston-area alumni event in connection with Geological Association of America annual conference.

#### 2009

It's been about 25 years since many of the Techies from the early 80s have seen each other. A reunion is in the works for 2009 in Albuquerque. **Vivian (Gomez) Hairston**, who attended Tech from 1980-1984, is planning a get together next July. If you are interested in attending please email her at [viuglc1@msn.com](mailto:viuglc1@msn.com) (type "Tech Reunion" on your subject line) or call her at 505. 831.4154.

## Gold Pan Editorial Staff

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## PEOPLE YOU KNOW

*This column includes news from February to early June 2008.*

### 1960s

**Barney Popkin (65)** writes, "I am currently a five-year Foreign Service Limited appointee, serving as Environmental Protection Specialist for USAID's Bureaus for Asia and the Middle East. I facilitate the USAID equivalent of the National Environmental Policy Act in these bureaus."

**Mike McCloskey (BS, geology, 66)** writes, "The article about 'Alumni Who Return as Faculty' really tickled me because I have often thought how cool that would be. In the sunset of my working years, San Joaquin Valley College, Bakersfield Campus, offered me the opportunity to head up the Business Administration and General Education Divisions. Having taught math and natural science here for quite a few years, I couldn't imagine anything more fun than teaching the teachers. I am having a great time."

### 1970s

**Jerry Reynolds (BS, biology, 73)** was recently hired as the landfill administrator in Galesburg, Illinois. Reynolds served as Lea County (New Mexico) landfill administrator from 1999 to 2007. Reynolds, a lifelong resident of Hobbs, ran his own business there for 20 years.

**Earl Eiland (BS, biology, 76, MS, computer sci., 07)** has received two awards from General Electric, where he is on an internship as part of his work on a Ph.D. in computer science at New Mexico Tech. For his doctoral research, Earl is investigating advanced techniques for detecting malicious activity on computer networks. The first award, in August 2007, was in recognition of successfully delivering a prototype intrusion detection system and presenting a paper on it at a professional conference. Eiland's second award, received in May 2008, acknowledged his completion of a key technology transfer project. Earl married Deborah Benson, a teacher from Schoharie, N.Y.

**Rick Sprague (BS, physics, 77)** writes "I am pleased to announce that I passed the PMP (Project Management Professional) certification exam on April 21, 2008. I have been working contract Information Technology Project Management assignments with Gap, Inc. in the San Francisco Bay Area since 2004."

"Prior to relocating to California, I spent three years IT consulting with Cambridge Technology Partners, four years as Director of Human Resource Information Systems at Carolina Power & Light Company, seven years big-five MIS consulting with Andersen Consulting (Accenture), and four years field engineering with Schlumberger Wireline Services." I also completed two Christopher Parkening Classical Guitar Master Class sessions at Montana State University in 1982. Check out sample tracks from my 2001 independent label CD release "Dreams of Love, The Guitar of Rick Sprague" at <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/ricksprague>."

**Antonio V. Washington (BS, MEDT, 77)** is now living in Cornwall, United Kingdom following a career in the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. He is interested in getting in touch with former classmates and locating a 1976 and 1977 edition of *Porphyry*. Contact Antonio at [Antonio\\_v\\_washington@yahoo.com](mailto:Antonio_v_washington@yahoo.com).

### 1980s

**Chris West (BS, geol. engr., 82)** is the drilling manager-completions for Chevron-Bangladesh. He was recently co-author of the article "Bioremediation project achieves drilling, environmental objectives onshore Bangladesh," published in *Drilling Contractor* in March/April 2008.

**Dr. Jeff Simmons (BS, metall. engr., 83)** writes, "I'm actually working in the area that my Tech degree is in. I'm working for the Air Force Research Labs at Wright-Patterson AFB with computational modeling of properties and with electronic imaging with microscopes. I'm living in Dayton, Ohio, looking with lean and hungry eyes at the southwest. Miss the chiles and tamales and posole."

**Sylvia Medina (BS, biology, 86; BS, envr. engr., 88)** is CEO of the company North Wind, a nationwide leader in environmental engineering and construction work.

Her company was recently the feature of a news story on KIDK, Idaho Falls, for being a female-owned company in a traditionally male field. North Wind boasts revenue of \$50 million a year, with 22 offices and over 300 employees.

**Chris Mikell (MS, hydrology, 86)** writes, "I'm a consulting groundwater hydrologist, and a co-owner of Bowen Collins & Assoc. We're a 60 person civil/environmental engineering company in Draper, Utah, specializing in water, wastewater, stormwater, groundwater, environmental and air quality. I'd love to hear from anyone in a related career."

**Dr. Vannetta R. Perry (MS, chemistry, 86)** is one of 160 educators selected from a nationwide pool as a participant in the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund (JFMF) Educator Program. The program allows distinguished primary and secondary school educators from the U.S. to travel to Japan for three weeks to promote greater intercultural understanding between the two nations. Perry will visit Japan in October, when she will meet teachers and stay in a Japanese home. Perry lives in San Antonio, N.M., and is associate superintendent of Socorro Consolidated Schools.

**Dr. Eileen Comstock (BS, biology, 88)** was named "Woman of the Year" by the Socorro Chamber of Commerce. Comstock, who works as an emergency room doctor at Socorro General Hospital, has been active in community service. She directs the Socorro Community Band and a concert band at New Mexico Tech; has directed several spring musicals at the college; and is active in Rotary projects to bring improved medical equipment and care to Guatemala. She is married to **Warren Marts (BS, computer science, 90)** who is also active in Socorro.

### 2000s

**José Salazar (BS, mat. engr., 00; MS, IT, 04)** and **Charlotte Salazar (BS, env. engr. 02; MS, hydrology, 04)** report that their son, also named José, is recovering from a cougar attack in the Sandia Mountains on May 17. The attack was the subject of extensive media attention in Albuquerque.

**Dr. Luis Velarde (MS, physics; 01)** awarded a University of California's Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowship in Mathematics, Engineering, and Physical Sciences. Only four such fellowships were awarded this year. Velarde also received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Arizona on May 17, 2008. He will use the fellowship to pursue postdoctoral research with the noted chemist Alec Wodtke, a professor at the University of California in Santa Barbara.

**Mindy Gilbert-Treybal (BS, biology, 02)** and **Louie Treybal** graduated from Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences in May of 2007. They are currently doing a residency in family medicine in Pueblo, Colo., and hope to come back to Socorro to practice medicine in the future.

**Maria (Martinez) Linford (BS, physics, 03)** and her **Tech sweetheart Justin Linford (BS, physics, 03)** were married on Sept. 7, 2007 in Albuquerque. The couple live in Albuquerque.

**Amy Lueck (BS, psychology, 04)** is engaged to Robert Kellahin of Santa Fe. Both are employed as cytogeneticists at Genzyme Genetics of Santa Fe.

**Nathan Goulding (BS, computer science, 07; BS, electrical engineering, 07)** is in a Ph.D. program in computer engineering at the University of California at San Diego. He writes, "San Diego is fantastic, but I still miss NM."

## PASSINGS

*This column covers the period from Feb. 2008 to early June 2008.*

*[Note: in cases where donations may be made to New Mexico Tech, the address is: Advancement Office, New Mexico Tech, 801 Leroy Place, Socorro, NM 87801.]*

**Johanna Abney (05)**, passed away on April 18 after a battle with lung cancer. According to her family, she was a "caring and loving sister and daughter. Johanna loved life, she loved to hike, bike, write poetry, talk on the phone, travel, take adventures across the country, cook, eat and most of all she loved her family."

**Charles Cardwell (51, Mining eng.)**, passed away in October 2003 in Sonora, Calif.

**John D. Grimsley (49, Metallurgical eng.)**, age 84, passed away in New Caney, Tex., on April 24. He worked for the Bureau of Standards in Washington, D.C., and

the Naval Ordnance Laboratory in White Oak, Md., before retiring from the Goddard Space Flight Center (NASA) in Greenbelt, MD.

**Edwin R. Haseloff (79, MST)**, age 69, passed away on Tuesday, January 15 at the Lincoln County Medical Center in Ruidoso.

**Joseph S. Horton (geol. eng., 48)**, passed away on March 1 at Marian Medical Center in Santa Maria, CA. For over 30 years he carried out extensive exploration and drilling projects in the western United States. He was a member of the Society of Mining Engineers and the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Mining Association for many years.

**David R. Jones (72)**, passed away on March 28 at the age of 61. He was at the controls of his fishing boat, the Catch and Keep. After earning a doctoral degree in chemistry in 1976 from the University of Missouri, David worked in industrial and research positions in New Jersey, Ohio, Texas and Florida.

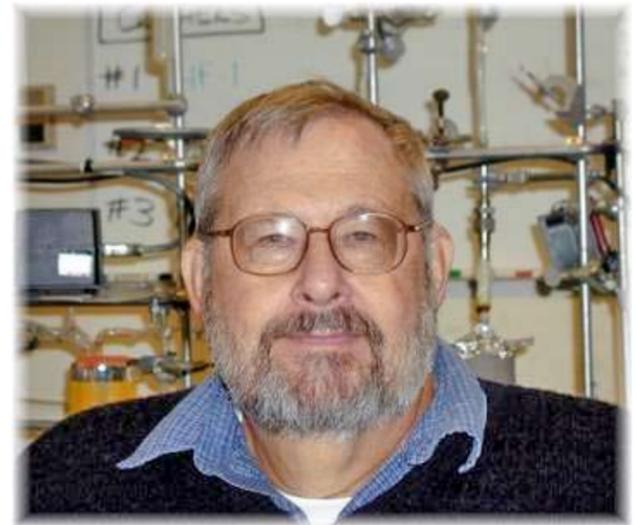
**Chester R. McKee (MS physics, 67, Ph.D. astrophysics 71)**, passed away on March 19, in Loveland, Colo., after an 11-year battle with Alzheimer's disease. His concern for the environment led him to found the company In-Situ Inc., which specializes in the design, manufacture, and worldwide sales of scientific equipment for the environmental and water-monitoring markets.

**Milly O'Connor**, a longtime member of the President's Club, passed away on March 15. Milly and her husband Gene were much-appreciated supporters of New Mexico Tech. They are survived by their daughter, **Cat (96, BS)**.

**Zane Spiegel (Ph.D. hydrology 62)**, age 81, passed away at home on February 25. Zane was a Fulbright scholar, professor, and consultant in several countries over his distinguished career. He was an outspoken and active crusader for the protection of scarce water supplies. His work was instrumental in getting the EPA to designate the Española Basin as a sole source aquifer.

**Allan G. Tomlinson (Chem. 58)**, passed away in April of 2006.

**Dr. David I. Norman 67**, passed away Monday, May 5, 2008, in Ghana, Africa. Dr. Norman, a professor of geochemistry, was leading a trip with five graduate students in the class Geology 507. He died on route to a hospital in Accra.



Dave served in the Peace Corps in Africa from 1966 to 1968, sparking a lifelong interest in the well-being of Africa and Africans. He returned to Ghana many times for field studies. He also recruited dozens of graduate students from Ghana to continue their education at New Mexico Tech in Socorro.

Dr. Norman was recognized internationally as an expert in the economics of mineral deposits, specifically gold, and fluid inclusions.

In recent years, Dr. Norman began researching the environmental impacts of gold mining, which has led to widespread arsenic contamination. He developed and implemented economic, low-tech methods of arsenic remediation. Dr. Norman had also been leading a research project to determine whether New Mexico Tech could use geothermal energy to heat the campus.

**Tom Zimmerman**, Tech's longtime chief of Campus Police, was killed on March 24, 2008, in a vehicular accident.

Zimmerman was a former Socorro County Sheriff who was named chief security guard at New Mexico Tech in

1975. He was promoted to Director of Campus Police in 1987 and retired from the post in 1999. Many Tech alumni remember Zimmerman as the friendly but firm police officer they could rely on in difficulties.

## TECH ALUMNI REACH THE HEIGHTS OF MACHU PICCHU

From sea level in Lima to the heights of Machu Picchu at an elevation of more than 13,000 feet, 15 intrepid Tech alumni and friends joined trip leader **Bill Chavez** (76, 77) and trip coordinator Carol Lynn Tiegs from May 25 to June 3 in exploring the Sacred Valley of Peru. The trip initiates the new Tech Travels alumni travel program.



“What a wonderful group experience,” said **Karla Moore** (05). “It was so much fun getting to know each person and to go with the flow or break out and go in small



groups to adventure in all the cities and towns we stayed in and the trips to and fro.”



One of many highlights was reconnecting with Tech alumni. **Bill, Carol Lynn and Navid Mojtabei (82, 85)** enjoyed lunch in Lima with **Igor Gonzales Galindo (84)**, now president of Barrick South America and living in Lima and Santiago, Chile. Sitting in a Lima cafe, Navid and Carol Lynn met the husband of **Carolyn Jonas-Morrison (94)**. Carolyn is now the Dean of Mathematics and Technologies at Pikes Peak Community College in Colorado Springs.



“I think what I enjoyed most about the trip was the spectacular landscape and the sense of people rooted deep in time stretching from antiquity to the present



moment,” said Maxine Schmidt, wife of **David Watkins** (75). “And the colors kept coming to mind: colors in what people wore, colors in homes, colors in the earth,

colors in nature and the sky.” “The most memorable for me was my first sight of Machu Picchu from the Guardhouse,” said **Karla Moore**. “It paralyzed me and brought me to tears to look out over the mountain top and be in the experience of something I had never dreamed of every seeing in person.”



“When I think of Peru I automatically picture the dark, jagged peaks of the Andes, some with snowy crowns that shelter and dominate pastoral green and gold valleys shot with sparkling waterfalls and winding rivers in the Valle Sagrada,” said **Sandra**



**Hoogerwerf**, who took the trip with **Linda Gonzales** (65). “And there we are, all different sorts who share love of travel, good spirits, respect for others, and a willingness to learn and adventure even if we do look a bit silly at times—just think of the hats—climbing in and out of buses and taxis, up and down ruins, striding, strolling, and hobbling, eating, drinking and laughing.”

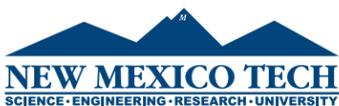
### NEXT?

What country do you think the next New Mexico Tech Alumni excursion should explore?



Research is underway for a Vino and Volcano trip to Chile, and details will be available shortly for a July 2009 Solar Eclipse tour.

Watch the Tech Travel website at [www.nmt.edu/mainpage/alumni/travel/homepage.html](http://www.nmt.edu/mainpage/alumni/travel/homepage.html).



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