

# ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS

## COLLEGE BOOKSTORE

The College provides a unique bookstore with a pleasant and relaxing atmosphere for students, faculty, staff, and community convenience. The goal of the Bookstore is to provide necessary and supplementary educational materials needed to enhance learning. Textbooks, school and office supplies, art supplies, farrier tools and sundry items are supplied by the College Bookstore. The College Bookstore also offers clothing and gift items featuring the College logo, as well as refreshments. The Bookstore is open at convenient times to benefit the campus.

## DINOSAUR MUSEUM SHOP

The Museum Shop has a wide array of educational and gift items. The goal of the Museum Shop is to provide scientific educational resources, gifts and souvenirs to visitors of the Mesalands Community College's Dinosaur Museum and Natural Sciences Laboratory. The Museum Shop selection includes scientific books, rocks and fossils, replicas, school supplies, tools, and toys. Clothing and gift items with the Museum logo are also available at the Museum Shop.

## SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is housed on the campus of Mesalands Community College and provides a source for people in the community to receive assistance in the following areas:

- Business planning, marketing and financing
- International trade - import and export
- Women and minority-owned business programs
- Veterans information programs
- Young entrepreneurs programs

SBDC was created in 1986 and became affiliated with the New Mexico SBDC in 1990. The center serves a four-county area. Its mission statement reads as follows:

The mission of the NMSBDC is to provide quality direct assistance, entrepreneurial education, and resource links for potential and existing small businesses to strengthen the economy of New Mexico.

## DINOSAUR MUSEUM

The creation of Mesalands Community College's Dinosaur Museum and Natural Sciences Laboratory is a strong, emerging facet of the College's goal of providing "quality community service programs responding to the diverse

needs of the region and commitment to educational quality." A significant result of that process has been the forging of a reciprocal partnership between the College and the community which recognizes, owns, and promotes the geographical region's rich heritage as one of the earth's premier deposits of fossilized ancient life.

To that end, a Museum advisory committee was formed in 1997 and, in concert with the College and the Mesalands Community College Foundation, launched a major capital campaign to raise money to build the museum.

In the fall of 1997, the College launched the volunteer group Fossil Friends, whereby members of the community were invited to participate in both the development of the museum and its exhibits and in collecting and cataloguing local fossils.

Mesalands Community College's Dinosaur Museum and Natural Sciences Laboratory opened in the spring of 2000. The facility houses exhibit space, classroom, laboratory, storage, restrooms, a Museum Shop, and offices for instructors. Natural Science degree programs with an emphasis in paleontology and geology are conducted here.

The community has donated considerable time, energy, and material resources for remodeling the facility, and for establishing and improving the collection of fossils and other natural history objects. Individuals have also contributed numerous privately owned fossils, as well as whole fossil collections, to the cause. In 2006, the display area and the collection facilities were significantly improved and expanded with financial assistance from the state.

The Museum provides ideal opportunities for student interns to broaden their education in research, field and lab work, and in all aspects of museum science. Volunteers of all ages, from local schools and the community, take the opportunity to gain unique experiences.

Field research is conducted in the summer within the framework of Mesalands Community College's paleontology classes, which operate in the heart of some of the nation's most important fossil beds. Over the last few years, numerous scientifically important fossils from the Mesozoic Age of the Dinosaurs have been recovered and made available for study.