**ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

For news articles and press releases, follow AP style. Avoid using abbreviations or acronyms for organizations, even on second reference, except for NMSU and those that are household names (NASA, FBI, etc.)

**ACT** American College Test. ACT is acceptable on first reference.

**a.m., p.m.** Lowercase, with periods. Avoid redundant usage: 8 a.m. this morning, 12 p.m. noon.

**NMSU** Acceptable only on second reference.

**OK** Not okay or O.K.

**SAT** Scholastic Aptitude Test. SAT is acceptable on first reference.

**U.S.** Now acceptable as a noun or adjective. Formerly it was acceptable only as an adjective and the noun “the United States” had to be spelled out. *The United States is the best country in the world*, or, *The U.S. is the best country in the world*. Adjective form: *Jeff Bingaman is a U.S. senator*. *He is studying U.S. history*.