UNM’s Wynn Goering Named Interim Executive Director

By Mara Kerkez
University of New Mexico Communications and Marketing

Sylvia Andrew, executive director of the University of New Mexico-Gallup, announced in September that she was leaving her position to return to teaching. UNM President Robert Frank appointed Wynn Goering, special assistant to the president for Branch Affairs, interim director.

“We are grateful for the effort Dr. Andrew has given to the University of New Mexico and to the community of Gallup,” President Frank said. “We’re going to do everything we can to improve the success of the UNM-Gallup campus and its students.”

Andrew held the position of executive director at UNM-Gallup from August 2009. Previously, she served as provost and vice president for Academic Affairs at Antioch University Los Angeles, and dean and professor in the College of Social Work at San Jose State University.

The UNM-Gallup directorship will be the second such post for Goering, who served as interim executive director of UNM’s Taos campus in 2000–2002. He has held a variety of administrative positions at UNM main campus, most recently as vice provost for Academic Affairs from 2007–2012.

“Dr. Goering knows more about UNM’s branches and their relationship to the main campus than anyone else at UNM,” Frank said. “We’re counting on him to ensure the continued well-being of UNM-Gallup.”

Connectivity Between Gallup and Zuni Campuses Speeds Up

The speed of digital communication between the University of New Mexico-Gallup and the South Campus at Zuni just got a whole lot faster. With the completion on Sept. 21 of a microwave relay beamed from Gibson Peak north of Gallup, to Black Rock on the east edge of Zuni, students, faculty and staff at UNM-Gallup’s Zuni campus now enjoy access to the internet at speeds 100 times faster than they ever have before.

“Everything from email to e-learning tools is suddenly at our fingertips” said Bruce Klewer, Zuni campus manager. Students can now easily gain access to distance learning classes taught from UNM-Gallup or UNM Albuquerque. IT professionals can also now maintain equipment from the Gallup campus without having to drive 74 miles round trip to Zuni.

The Zuni microwave link is the culmination of a year-long collaboration between UNM-Gallup and Zuni.

Bond C Will Provide $1 M for UNMG’s Water/Sewer Projects

Local voters will go to the polls Nov. 6 to decide, among a number of high-profile issues, the fate of General Obligation Bond C. A “yes” vote on Bond C will fund capital improvements and renovations to our higher education system statewide.

Locally, the University of New Mexico-Gallup stands to gain $1 million for much-needed water and sewer upgrades for fire and safety needs.

“State GO Bonds are especially critical for McKinley County projects,” said Wynn Goering, interim executive director of UNM-Gallup, “because we always receive a great deal more than we put in. They’re by far the best way to meet our infrastructure needs.”

UNM-Gallup is one among New Mexico’s many aging institutions of higher education with facilities that are badly in need of repair.

General Obligation Bond C is funded with no new taxes. Absentee voting begins Oct. 9, and lasts through Nov. 2. Early voting is scheduled from Oct. 20-Nov. 3. Polls are open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6.
By WYNN GOERING, Ph.D.

Voters who turn out for the general election this fall will be asked to decide on a higher education bond initiative on the statewide ballot – General Obligation Bond C.

Even though the November 2012 general election will undoubtedly be dominated by heated national races, it is important that voters take time to cast their vote on this crucial bond issue which will appear near the bottom of a long ballot. Voting yes on this statewide bond will not increase property taxes. Voting yes will help us maintain what we have already invested in – buildings and infrastructure at nearly every public college and university in New Mexico.

Too many of our public colleges and universities are trying to provide high quality education and training in buildings that are crumbling, facilities that lack adequate heating or cooling, and classrooms that are in dire need of updated equipment and other basic learning tools. Students attending classes in these facilities can find that every day is a challenge. Meanwhile, faculty and staff members struggle to do the best they can with what they have. Voting yes will help us address some of these deficiencies.

Voting yes on Bond C will also help communities throughout New Mexico by providing badly needed jobs. Economic studies estimate Bond C will create 1,300 jobs in architecture and construction to design and build projects at 29 different educational institutions in 21 different counties across New Mexico.

In addition, these capital improvements will require materials to implement and complete the projects. Those who perform the work will purchase other goods and services in the communities where they are working.

General Obligation Bond C sets aside a total of $119,400,000 for capital improvements such as modernizing and updating classrooms, constructing or renovating facilities to meet student needs and making badly needed repairs. At the University of New Mexico-Gallup, we stand to receive $1 million in important water and sewer upgrades. Furthermore, passage of the bond will not increase taxes, as a previous bond will be retired.

Education has been at the forefront of issues facing New Mexicans and all Americans for some time. A well-educated workforce is essential to attract new businesses to our state, which helps boost our economy.

The more progressive businesses we attract to New Mexico, the more opportunity our college graduates have to build a successful career and a solid future in the communities where they grew up, where they have family, friends and roots.

Campus improvements help colleges and universities remain competitive to attract higher caliber students, which contributes to enrollment growth. Educated citizens tend to make higher salaries and participate more in their communities.

General Obligation Bond C is an initiative that all New Mexicans can support. This fall when you vote, take the time to read all initiatives on the ballot and vote yes on Bond C. It’s a vote for your sons and daughters, your friends and neighbors, your community and your state. It’s also a vote for your future.

Absentee voting begins Oct. 9, and lasts through Nov. 2. Early voting is scheduled from Oct. 20-Nov. 3, and polls are open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 6. For more information about Statewide General Obligation Bond C, visit www.EducationBondC.com.

Local voters will also have the opportunity to vote on Library Bond B during this election, which if passed, will provide $28,942 in funds for Zollinger Library acquisitions.
Nearly a year after former Borders bookstore manager Rose Adakai took over the University of New Mexico-Gallup’s bookstore, the store is reporting a profit of $111,000. Adakai, who was appointed manager in September 2011, attributes the profit to improved inventory procedures and more attention to receiving and invoicing. Adakai was hired a few months after a 2011 audit of the store revealed a large loss.

“When I went through the software training, it took a lot of time to figure out how the system works, but from that training I was able to determine steps that weren’t being taken. We needed to do a better job with receiving and invoicing, making sure everyone knows how to do paperwork correctly,” she said. “Most of the loss was because of human error, and that was from lack of training for the staff. Now they know how the system works. That, combined with my background knowledge of running a bookstore, has helped turn things around.”

A representative from Nebraska Book Company, an enterprise that offers contract services for college bookstores nationwide, provided training.

This year, the store closed the last week of June – the end of the fiscal year – so the staff could perform a thorough inventory. Every item was inventoried and scanned. Adakai watches the purchasing and inventory carefully. Sales and promotions each month have helped reduce inventory, while purchases have been planned to coincide with vendor promotions.

“For instance, you buy for fall at the beginning of the year, and in fall for next spring. The National Association of College Stores and the Albuquerque campus bookstore help us out with vendors, notifying us of vendors who

### DIGITAL COMMUNICATION

**From left, College Store manager Rose Adakai, and staff Lin Comer, Jack Askin and Angie Hood.**

will give us discounts. The challenge is also finding the right merchandise for our students and other customers,” she said.

The store was renovated last year, prior to Adakai’s hiring, and more diverse merchandise was added, as was a snack bar/refreshment area. These changes, along with the improved business practices and better training, have resulted in a more contented staff who, Adakai reports, are proud that things have turned around, and reflect that in improved customer service.

“The staff likes the changes,” Adakai says. “Our customers – the students and the customers who come here to order books and audiostapes – see it. They say the store is nice, the atmosphere welcoming, and comment on how customer service-oriented the staff is. It’s great to hear it.”

UNM-Gallup, UNM-Albuquerque’s IT division (IT@UNM), and the Navajo Nation and Navajo Technical College’s “Internet to the Hogan” project. Navajo Technical College, through a grant from the National Science Foundation, and UNM-Gallup, jointly funded the $315,000 project.

“This was a very important investment for us,” said Wynn Goering, interim executive director of UNM-Gallup. “Both the Zuni connection, and the fact that it also increases our connectivity to the main campus, dramatically increase the quality and quantity of what we can do here.”

UNM-Gallup, IT@UNM and Navajo Technical College will hold a press conference on October 11 at the South Campus at Zuni to discuss the collaboration and also to showcase the newly developed broadband network infrastructure.

“As part of UNM’s commitment to student success, we are working to ensure that all students, across all our branches and locations, have access to the technology services they need in order to succeed today,” said UNM President Robert G. Frank. “We have worked relentlessly on this implementation as part of our promise to provide access to an excellent education to students at UNM-Gallup.”

#### Important Dates:

**Absentee Voting:** Oct. 9 - Nov. 2:

**Early Voting:** Oct. 20 - Nov. 3:

**Election Day Voting:** Nov. 6,

7 am - 7pm
Corine Gonzales has joined the faculty of the University of New Mexico-Gallup as Medical Laboratory Technician program director.

Gonzales, formerly a medical technologist at Gallup Indian Medical Center and Rehoboth McKinley Christian Health Care Services, was also a faculty member in the Medical Technology Department and the graduate school of the Angeles University Foundation of the Philippines. She has a Bachelor’s degree in Medical Technology and a Master’s in microbiology. Gonzales is also certified as an International Medical Technologist by the America Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP).

“My goal is to ensure that our students succeed,” Gonzales said, “and also to earn re-accreditation for the department through the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences.”

“Corine is highly qualified and has excellent teaching and lab experience,” said Teresa Wilkins, chair of the Education, Health and Human Services Division.

The UNM-Gallup Student Senate officers elected for 2012-13 are, front row, from left: Elroy Natachu Jr., vice president; LeAdrian Begaye, president; Denika Frank, senator, and Nancy Curley, secretary; back row, Samir Wahid, faculty advisor; Zeke Garcia, Student Services director; Luis Cabela, senator; Ardell Watchman, senator; Matthew Herrera, senator; not shown, Kevin Mahke, Jared Wyaco and Jaywhon Herron, senators.

**UNMG Student Senate Schedule of Events for the Fall Semester:**

Friday, Oct 12: Dance, Pueblo Country
Tuesday, Oct. 30: Miss Native Reception
Wednesday, Oct. 31: Halloween Carnival, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; dance, 6 p.m.-midnight.
Thursday, Nov. 1: Miss Native Coronation
Friday, November 9: Clubs/Open Meeting, 1-4 p.m., Student Lobo Den
Tuesday, November 20: Clubs/Open Meeting, 1-4 p.m., Student Lobo Den
Friday, December 7: Clubs/Open Meeting, 1-4 p.m., Student Lobo Den