

UNM-Gallup College Council Recap

Wednesday, June 18, 2025 | 1 p.m.

Executive Conference Room - Gurley Hall 1216A

Attendance

John Zimmerman, Dean of Instruction,
Robert Griego, Director of Business Operations
Frank Sanchez, Technical Analyst 3
Ashlee Velasquez, Workforce Development Director
Richard Reyes, Sr. Public Relations Specialist

Meeting Recap

Business Operations, Robert Griego

- The 2025-2026 budget is done and awaiting approval by the New Mexico Higher Education Department.
- UNM is moving to a unified timekeeping system in November 2025. The Gallup branch campus will move from Time Clock Plus (TCP) to UKG Pro Workforce Management at that time. Main campus will provide training.
- UNM-Gallup's phone system is expected to be updated in late 2026.
- Human Resources moved into its old suite where Small Business Development Center was located.
- The IT department will come under direct supervision of UNM-G Business Operations effective July 1. Eric Castillo remains an Albuquerque employee and will keep working with the branch campuses. No major changes expected.
- Hiring of a new custodian is underway. Two other custodians are back recently from leave. Facilities coordinator hiring is pending. Discussions ongoing about what to do with vacated facilities maintenance supervisor position.
- Construction in welding area of Gurley Hall is coming along well.
- McKinley Academy building construction has begun on southwest side of SSTC.
- Middle College building construction is almost done. It is expected to be open in August.
- Parts of Gurley Hall exterior have received new stucco.
- Calvin Hall Center will be receiving new rooftop air conditioning units soon.
- Design for Gurley Hall student experience remodeling is ongoing. Mailroom and Campus Police are expected to relocate.
- Bookstore inventory is coming up, so it will be closed for a week.

Public Relations, Richard Reyes

- PR is working with Business Operations on messaging for timekeeping system update.
- PR is still in early phases of website redesign, which will be a major focus over the summer.

- PR wants to coordinate with Student Activities on Welcome Back Week activities for students in August.
- PR is collaborating with Student Affairs on marketing for TimelyCare service for students.
- Food trucks may need to be relocated on campus due to construction impacting Gurley Hall parking lot.
- Since launching a PR request form in July 2024, the PR team has completed a total of 413 requests in one year.
- PR recently published and mailed out the Spring 2025 issue of the Luminaria newsletter. PR also designed and printed a new “mini viewbook” handout, which offers a quick introduction to UNM-Gallup to be used at outreach events.

Community Education & Workforce Development, Ashlee Velasquez

- Solar technician program officially kicked off June 2 with a full capacity of 15 students for the first cohort. The next cohort will start in September. And three cohorts are planned in 2026 in March, June and September. Velasquez is working with four communities to identify families who would receive solar panels, providing students with hands-on experience. Velasquez is also looking at a potential partnership to provide workforce for a 2,000-acre solar farm.
- Coordinator hiring was unsuccessful, so the search remains open.
- CEWD is looking to create programs for fiber optics, heavy equipment operator, and electrical lineman.
- Work with Zuni Workforce on professional development courses is going well.

Information Technology, Frank Sanchez

- Congratulations to Eric Castillo on his new baby daughter!
- New IT tech support system has run into a few challenges since launching on June 16. IT team is accepting phone calls to help people and is working on a How To Guide so people can figure out how to use the new system.
- IT is refreshing machines over the summer for Calvin Hall Center classrooms.
- IT received an estimate for replacing Calvin Hall Center equipment damaged by flood.
- Electrical surges may be impacting surge protectors and equipment. IT will be testing surge protectors and replacing old units.
- Calvin Hall Center Auditorium equipment recently had issues. A battery backup is needed.

Academic Affairs, John Zimmerman

- UNM Provost James Holloway was selected as the president of the University of Toledo, and Senior Vice Provost Barbara Rodriguez is now serving as interim provost.
- Academic Affairs is finalizing faculty hires for cosmetology, human services, nursing, film and digital media, and biology. The hiring process is ongoing for a

law enforcement director, welding, construction technology, and first-year experience faculty.

- Kick Off Week and Convocation planning is underway for August. A schedule will be shared in early August.
- Some employees have moved offices recently, and leadership is looking at standard operating procedures for office moves, such as how to handle repairs and IT equipment.
- New furniture is being delivered to rooms in Calvin Hall Center. Furniture was purchased via New Mexico GRO funds provided by state Rep. Patty Lundstrom.
- Plans for 2026 GO Bond are underway for Calvin Hall Center north side renovations.
- Gurley Hall parking will be impacted by McKinley Academy building construction and future parking lot improvements. While these types of projects may cause temporary inconveniences, they highlight the state's investment in UNM-Gallup and ultimately benefit the campus in the long term.