Greetings to you on this day after our very special commemoration of Indigenous Peoples Day, when we honor the culture and contributions of our Native American brothers and sisters. As expressed in President Joe Biden’s proclamation yesterday:

“Since time immemorial, American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians have built vibrant and diverse cultures—safeguarding land, language, spirit, knowledge, and tradition across the generations. On Indigenous Peoples’ Day, our Nation celebrates the invaluable contributions and resilience of Indigenous peoples, recognizes their inherent sovereignty, and commits to honoring the Federal Government’s trust and treaty obligations to Tribal Nations...”

I invite you to read the full presidential proclamation posted on whitehouse.gov and hope that you all had a wonderful time celebrating and observing Indigenous Peoples Day on Monday.

We Care, We Share.

At UNM-Gallup, we truly care in the shared governance of our campus, and we are committed to sharing ideas and solutions that help fulfill our mission and ensure the continued productive stewardship of our campus for future generations. In that spirit, we have two upcoming important meetings that contribute to this aim of collectively providing sound management for the benefit of UNM-Gallup.

On Tuesday, October 19th at 1 p.m., our Local Advisory Board will meet in-person to work through an important agenda, including:

1. The appointment of a new board member to serve for the remainder of a vacant term.
2. New Mexico Higher Education Department’s 2021 / FY23 capital outlay funding recommendations which include our Gurley Hall student experience project.
3. A report from Robert Griego, our business operations director.
4. A report from Jayme McMahon, our student affairs director.
5. And a report from Dr. Hansel Burley, dean of UNM’s College of Education on sustainable plans for education degree offerings at UNM-Gallup.

There are opportunities included in board’s agenda for public comment as well, though all speakers wishing to express their comments during the meeting should register with the recording secretary at lambc@unm.edu.
Another upcoming opportunity for shared governance is our first meeting and elections of the newly established UNM-Gallup Staff Council. This council is being formed to provide a forum for non-faculty staff to contribute their voice to campus issues, planning, and other operational considerations at our branch campus. This council may also collaborate with its faculty and student counterparts in giving input to campus decisions that impact the staff.

More information is forthcoming to our staff directly via email, but this first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 2nd. This is an exciting development, and I personally look forward to this effort to gain consistent feedback from our staff.

To all our faculty, staff, and students, thank you for your ongoing engagement in UNM-Gallup’s ongoing success and excellence. We are better because of your contributions, and we welcome your energy and excitement in helping to form our future.

Please stay safe and stay well.

Best Regards,

Dr. James R. Malm, Chancellor
Professor of Business