

## **STAFF COUNCIL**

## Chancellor Weekly Brief | 9.21.2021 Dr. James Malm

## **HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH.**

Greetings to you on this last day of summer and as we usher in autumn officially tomorrow. We are just nine short days away from September 30th, which is the final day for all faculty, staff, and students to upload their proof of COVID vaccination or have a valid exemption in place.

We still have hundreds of students and a handful of faculty and staff who have yet to upload their documents. Please take the time today or this week to upload your proof of vaccination. You can access links related to the UNM vaccination requirement from our homepage at gallup.unm.edu. Please remember that non-compliance with this vaccination requirement beyond the September 30th deadline may lead to your separation from our university. I do not want that to happen to anyone on our campus, so please get this done today.

If you have delayed receiving your COVID-19 vaccine, you are invited to attend our vaccination event scheduled for tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Gurley Hall commons area. Personnel from the New Mexico Department of Health will be on hand to deliver either Pfizer or Moderna vaccines to unvaccinated individuals on our campus.

Our student affairs team will also hold two more "Vax the Pack" rallies this week, where you can directly upload your documents and also receive some food and UNM swag. Tomorrow's rally will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the SSCT patio. Thursday's rally will be from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in Calvin Hall's upstairs lobby.

## **HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**

As I mentioned last week, we are so honored to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month—now through October 15th—when we recognize and honor the wonderful culture, history, and contributions of our Hispanic brothers and sisters, including the over 280 Hispanic students at UNM-Gallup.

Within the United States, we are fortunate to have a robust and growing Hispanic population that has grown to over 62 million in 2020; up from 50 million a decade ago. In fact, Hispanics accounted for over <a href="half-of-the-U.S.">half-of-the-U.S.</a> population growth over the last 10 years. And along with this population growth, the <a href="rate-of-college-graduates">rate-of-college-graduates</a> among this population also continues to rise, expanding wonderful lifelong career opportunities for these individuals.

To all our Hispanic faculty, staff, and students: Thank you for sharing your wonderful culture and heritage for the benefit of our campus community. We so appreciate the contributions you bring to our classrooms, labs, and offices and would not be the same without the wonderful spirit, intellect, and know-how you bring to UNM-Gallup.



My best wishes to you all as we continue together through this fall semester. Please stay safe and stay well.

Best Regards,

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Dr. James R. Malm, Chancellor

**Professor of Business**