



CEO Weekly Brief – 11/9/2018

Dr. James Malm

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH GRANT

I had the pleasure this week of meeting with the principal investigators and two national program officers from Dr. Kamala Sharma's National Institute of Health Summer Bridge to Baccalaureate grant. Dr. Barbara Lyons, co-principal investigator, joined us from New Mexico State University as we discussed the successes of this grant-funded initiative and heard amazing stories from alumni of the program. The three UNM-Gallup bridge program graduates who joined us were Michelle Lee of our own student affairs department, Karessa Kee and Jacey Bitsoi. They all praised the rigor and challenge of Dr. Sharma's classes and how their futures were shaped by their involvement as women in science. This innovative program has been spearheaded on our campus by Dr. Sharma since 2001 and is changing the lives of students.



CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL

Loretta Martinez was recently named as the new chief legal counsel for the University of New Mexico. Ms. Martinez, joined by Scot Sauder, deputy university counsel for health sciences and Emma Rodriguez, associate university counsel, visited our campus this week for a casual "meet and greet." During this courtesy visit we were able to discuss philosophy and were reminded of the high powered resources available to branches from the main campus. Because of our partnership with UNM, we have access to excellent

legal services with an emphasis on the policies and regulations of higher education. The [UNM Office of University Counsel](#) provides advice and legal services as appropriate and provides education regarding [UNM policies and procedures](#).



Loretta Martinez, UNM chief legal counsel

LOCAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the UNM-Gallup local advisory board is scheduled for Tuesday, November 20th at 1:00 in the executive conference room. Ralph Richards, board chair, and I met this week to confirm the meeting agenda. Agendas, minutes and board packets are available for viewing on the [web page of the local board of advisors](#).

SPRING REGISTRATION

Academic affairs and student affairs have worked hard with the CEO's office over the past few months to finalize the spring 2019 schedule which will open for student registration on Monday, November 12th. The [schedule of classes](#) can be viewed on our public website. Schedule adjustments, based on student demand, can be viewed in real time.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thanksgiving came early to UNM-Gallup and I got to scoop green beans as we served nearly 900 dinners. Thanks to Chef Neal Cunningham and his SDE

team, the meal was delicious and I had the chance to extend holiday greetings to many of our students who passed through the serving lines.



Division chair Mark Remillard, Dr. James Malm, Danny Matkovich and Emily Kezele of McKinley Academy donned hair nets and gloves and kept the serving line moving at the UNM-Gallup Thanksgiving dinner.

CAPITAL PROJECTS MEETINGS

Director of Business Operations Robert Griego and I traveled to Albuquerque Thursday for a day of capital project meetings in support of both our \$2 million physical plant building from the 2016 GO bond election and our \$11.25 million five-year capital plan. The five-year plan covers multiple funding cycles and multiple bonds and is carefully reevaluated every year. The 2018 GO bond did pass statewide, and although UNM-Gallup did not have a project on the ballot, higher education throughout the state benefits from the approval of Bond D. Click on the link below to view more information on what Bond D means to institutions of higher education in New Mexico.



ELECTION DAY - NOVEMBER 6, 2018

UNM-Gallup once again served as a polling station and we are very happy to provide a central location for many McKinley County voters. I stopped in at our gym location and appreciated the convenience of the on-campus election site. I voted - I hope you did too!



FIRST GENERATION DAY AT UNM-GALLUP

Thursday we joined the rest of the country in recognizing our [first generation college students](#). We celebrated by sharing the successes of the students, faculty and staff members of UNM-Gallup who are, or were, the first in their families to attend college. The stories shared were moving, inspirational and a testament to the strength and persistence of so many in our campus community. I found profound meaning in the message of Dr. Carolyn Kuchera, first generation college student and UNM-Gallup assistant professor of English. "I am so proud of my first generation college students. First generation students have to work harder, often without the financial advantages or support systems of our peers. As a professor, I know I'm not supposed to have favorites, but my heart is with you. I know your struggle. Never give up."



UNM-Gallup First Generation College students