



## CEO Weekly Brief – 1/12/2018

**Dr. James Malm**

Many thanks to those who attended the Campus Convocation this week. It was a great way to start the semester by presenting our plan to kick off Spring 2018 with hope, enthusiasm and excitement. My first six weeks here have been a whirlwind of activities and I am ready to dive into my first UNM-Gallup semester aware of higher education challenges, but passionate about our prospects and plans of action. For those of you who were unable to attend the Convocation, the transcribed presentations are available at the following link:

<http://www.gallup.unm.edu/pdfs/Campus-Convocation-1.8.18-Transcription.pdf>

### STUDENTS

Welcome all Lobos to the first week of classes! I'm so proud to be here at UNM-Gallup and I am fully aware of all the hard work of our students, faculty and staff. Students, I hope you always believe in the power of education to shape and improve your lives and those around you. In the words of Anne Frank "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." This week is, indeed, another new start - good luck and we're off and running!



## FACULTY

UNM-Gallup is proud to have been chosen to partner with the Gallup McKinley County School District on an initiative to increase dual and concurrent education opportunities. You may have seen recent advertisements and announcements rolling out the McKinley Academy. This program will increase our ability to welcome additional students from rural areas of the school district. Through this new program, students will be bussed to local college campuses from 9 area high schools. This supports our mission and allows us to seat even more students in existing classes while offering the advantages of dual/concurrent enrollment to district students interested in engaging in an academically challenging college environment.

## STAFF

I had the opportunity to attend one of our New Student Orientations this past Saturday and it was energizing to see SSTC Room 200 full of brand new students! Our faculty and staff presenters did a great job of orienting students to our campus, familiarizing them with processes, and introducing them to this new chapter in their lives. Many thanks to Student Affairs staff for coordinating NSO's and to all departments who were involved in recognizing that the job of welcoming and supporting our students belongs to all of us.



On Tuesday of this next week, I will be attending the UNM Board of Regents meeting to update the regents on the new UNM-Gallup Physical Plant building. This project has been in the works since 2015 and now all legal, public, architectural and financial processes are in place and we are ready to ask the Board of Regents to approve construction. I will be presenting on the need for the project, the availability of financing and the appropriateness of this new building as it relates to our Master Plan.



## COMMUNITY

At the invitation of the McKinley Citizens' Recycling Council, I attended their monthly meeting on January 6. The work of this group is amazing for our community as they advance and promote recycling in McKinley County. Recognizing the importance of their mission and the meaningfulness of their work, I would like to issue a campus-wide invitation for volunteers. In order for the Council to be successful in their work, they will require a grass roots movement headed by individuals willing to come forward to contribute their time. If you are interested in supporting recycling, you are welcome to attend the next meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at the Red Mesa Center which is located at 105 W. Hill Street in Gallup.

