



## CEO Weekly Brief – 12/15/2017

**Dr. James Malm**

Congratulations to all on another successful semester. Graduation is tomorrow morning and I encourage all of you to attend to celebrate with our students and their families. This is the culmination of months, and sometimes years, of work on the part of the students, faculty and support staff. At tomorrow's ceremony we will proudly honor 180 graduates to which the following awards will be issued: 21 high school diplomas, 69 certificates and 105 associate degrees. This is a great accomplishment and I look forward to sharing in a strong sense of pride and joining in their "I did it!" moments.



*Happy grads!*

### Student Success:

I was honored to attend the Veterans Resource Center "Coin and Rope Ceremony" this week which honored our student veterans who will graduate this semester. Each student was formally presented with a graduation rope which will be worn with their cap and gown and a UNM Challenge Coin to honor their academic achievements. The event was both celebratory and moving and gave recognition to our students who serve their country, their families and their communities. Their sacrifices are very much appreciated.



*Student Veterans at Coin and Rope Ceremony*

## Staff / Faculty Professional Development

Congratulations to Cecilia Stafford, Zollinger Library Director, who was honored this week with a UNM Professional Development Series certificate. Cecilia completed a combination of five courses within the past year as part of the professional development program sponsored by Human Resources.



*Cecilia Stafford, Center, receiving Professional Development Series Certificate*

This brings to mind the importance of continuous professional development as a means of improving performance and keeping current with updates within each of our fields. Our own UNM system offers a wide variety of classes so I encourage all to check with your supervisors to see if there are some that may be applicable to your current position.

## Faculty

Within our UNM-Gallup Faculty Assembly are two Senators who also have a seat within the UNM Faculty Senate. I had the pleasure of meeting with Senators John Burke and Antoinette Abeyta this week and we discussed

structure and strategy of both organizations and how we can collaborate for the good of our faculty and UNM-Gallup. I appreciated this opportunity of professional engagement with faculty leadership which was based in goodwill, collegiality and mutual respect and formed a strong foundation for working together successfully.

## Community

I would like to thank Gallup McKinley County School Board Superintendent, Mike Hyatt, for inviting me to attend the Board of Education meeting this week. Superintendent Hyatt put me on the agenda to introduce myself and deliver greetings from UNM-Gallup to the school board. We look forward to continued goodwill and collaboration with our educational partners to support student success at all levels.



I was also happy to represent UNM-Gallup at a meeting of the Zuni Government Council. Discussions took place regarding educational models for the A:shiwi College and Career Readiness Center. Our physical proximity to the Pueblo of Zuni as well as the overlap of many of our students gave a great opportunity to share ideas regarding best practices.



