



CEO Weekly Brief - 9/21/2018

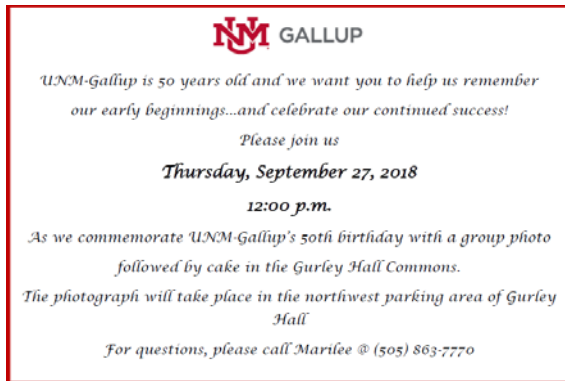
Dr. James Malm

50th Anniversary Celebration

UNM-Gallup turns 50 years old this year. In fact, this past week we commemorated the first day of the first semester at UNM-Gallup. On September 16, 1968, 128 students started classes as Lobos in borrowed space at Gallup High School. We've certainly come a long way since then in terms of numbers, campus size and degree offerings but we have never strayed from our mission of providing quality education in a way that prepares students to achieve their academic and professional goals.

Everyone is invited to join us in the Gurley Hall parking lot on **Thursday, September 27 at 12:00 noon** for an all-campus photo. Please wear your Lobo red as we honor our 50 year history with a drone flyover picture then head over to the Gurley Hall Commons for cake. Please refer to our [50th anniversary](#) website to view a narrative of our history and a formal invitation to our Thursday celebration. Also displayed on the website is a copy of the original deed, dated July 18, 1969, whereby the Gallup Lions Club donated their club house to UNM-Gallup providing us a physical space for the campus. In a recent presentation to the Lions Club board of directors, I expressed gratitude for their donation which established a physical presence for UNM-Gallup and paved the way for our development and future expansion.

UNM-Gallup will also be receiving proclamations honoring our anniversary from the City of Gallup and McKinley County. Please feel free to join us on Tuesday, September 25th at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers and on Tuesday, October 2 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Commission Chambers as we accept the proclamations from our civic leaders.



Local Advisory Board Meeting

The local advisory board meeting scheduled for this past Tuesday was cancelled due to lack of a quorum. The agenda will carry forward to the next meeting scheduled for October 16th at 1:00 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room. All meetings are open to the public. For past minutes and agendas, please refer to the [Local Advisory Board](#) web page.

Faculty Assembly Meeting

Today I will have the honor of addressing the monthly meeting of the UNM-Gallup Faculty Assembly. With the first few weeks of the semester under our belts, I want to warmly thank the faculty for the incredible work they do in preparing our students to achieve lofty goals. As we keep a close watch on campus metrics such as student credit hours and head count, I am excited to report that UNM-Gallup is showing the slightest increase in head count for the fall 2018 semester.

This is in no small way a reflection of the excellence of our instruction and our faculty's ability to warmly embrace the diversity of our student population and the emphasis we place on inclusion for all. We have diversified our student population this semester to include a broader range of students and I appreciate the efforts undertaken to make them all feel welcome as new or returning Lobos. We are happy to announce that out of 22,000+ credit hours being taken this semester, over 800 of those are new concurrently enrolled students. UNM-Gallup proudly stands with our educational partners across the board as we increase access and provide opportunities that have never before been available at this level. If you have any question as to the power of our work, I encourage everyone to take a walk through the Gurley Hall Commons and take in the excitement, the activity and the wide variety of students who call themselves students of UNM-Gallup.

Long Range Planning Committee

I was able to meet this week with the chair of the faculty long-range planning committee regarding the collaborative work being done on the UNM-Gallup strategic plan. John Zimmerman and Sr. Institutional Researcher Brittany Babycos shared the progress of the strategic planning committee including themes and objectives that have emerged from the 2nd of 8 meetings scheduled for this semester. For each theme, objectives and measurable targets will be identified and assembled as a strategic plan that is both flexible and dynamic. Please click on the table below to see the progress of the committee in building the plan. The meeting schedule through the end of the semester is:

September 28
October 5 and 26
November 9 and 30
December 7

All meetings are from 10:30 – 12:00 in the Executive Conference Room and are open to the public.

Thank you to John, Brittany and all committee members for establishing a strong process to gather and incorporate data and campus input.

Themes	Objectives	Targets
Student Achievement	Improve Overall Educational Quality	
	Enrollment Management: Increase Retention, Persistence and Completion Rates	
	College Level Readiness	
Faculty/Staff Retention and Enrichment		
Fiscal Responsibility and Shared Governance		
Cultural Vibrancy and Community Engagement		

Course Scheduling Progress

I was able to join the dean of instruction, faculty, staff and student affairs representatives as we met to continue working on the spring 2019 schedule. We will not be rolling the previous spring schedules forward, but will instead be looking for ways to optimize student access by identifying strategies that minimize wait lists for high demand courses, de-conflict chronological time

blocks and sequentially offer program requirements. Decisions will be driven by data reflecting student demand forecasts for new and returning students. I would like to take a moment to address the [urban legend](#) that course caps are being manipulated across the board as a matter of scheduling procedures without faculty input or shared governance. This is simply not true. The scheduling process is, and has been, open to all and input will be combined with objective data that lets us know how we can best serve students and allow them to seamlessly progress through their programs. This is our promise to our students and we intend to stay true to our word. I am grateful to Dr. Primožic and our faculty for taking such a strong interest in this topic and exploring a number of different scheduling options.

As was presented at the fall convocation, the [faculty's role in academic mission](#) and [faculty responsibilities](#) in fulfilling our objectives represent the strength behind all our educational programming and are critical components of student success.

State of the University Address

Earlier this week, President Garnett Stokes gave a [State of the University address](#) which was delivered on her 200th day on the job. It has been our honor to host the president on our campus three times since she has arrived in New Mexico and we look forward to supporting her initiatives and furthering the University of New Mexico as the University *for* New Mexico.

HVAC Upgrades

Physical Plant Manager Ron Petranovich and his team did a great job coordinating the recent HVAC system upgrades. Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding with temperature fluctuations as the units were intermittently powered on and off for the necessary maintenance.



Physical plant team working on maintenance of HVAC systems.