

Chancellor Weekly Brief | 3.26.2021 Dr. James Malm

MAKING STRIDES.

Today, we close out the last full week of March and look forward to the arrival of April next week, which will hopefully bring us warmer weather and continued progress toward a return to normal campus operations this year. New Mexico is truly making tremendous strides in overcoming this pandemic with over 1 million total COVID-19 vaccinations administered so far in our state, representing 40 percent of New Mexicans with at least one shot in the arm. We also received the amazing news this past week that McKinley County is now designated as turquoise (lowest risk) in the state's "Red to Green" framework.

As you know, we continue to host the GIMC vaccine clinics and NMDOH COVID testing. Both of these activities at UNM-Gallup are essential to our community members and to our overall goal of reopening our county and campus. In April, testing will continue Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in our Lions Hall parking lot. And, depending on vaccine availability, GIMC will hold vaccination clinics every Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at our Physical Education Complex. Please check our Website and social media channels regularly for updates and additional details on COVID testing and vaccine schedules at UNM-Gallup.

GO BOND C UPDATE

We are also making strides with planning around capital improvement projects on campus funded through the 2020 General Obligation (GO) Bond C, which passed overwhelmingly by New Mexico voters in November. This bond provides us with \$3 million to plan, design, furnish, and equip renovations campus-wide, including renovations to our existing Center for Career Technology and Education (CCTE) facility.

With the help from the UNM Planning, Design, and Construction office and SMPC Architects, we have entered a preliminary facility assessment and architectural planning phase. We were recently provided three scenarios that are now under consideration, including two renovation and upgrade options for our CCTE building and another option that would provide truly exciting renovations to Gurley Hall.

As we move forward with this capital improvement project, I will join with our faculty, staff, students, and community members in various forums throughout the next several months to give updates on our progress and provide an opportunity for you to give feedback during this planning process. We've also posted an article to our newsroom that gives you more detail on this project and displays current architectural renderings for the proposed scenarios under consideration.

Together, we continue the good work at UNM-Gallup, and I am incredibly grateful for all that you do for our campus and students. Please continue to social distance, wear a face mask in public, and adhere to other public health measures to keep our county turquoise!

Please stay safe and stay well.

Best Regards,

Dr. James R. Malm, Chancellor Professor of Business