

Chancellor Weekly Brief | 3.5.2021

Dr. James Malm

STAFF COUNCIL.

It is hard to believe that during this time last year, we were on the verge of the global COVID-19 pandemic that would bring our world to a standstill. On March 7, 2020, the [World Health Organization](#) had reported just 100,000 coronavirus cases worldwide—a number that would grow to over 115 million confirmed cases and over 2.5 million deaths reported by the organization as of today. We keep everyone who has been impacted by COVID-19 in our prayers.

Fortunately, we are seeing an emergence of good news related to this pandemic. Vaccinations are becoming increasingly available to our friends, family members, and neighbors. Here at UNM-Gallup, we are keeping our faculty, staff, and students as safe as possible while making plans for a return to normal campus operations in this year. Even with this good news, we must remain diligent in our efforts to mitigate this virus. Please continue to wear a face mask in public, social distance, and wash your hands. These are simple things that we can do to ensure our return to normal.

UNM-GALLUP STAFF COUNCIL

I'd like to also report on our efforts at UNM-Gallup to establish a staff council for our campus. Our personnel are so vital to our mission, and we'd like to have a formal council in place that gives you a voice in many of the shared governance decisions that impact our university and mission. The UNM-Gallup Staff Council would also work toward creating professional development, staff recognition, and networking opportunities for our personnel.

The first step in developing a staff council is exploring its vision and mission. I'd like to ask you to consider participating in this initial planning group that will eventually lead to the formation of a council constitution, bylaws, and elections. This planning group will also coordinate with staff councils at other branch campuses—and with the UNM Staff Council—to ensure all of our efforts are aligned. If you'd like to participate in this group, please email Lee Lamb, our senior public relations specialist, at lambc@unm.edu. The first meeting will be held during the last week of this month.

GIMC COVID-19 VACCINE EVENTS

We will play host again next week to GIMC community vaccination events on Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. These are both second dose clinics held for our community members who receive their healthcare from IHS. UNM-Gallup is so pleased to offer up space on our campus for these critical events that will surely contribute to the wellbeing of our community.

The good work continues. We will return to normal. Please stay safe and stay well.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'J. Malm'.

Dr. James R. Malm, Chancellor



Office of the Chancellor

Professor of Business