

Chancellor Weekly Brief – 4/19/2020 Dr. James Malm

CELEBRATE OUR COMMUNITY.

It was just over a month ago that we distributed the first of many daily advisories related to the emerging COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic, which truly shook all of us as we transitioned to remote instruction. Even if I said it a thousand times, it wouldn't be enough: Thank you to our entire UNM-Gallup community for all of the hard work and flexibility you've demonstrated during these strange and difficult times. We successfully moved all but one course to remote instruction for the spring semester—which is a monumental task, and you are to be commended for your work.

It shouldn't be lost during this current crisis that April is National Community College Month. We celebrate and honor the contributions you make in bringing higher education close to home for thousands of students every year. Additionally, we are so proud to be a local top-notch university for those who are inspired to join the frontlines of healthcare as we witness the heroics of all the essential frontline workers during this pandemic. As our spring and fall registration efforts continue, we will highlight all of our program and course offerings, the great education our students receive, and the value UNM-Gallup brings to our communities.

Where We Are.

Just to give us all a sense of where are we are in the timeline of this very uncertain pandemic, I see us in the second phase of a potential four-phase timeline. In the past month or so, we pivoted to remote instruction, moving 424 out of 425 courses online—and we are progressing toward a successful completion of the spring semester in what is now a second phase.

In this phase, we are continuing our mission while receiving new information and implementing additional guidelines. We are collaborating, planning, and problem solving. And, we are working together daily to see that issues such as Wi-Fi access, online ordering for our bookstore, and other operational issues are being addressed—while ensuring that our students receive the same quality education remotely that they receive on campus.

Yesterday, we received the first glimpses from the federal government of what a plan for reopening and coming together might look like. We know that we will need to move into a third phase and plan for the eventual reopening of our campus. We will continue to follow the guidance of all local, regional, and national officials to make the safe and prudent decisions required during this pandemic.

There will be an eventual and joyful fourth phase, where UNM-Gallup is entirely reopened, and we are united on campus once again. We all hope and look forward to that day in the near future. We are fortunate to belong to the UNM community comprised of great minds all working toward a shared goal to channel our know-how and move us safely through this crisis.



I invite you to join me at the end of each weekday at 4 p.m. on Zoom for the Chancellor's Open Office Hour. It's an opportunity for us to share questions, concerns, and resources—as well as check in with each other during this period of separation. The Zoom Meeting Link is: https://unm.zoom.us/j/209786397.

Again, I congratulate you on your good work. I celebrate you and am so thankful for our community.

Please be well and have a wonderful weekend.

Best Regards,

Malm

Dr. James R. Malm Professor of Business Chancellor

Helpful UNM-Gallup Links:

<u>UNM-Gallup Coronavirus Updates</u>

UNM Main Campus Coronavirus Updates

Adobe License for Faculty & Students

Faculty Resources

Student Resources | Advising

Student Survey

Community Resources