

Chancellor Weekly Brief | 6.22.2021

Dr. James Malm

SUMMER STUDIES.

I'd like to begin this week's brief with gratitude for all of you who are doing your part to help our community overcome this pandemic and lead us toward a return to normal. I'm pleased to also let you know that UNM-Gallup has joined with other colleges and universities throughout the United States in taking part in the [White House COVID-19 Vaccine Challenge](#).

This will encourage all of us to continue doing three things that we've already been doing so well in this fight against COVID-19 and to encourage vaccinations within our community: 1) Engage every student, faculty, and staff member; 2) Organize our UNM-Gallup campus; and 3) Deliver vaccine access for all. Our partnership since late-January with Indian Health Services and GIMC has played an integral role in our success in these three areas and has allowed UNM-Gallup to help McKinley County reach a fully vaccinated rate of 59.2 percent—a number that continues to increase.

I'm also filled with gratitude for our 483 students and 30 faculty members who are engaged in coursework during this summer semester. In courses ranging from public speaking and macroeconomics to welding, pathophysiology, and sociology of deviance, there is good work being done in our 48 summer courses that continue through July 31st. We wish you well as you study throughout the summer, and we admire your commitment to your educational pursuit during this final fully remote COVID-safe semesters.

In fact, as we continue to plan for UNM-Gallup's fall reopening on August 2nd, we received the [good news](#) this past weekend that New Mexico's "Opening Day" is set for next Thursday, July 1st, when all COVID-19 health restrictions on commercial and day-to-day activity will be lifted. With our continued diligence, willingness to get vaccinated as our conscience allows, and commitment to safety, I'm convinced that our best days are ahead of us.

Finally, a little housekeeping. Our Physical Education Complex is in the process of planning its reopening and is looking for student employees who are enrolled in the summer and fall semesters. It truly will take all of us to fully reopen, and I encourage you to reach out to Michaela Henry, our sports facility and events coordinator, at mchenry25@unm.edu if you're interested in applying for these open positions.

Thank you for your good work and dedication to UNM-Gallup.

Please stay safe and stay well.

Best Regards,

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

Dr. James R. Malm, Chancellor
Professor of Business