

## Chancellor Weekly Brief | 7.13.2021

### Dr. James Malm

#### 2040 UPDATE.

Yesterday and today, UNM-Gallup welcomed its first on-campus and in-person meeting in over a year with dozens of state legislators and staff who comprise the New Mexico Legislative Water and Natural Resources interim committee. My gratitude goes out to our personnel who extended their hospitality to these state dignitaries and helped make their visit comfortable and productive.

While it was great to see our parking lot almost full over these past two days, we continue to manage our return to full campus operations this fall. We had an [important update](#) from the UNM president's office yesterday that provided some clarity on the university's COVID-19 vaccination policy, which includes our campus. In summary, UNM will not mandate vaccinations for faculty, staff, and students, but we are all strongly encouraged to receive a vaccine prior to start of the fall semester. Fortunately for those of us who reside in McKinley County, almost all residents have received at least their first dose of the vaccine. You are to be commended for your strong commitment to keeping our community not only safe but open.

#### OPPORTUNITY DEFINED

I'd like to also give you an update on the important six-phase strategic planning process titled "[2040: Opportunity Defined](#)" that is moving along expeditiously even during these summer months. This plan, as stated by UNM president Garnett Stokes, will provide UNM and our campus "with both a vision of its future 20 years from now and a set of more immediate tasks designed to move UNM toward that vision."

I know that many of us within the UNM-Gallup campus community have attended past listening conversations and other important meetings related to this planning process, and our campus will continue its full-throttle involvement in the process as it will directly provide us with our own strategic plan to lead us into the next few decades of this 21st century.

We will see further progress on the 2040 strategic plan this fall as the process moves into its third phase of building strategic directives and pathways, including a more defined vision and purpose along with strategic goals for the university. All of us will become even more involved in phase 4 of the plan in November and December, where broad community review and input will be solicited by the university's 25-member steering committee. The process will then undergo the development of a financial and business plan and will culminate in its final phase where the Vision 2040 Plan will be released in February 2022.

I want to emphasize that UNM-Gallup's strategic plan will be the UNM 2040 plan. We are fortunate to have branch campus representation on the steering committee along with many opportunities to lend our voice to the plan as it's developed through the fall and finalized early next year. Our alignment with this system-wide strategic plan will ensure that our work over the coming years is relevant, productive, and of value to the future of UNM and for the benefit of higher education within the state of New Mexico.



Office of the Chancellor

I truly hope that you are enjoying your summer and spending some time with your friends and family before we join each other on campus during the upcoming fall semester. And if you haven't registered for classes, I'd encourage you to do so at your earliest convenience.

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