

CEO Weekly Brief - 2/5/2018

Dr. James Malm

It is great to be back on campus after over a week of legislative happenings in Santa Fe as well as meetings on our main campus in Albuquerque. It was my privilege to attend the Gallup/McKinley County Day activities last week and meet so many local dignitaries. Thanks go to our Local Advisory Board for their attendance and participation. I appreciate their dedication to UNM-Gallup as they met with Governor Susanna Martinez, Secretary of Higher Education Barbara Damron and Senator George Munoz to discuss the needs of our students. You can follow the progress of this legislative session through the UNM Office of Government and Community Relations at the following link.

https://govrel.unm.edu/

You can access the 2018 bill tracker or sign up to receive regular updates.



CAMPUS/COMMUNITY

While I was able to work together with our Local Advisory Board members to prepare for meetings with the Governor, HED Secretary and legislators, it was the board members themselves who took the stage to voice our needs. The UNM-Gallup priority for this year is a \$5 million General Obligation Bond request for a new Center for Career and Technologies Education Building which will support expanding industrial and technology educational programs with a focus on responsiveness to workforce development training.

Please see the link below for the full listing of legislative priorities for McKinley County including educational, health care and economic requests.

http://www.gallup.unm.edu/pdf/GallupDaybrochure2018.pdf

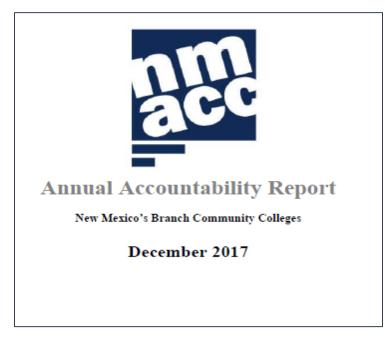


New Mexico State Legislature

I was honored by a request from U.S. Representative Steve Pearce for an oncampus visit yesterday (of course we tried to schedule the meeting around the Super Bowl!). This was a great opportunity to share the work we are doing with the congressman and maintain open communications with our national legislators.

While in Santa Fe, our Local Advisory Board joined me in meeting with the Executive Director of the New Mexico Association of Community Colleges which is our statewide advocacy group. We are one of ten branch campuses who belong to NMACC. Membership includes the branches of UNM (4), NMSU (4) and ENMU (2). The topic of conversation was the Annual Accountability Report which details the progress of member colleges during the 2016-2017 academic year. The goal of NMACC is to provide high quality certificate an degree programs as well as community-relevant job-training services. The link to the entire report is below:

http://www.gallup.unm.edu/pdf/NMACCAnnualReportFinal.pdf



FACULTY/STAFF

Diversity, inclusion and equity as institutional priorities have always been important passions of mine throughout my career as an educator and an administrator. A competitive society or organization requires the greatest amount of participation from all of its members. Talent and merit comes in all shapes, sizes, colors, races, religions, creeds, orientations and statuses. All must be welcomed and honored to provide the greatest pool of human resources needed to achieve long-term excellence.

The newly introduced and approved UNM recommendations regarding equity and inclusion mirror my personal philosophy and acknowledge the importance of recognizing the abilities of a broad and diverse population in helping UNM achieve its mission and goals. We want to attract and honor the talents of all students, faculty and staff members and let them know we want them to work and study with us. Please take the time to read the entire report at:

http://www.gallup.unm.edu/pdf/DEITaskForceReport.pdf



The UNM Board of Regents announced at their January meeting that their February meeting would be held on the UNM-Gallup campus. This is a great honor for us and something that has not happened in recent memory. While they are still very interested in visiting our campus, the February 13, 2018 meeting will have to be held on main campus in Albuquerque to accommodate the calendars of several regents. We are looking at rescheduling the Gallup meeting later this spring and will forward information when it becomes available. Please refer to the link below for the listing of Board of Regents meetings:

http://regents.unm.edu/meetings/index.html



FACULTY

Please remember that elections will take place at the February meeting of the UNM-Gallup Faculty Assembly for a seat on the UNM Faculty Senate. This is for the position currently held by Senator Antoinette Abeyta whose term will expire at the end of this semester. President Robert Galin and I were able to negotiate an extension on filling this role so as to allow for a full democratic process in making the selection.

STUDENTS

While I was in Santa Fe, I was able to watch as Secretary of Higher Education Barbara Damron addressed the 2018 New Mexico All-state Academic Team. These high-achieving community college students are associated with the academic honor society Phi Theta Kappa. The mission of PTK is to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students. Upon research, I found that UNM-Gallup does have a Phi Theta Kappa chapter, but it has been inactive for the past few years. I know we have very gifted and talented students on our campus who could benefit from such an honor society so I am looking for both interested students and staff/faculty sponsorship to reactivate our PTK chapter. Next year, I'm hoping to see some of our great UNM-Gallup students being recognized during "Community College Day!" A link to Phi Theta Kappa is below:

https://www.ptk.org/default.aspx

