



*WEDNESDAY COMMUNIQUÉ*

**November 13, 2013**

**Our Budget:** The budget of public universities has two major components: state appropriations and tuition. There are three other components that contribute to our revenue pool: services (such as parking, the SUB, hospital services, etc.), research grants and contracts, and private giving and donations. The first two components constitute our Instructional & General (I&G) pool, and these are used for salaries for most faculty and staff on main campus. In recent years, and for the foreseeable future, all sources of funding are under stress, given the challenges to the state economy, tuition increases, federal grants, and private giving. In the next few weeks and months, you will hear discussions about the state funding formula and how much UNM will receive in appropriations. There will also be discussions about our internal budgeting process in various open meetings. For a general overview of our budget, see [this chart](#) illustrating the flow from revenue to expenses for the 2012 budget. There is, however, a small ray of hope in the [endowments arena](#), especially if UNM can continue to build its endowment through the initiative of faculty and unit leaders at all levels within the University.

**Returning Focus to Undergraduate Education:** At the recent Association of American Universities (AAU) [meeting](#), the chair of AAU Hunter R. Rawlings III said that, for the first time in his career, senior faculty members were spending time and effort on teaching. The president of the University of Florida, Bernard Machen, “described how his institution had met its financial challenges by embracing change and sharpening its strategic vision. The university has sought private support for research and has resisted increasing its undergraduate enrollment to pay bills. ‘We made a conscious decision that we were not going to try to grow our way out of fiscal difficulties,’ he said. Florida has also added ‘economic development’ as a fourth core mission to the traditional pillars of teaching, research, and service.” Focusing on teaching, however, especially at the undergraduate level, is the consistent message from the meeting. Mr. Rawlings “offered up the most provocative remarks about higher education, saying that universities had essentially abrogated their responsibility to students over the last 30 or 40 years by allowing them to choose whatever classes they wanted as long as they had 120 credits that included some courses in their majors. ‘The fact is that students don’t know best,’ Mr. Rawlings said. ‘That’s why they change their major four and a half times during their four, five, or six years at our institutions because they don’t know. We have to help them, and I think you do that by having a well-thought-out, coherent curriculum.’ At UNM, we are doing that by strengthening our advising, trying to streamline our curriculum (see [degrees.unm.edu](#)) as well as supporting and encouraging [effective teaching](#).”

**Where Millennials Can Make it:** Albuquerque made the cut as a “town luring back its townies” according [to this report](#). In fact, “Albuquerque has been retaining some of its natives, too, especially those who initially flocked to super-pricey California and realized that their quieter, cheaper hometown was the ideal place to ride out the recession.”

**Solar Decathlon Competition house lights up at Mesa del Sol:** In Oct. 2013 a joint team of students from UNM and Arizona State University (ASU) (team ASUNM) presented results of their two years' work at the DOE Solar Decathlon 2013 Competition. Students had to design, plan, and build a solar-power house, which is not only comfortable and affordable but also very energy efficient and equipped with all the recent (and even futuristic) house automation features. Team ASUNM took 3rd place in the Energy Balance contest, 5th place in Architecture, and 6th place in engineering contests. Now that the competition is over, the house is re-assembled at Mesa del Sol. Students and Electrical Engineering Faculty adviser, Professor Olga Lavrova, are looking forward to showcasing the house to all UNM students, Faculty and staff, as well as all New Mexicans, during a number of open houses and demonstrations. Visit the [ASUNM Solar Decathlon website](#) for upcoming updates and schedules of open houses.

**United Way Campaign:** The UNM United Way campaign is currently underway and continues through Dec. 13. This year UNM has set two goals, a numerical goal of \$1 million, and a broader goal of increasing participation on

campus. All donations, regardless of the amount, translate to real programs and services for people in our community. If you are interested in making a donation now, please fill out a [pledge form](#). Donors to United Way are eligible to win prizes, including Popejoy tickets, items from the UNM Bookstore, athletic events, and more. Every Friday, beginning Nov. 15 through Dec. 6, volunteers — known as the United Way undercover prize patrol — will comb main and north campuses for pin-wearing individuals, so be sure the pins are visible. Remember to turn in your [pledge forms](#) for a chance to win. Thank you for choosing to support United Way, and for continuing the change in our community.

**International Week:** The Global Education Office is hosting “International Education Week,” which includes a variety of events in which students, faculty, and staff can learn more about international opportunities and interact with our current international community on campus. Headlining the events is the First Annual International Cook-Off on Monday, Nov. 18 at 5 p.m. in SUB Ballrooms B and C. The Cook-Off is an “iron chef” style competition and an opportunity to learn more about education abroad opportunities. For more information, visit the [Global Education Office website](#).

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