



WEDNESDAY COMMUNIQUÉ

January 16, 2013

If I were given one hour to save the planet, I would spend 59 minutes defining the problem and one minute resolving it.

—Albert Einstein

Welcome Back! I hope that you have all had a restful break and a happy New Year. The Spring 2013 semester promises to be busy for all of us as we continue our march toward adopting the UNM 2020 plan. Please stay engaged as we reaffirm and modernize our collaborative government.

The 2013 State Budget: On January 9, the Legislative Finance Committee submitted their FY14 budget recommendation (<http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/lfc/lfcdocs/budget/2014RecommendVoll.pdf>). The following day, the executive branch submitted theirs (<http://governor.state.nm.us/fy13budget.aspx>). Next, the full legislature will take the two recommendations and will attempt to build the final budget. In both recommendations our UNM budget reflects the shift, which started in the last budget cycle, toward more outcomes funding—course completion and graduation rates, at-risk students, and STEMH degrees. The president's office, our government affairs office, the OVPR, and the academic affairs office are keeping a close eye on the progress of the legislative and appropriation process. We will keep the university community informed throughout the session that started on January 15, and ends on March 16, 2013.

Grand Opening of the MaLL: A grand opening celebration is scheduled for the University of New Mexico's newest learning innovation—the Math Learning Lab, or “MaLL.” The ribbon-cutting event is set for Friday, January 25, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Centennial Science and Engineering Library (CSEL). The MaLL is located on Lower Level 1. The event is open to the public and refreshments will be served.

Knocking at the College Door: “The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) has been producing high school graduate forecasts for over 30 years, for use by a wide and diverse audience of policymakers, enrollment managers, college counselors, schools and school districts, researchers, and the media. This 8th edition of Knocking at the College Door presents projections through the class of 2028 by state and race/ethnicity.” The report's projections “indicate that the era of annually increasing graduating classes through about 2011 is ending, while graduating classes are rapidly becoming more diverse.” The full report, along with maps and supporting data, is available at <http://www.wiche.edu/knocking-8th>.

Specific New Mexico Projections: According to the WICHE report projections: “New Mexico's graduating class will continue to hover around 19,000 through 2013-14, as it has with some variability since about 1999-2000. Graduating classes will then increase by about 1% on average annually through 2024-25, when they will reach a new high of 22,300 before dipping back in the last several projected years. Nonpublic high school graduates were about 7% of the total in 2008-09, almost 1,400 in number. By 2027-28, the number of nonpublic graduates will have decreased slightly to 930, about 5% of the total in that year.” Moreover, the report projects that “the proportion of public high school graduates that are Hispanic will increase from 49% of the total to 56% by 2019-20, and continue to account for 56% to 58% of the total through the end of the projections. American Indian/Alaska Natives are about 10% of the total in any given year; Asian/Pacific Islanders and Black non-Hispanics constitute 2% to 3% each in any given year.” As we continue our UNM 2020 plan, the moderate growth in the high school graduate population, and its composition, must be taken into account for planning and funding purposes.

The 2013 Women of Influence: While UNM was on holiday break, Albuquerque Business First announced the 2013 women of influence. “These women are leaders in the state's industries, professions and organizations—women who excel in the areas of business and community.” Three of our own were selected as leaders in education: Barbara Bergman, interim dean of the University of New Mexico School of Law; Marilyn M. Dykman, director of

the University of New Mexico Veterans Resource Center; and Dr. Viola E. Florez, professor and PNM Education Endowed Chair at the University of New Mexico College of Education. We are very proud of their continuing service and achievements.

Dean Search, Honors and University Colleges: The search is under way for the new position of Dean of the Honors and University Colleges. Building on the strong foundation of the Honors Program, UNM created the Honors College this past year to increase UNM's investment in Honors education. The Honors College will strengthen first-year programs for University College, including interdisciplinary and integrative undergraduate degree programs. Senior Vice Provost Michael Dougher appointed Dean Mark Peceny in November to chair a committee of eleven diverse members of the UNM community to search for the next Dean. The position is now posted on UNMJobs (#0818565) and nominations are being taken electronically. To view the posting and nomination form, please refer to the following link: <https://unmjobs.unm.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=70648>.

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