

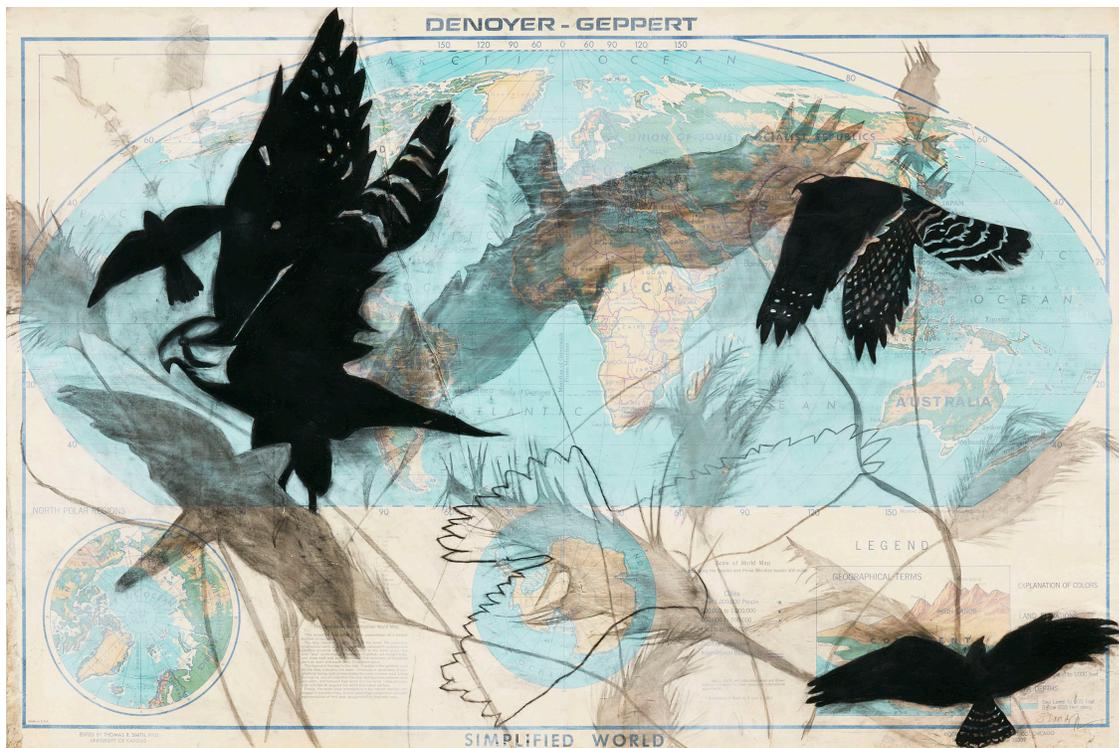
Academic Dispatch

August 8, 2019

After a brief hiatus, I'm pleased to relaunch this regular communication from the Office of Academic Affairs to the UNM community. The new title, "Academic Dispatch" is meant both to capture the key purpose of a university—to create and share knowledge and the cultural artifacts that make us uniquely human—and to convey a sense of speed and action. UNM is truly the University For New Mexico, and a core piece of our mission is to act, and to do so with dispatch. As we each pursue our work, individually and in teams, I hope this regular dispatch will prove useful to each of us in the UNM family.

James Paul Holloway

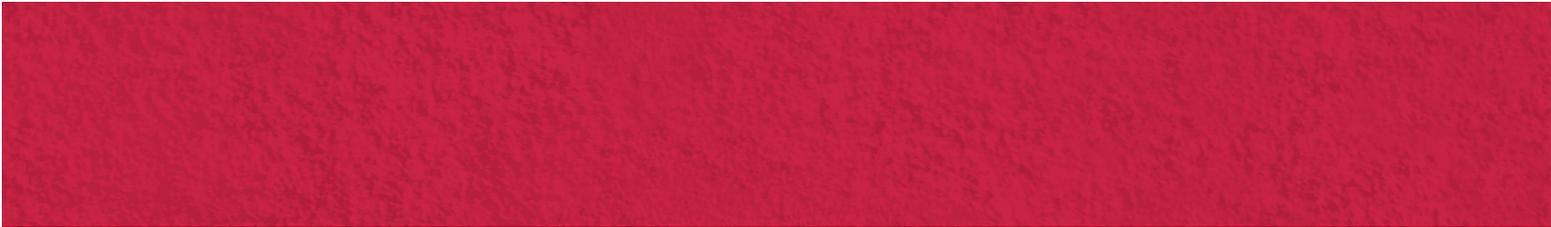
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs



Suzi Davidoff (El Paso, Texas) **Simplified World / Aplomada Falcon and Grasses**, 2017, charcoal, gesso, map, 50 x 68 x 3 inches; Exhibition: Species in Peril Along the Rio Grande.

Engaged Learning and Scholarship

The students who will walk into our classrooms in a few weeks value active engagement with people, art, music, environments both natural and virtual, and with ideas. Our classrooms are more than rooms



where students learn basic elements of an academic field. They are sites where the world—strangely, powerfully—becomes less simple, even as students acquire the strategies for thinking and building that they need to interpret and navigate it.

This fall 516 ARTS in Albuquerque will host a special exhibit: [Species in Peril Along the Rio Grande](#). Co-curated by Subhankar Banerjee, UNM Professor of Art and Ecology, the exhibition is at the heart of a series of regional public programs developed by 516 ARTS to respond to global biological crisis. I hope you will visit this exhibit to challenge yourself, and to challenge the exhibit in return.

Through our partnership with 516 ARTS, the UNM community can engage with the exhibition as a **Fall 2019 Lobo Experience**. I hope you will consider how you might create assignments and experiences for your students related to Species in Peril Along the Rio Grande. For example, UNM faculty Amaris Ketcham and Megan Jacobs, in the Honors College, are developing a student creative jam of short films on sustainability, tied to the exhibition, using the new Adobe Creative Cloud. I hope that involvement with the exhibition will spark conversations at UNM about art, life, cultures, science, place and environment, both in and outside of class.

Please contact Viola Arduini (viola@516arts.org) and Michael Russo (mrusso@unm.edu) with a brief expression of interest. For more information about [Species in Peril Along the Rio Grande](#), including a full program guide of related events, visit 516arts.org. I also encourage you to watch this [video](#) about the exhibit.

The Office of Academic Affairs

A PDF version of this Academic Dispatch is available on the [Academic Affairs website](#). Your feedback and input are welcome at provost@unm.edu.