November 18, 2021

Dean of Law

I’m excited to announce the appointment of Professor Camille Carey as the new Dean of the UNM School of Law. Professor Carey has served as Vice Dean and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the School of Law since 2018. She started at UNM Law in 2009 as an assistant professor, eventually becoming the Karelitz Chair of Evidence and Procedure. Prior to UNM, she was a Clinical Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School, where she established an important new clinic on domestic violence law. During her career she has taught many areas of law that are critically important to our New Mexico communities, including community lawyering, law practice, and community and economic development clinics, as well as torts, immigrants’ rights, and civil procedure, and domestic violence law. Prior to Yale, Professor Carey also practiced law as a staff attorney for the Legal Aid Society of New York. She has published broadly on domestic violence law, and is an excellent scholar. Professor Carey will assume her duties as Dean on July 1, 2022.

I look forward to working with Camille to continue to grow UNM Law’s impact through legal scholarship, outstanding teaching, and service to the legal community of our state. As dean, I know Professor Carey will also be a strong supporter of a unified and integrated university, working with other university
leaders to connect the talents of the law school with the strength of our other academic units to develop new programs that support our state and our world.

I wish to thank Dean Sergio Pareja for his service to the School of Law, to the University of New Mexico, and to the legal community of our state. Dean Pareja will continue in his role until Professor Carey starts in her new role next summer.

COVID-19
As you all know, COVID-19 continues to be a serious concern in our state. The number of persons testing positive has been rising sharply in recent days. Fortunately, those who are vaccinated still remain less likely to become infected, and less likely to be hospitalized or to have a bad health outcome. The unvaccinated remain most at risk. But protecting the health of our friends and families, our neighbors, our brothers, sisters, parents, and elders, requires all of us to have the fullest possible protection that vaccination affords. As more and more of us have stronger resistance to SARS-CoV-2, we deprive the virus of its ability to easily duplicate and spread. All New Mexican adults, aged 18 and over, are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine booster 6 months after completing their initial vaccination series. I received my booster a few weeks ago, and I hope you will sign up for yours soon. You can register for either your initial vaccination, or your booster, at VaccineNM.org.

As a reminder, all UNM students, staff, and faculty who test positive for COVID-19 must self-report their positive test. For employees outside of the clinical enterprise, and for students, this report can be done online at hr.unm.edu/self-report. For employees in the HSC system, please report to the UNM Hospitals Employee Occupational Health Services. This reporting is important to allow us to understand the status of COVID on our campuses.

Search for the next Vice President for Student Affairs
We have launched the search for the next Vice President for Student Affairs. The search advisory committee will be chaired by UNM Senior Vice Provost Barbara Rodriguez. If you would like to suggest individuals who might be interested in this important role, please do so at https://www.imsearch.com/8290

Economic Summit
UNM is an economic engine within the state – our university directly contributes over $3.2 billion dollars in economic activity to the state from our operations, enables over 40,000 jobs, and brings $1.6 billion in funding into our state. Our out-of-state students alone bring over $60 million into the state. Perhaps more importantly, we attract talent to the state, with faculty and students from across the nation and the world coming to New Mexico to participate in the environment of discovery and creation that is UNM. Our graduates become the advanced workforce that is critical to the companies and businesses of the state, whose jobs support our families and communities. Our ideas become the foundation of new products and services that are brought into the world through the efforts of these existing companies
and through the start-ups we help create. In the last 5 years, UNM has launched 50 start-ups, contributing to the economic foundation of the state, and we have entered into over 260 licensing agreements for UNM-developed ideas.

Growing the economy of the state is critical to the health and happiness of our communities, and UNM can and should do more to make this happen. Last Tuesday we hosted “The University of New Mexico Business and Economic Summit,” focused on the economic development plan for New Mexico that was recently released by the Economic Development Department. Secretary Alicia Keyes and Deputy Secretary Jon Clark presented the plan and heard feedback from 150 participants from around the state. A key theme in the state plan is collaboration – bringing together the many groups and organizations that are trying to support existing and new businesses in New Mexico. UNM has committed to hosting these economic development summits at least annually, as one forum to create the kind of collaboration and connections that will be needed to move the state forward.

I extend my thanks to Lisa Kuuttila and Cara Michaliszyn and their team at Rainforest Innovation for pulling us together to organize this meeting. UNM is committed to continuing to support the economy of our state, creating the advanced workforce our state needs, assisting businesses to develop and grow, launching new ventures that provide value to our communities, and creating the knowledge and cultural productions that are the essential foundation of human growth. Stay tuned!

James Paul Holloway  
Professor of Nuclear Engineering  
Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

A PDF version of this Academic Dispatch is available on the Academic Affairs website. Your feedback and input are welcome at academicdispatch@unm.edu.