



WEDNESDAY COMMUNIQUÉ

April 27, 2016

UNM Tuition-Sharing Budget Model: After more than three years of examination and discussions, the University of New Mexico is transitioning to a new internal budget model in the 2016-17 academic year. For the upcoming year, the model allocates all tuition to the generating colleges according to student credit hours generated (65% of the total tuition) and to the number of majors in each college (35% of the total tuition). The model then subtracts the cost of benefits for each college, then adds funds from state allocation to make sure each college receives (for the upcoming year) what it would have received under our traditional incremental budgeting model. In future years, increases or decreases in enrollment will lead to increases or decreases in tuition revenues, while the state funds will be allocated according to a compact between the colleges and Academic Affairs that will reflect the shared goals of each college and of UNM. A similar process will be used to allocate funds to service units, whereby the compact will be based on service goals and quality metrics. The details of the model have been discussed with the deans of main campus, and all data and specifications will be published for all to learn about and examine.

On Public Research Universities: As I mentioned in an earlier Communiqué, the [Lincoln Project](#) of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences presents a fairly complete picture of the status and current challenges of public higher education with a particular focus on public research universities. The master plan of public higher education for California remains, despite recent upheaval, the [model to follow](#). It is also widely acknowledged, that in spite of the recent focus on the teaching mission and student success of our public universities, their research mission has been widely successful and remains critical to the [prosperity and advancement](#) of the nation and the world. To quote: “To account for its success, many point to America’s entrepreneurial culture, its tolerance for failure and its unique ecosystem of venture funding. Those factors do play important roles, but the most important thing driving America’s success has been its unparalleled scientific leadership. While private companies employ some excellent scientists, most of America’s scientific research is publicly funded. Take a look at any significant innovation, [such as an iPhone](#) or [Google](#), and you’ll find that most, if not all, technology came from some government-funded program.

This is no accident, but the result of the national strategy that Vannevar Bush outlined in his 1945 report to President Truman, “[Science, The Endless Frontier](#)” that led to government agencies such as The National Science Foundation (NSF), The National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).” The tension between the various missions of research universities, along with competing claims for public funding, present profound challenges to the traditional financial model of all public research universities. Despite those tensions and challenges, the research mission must continue to be nurtured as short-term goals and external pressures attempt to limit the value of a university education by considering only its immediate economic reward to individuals.

How (NOT) to Write: One of my favorite go-to sites is [www.improbable.com](#), which bills itself as the home for “research that makes people laugh then think.” To quote Isaac Asimov, “The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds new discoveries, is not ‘Eureka!’ but ‘That’s funny.’” As we near the end of the semester, with so many papers and projects due, I hope that some of our students will find the humor (but not follow the advice!) in [this paper](#).

LGBTQ Resource Center Director Honored: Alma Rosa Silva-Bañuelos, director of UNM’s Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) Resource Center, was the recipient of the Albuquerque Pride “Stonewall Achievement Award” for 2016. The honor coincides with the center’s 40th Anniversary celebration. Congratulations to Alma Rosa!

Fulbright Events: I encourage you to attend the upcoming events (beginning tomorrow) for the “70th Fulbright Program,” running from April 28-29. Lucy Gent Foma, author of “Funded!” will speak about finding and applying for international funding; visiting author Kimberly Burge will speak about her experiences establishing a writing

workshop for young women in rural South Africa; and former U.S. Senator Fred Harris will join Kimberly Burge in recognizing Fulbright students and scholars. Refreshments will be provided. For more information on the dates and times of the events, see the [posting](#) on the UNM Events Calendar.

Out of the Darkness Walk: This Saturday, consider joining other UNM community members in a walk on Johnson Field at 8 a.m. The walk is a fundraiser for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. [Registration](#) is free and open to all members of the campus community.

Startalk: New Mexico High School students and beginning UNM freshmen can sign up to learn Arabic this summer (for free!) in the Startalk program, which runs from June 8 through July 13. Prospective students can apply, and find more information, on the website of the [Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures](#). Applications must be submitted by May 6.

Chaouki Abdallah

Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

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