June 3, 2019

I hope you have enjoyed the quieter days of early summer on campus, the interlude before summer session starts – which is today! Welcome back to those who are teaching, studying, or otherwise returning to campus after taking time off. And please go out of your way to welcome the students back on campus or here for New Student Orientation.

I will be on annual leave starting June 10, returning later in June. Dr. Barbara Rodriguez will serve as the Acting Provost in my absence and will have decision authority on any matters that cannot wait my return. Dr. James Holloway will take up the role of Provost as of July 1.

In consultation with incoming Provost James Holloway and with President Stokes, and after survey consultation with faculty and staff, I am pleased to re-appoint Richard Clement as Dean of University Libraries. The appointment is effective July 1, 2019 for three years; the somewhat shorter appointment reflects the transition currently underway in the leadership of Academic Affairs.

I’ll have a final Communiqué in the last week of June.

Outstanding Staff Awards Reception

The annual Outstanding Staff Awards ceremony was held two weeks ago to recognize the service and dedication of a number of UNM staff, and it was a pleasure to be there to meet the awardees and watch them receive their well-deserved recognition. The award winners for this year were: Daniel T. Begay, American Indian Student Services; Jenna Crabb, Career Services; Erika Elwell, Speech & Hearing Sciences; Dayra Fallad-Mendoza, Center for Academic Program Support; Brian Ferguson, Athletics Academic...
Advising; Daniel Noriega-Lucero, College of Population Health; Michelle L. Lee, UNM Gallup; Randall Starling, Center for Alcohol, Substance Abuse & Addiction; and the entire UNM CARE Team. Their contributions (and all of yours) are critical to achieving our shared academic, research, and service mission. Thank you to all of our outstanding staff!

**UNM and Adobe Creative Cloud**

I had the great pleasure of finalizing UNM’s new digital literacy initiative spearheaded by Office of the Chief Information Officer, including CIO Duane Arruti, Elisha Allen, Alesia Torres, and others. See previous Communiqués for details on this exciting effort with transformative potential for students, staff, and faculty.

**UNM Professor receives national prize**

UNM Professor Emeritus Enrique Lamadrid was recently awarded the “Enrique Anderson Imbert” national prize from the Academia Norteamericana de la Lengua Española. The award recognizes contributions of those who, through their studies and works, have contributed to the “cultivation and growth of Hispanic language, letters, and cultures in the United States.” Professor Lamadrid is a distinguished professor of Spanish and devoted decades of his academic career to conducting research and teaching students at his alma mater, UNM, focusing much of his scholarly work on the Spanish language and Hispanic cultures. You can find more in the announcement on the ANLE website: [https://www.anle.us](https://www.anle.us), or in a [recent article](https://www.anle.us) in the ABQ Journal.

**Scholars Strategy Network**

The Scholars Strategy Network (SSN) is an association of researchers from around the U.S. who apply their scholarship to solving social problems through advocacy and outreach to policy makers and the public. Scholars in the New Mexico chapter have expertise in a wide variety of issues, including immigration, labor law, sexual and gender minority rights, health policy, and environmental justice. Doctoral-level researchers interested in joining SSN submit a two-page brief on a topic of their choice and are then able to access workshops and training, funding for community events and projects, and support reaching out to policy makers and the media. In addition to new members, they are currently looking for a graduate student fellow for the 2019-2020
academic year. You can find more information at www.scholars.org, or by attending their next chapter meeting on Tuesday, June 4, at 4 p.m. at Farina. Questions can be directed to Elise Trott Jaramillo at etrott@pire.org.

Border Doors Exhibit at UNM

UNM’s Chicana and Chicano Studies Department, Department of History, El Centro de la Raza, and Latin American & Iberian Institute (LAII) are hosting a returning exhibit, “Border Doors: Niños en jaulas (Kids in Cages),” on UNM’s campus during the month of June. The exhibit, which was created by students at Sandia Preparatory School in Albuquerque, is intended to raise awareness about U.S. government policy and human rights violations against migrants. You can read more about the exhibit on the LAII website.

Richard L. Wood

Interim Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Professor of Sociology

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