WEDNESDAY COMMUNIQUE

August 24, 2011

Welcome: To our new and returning faculty, staff and students, I welcome you to what I believe will be a prosperous academic year at the University of New Mexico – a year that I expect to use to chart the course for our academic future. For those of you who are new to campus and have not read previous weekly communiqués, please visit http://provost.unm.edu/communique/index.html and learn more about our outlook and goals for the future.

Community Learning and Public Service (CLPS): In my ongoing effort to highlight UNM units that make a difference, I want to share information about the Office for Community Learning and Public Service http://www.unm.edu/~clps/. CLPS is a program that nurtures student leaders to connect their academic aspirations and address societal needs. It aligns 150 university students to 30 community-based projects where students apprentice with community leaders and provide direct service in community-schools, community gardens, affordable health clinics, as well as programs that address food insecurity issues. In partnership with the Institute for Community Health, CLPS has recently been selected to be the host site for New Mexico in the first cohort of the National FoodCorps program which is designed to build community capacity and leadership to address sustainable solutions to food insecurity and community health.

Enterprise Metrics Reporting (EMR) Tool: I am pleased to announce the launch of the Enterprise Metrics Reporting (EMR) tool that will be released to Deans and Vice Presidents on September 1, 2011 and to the larger University community soon thereafter. The EMR system will allow individuals to access school/college and department-level trend data about a variety of student and financial metrics. This rollout marks the next step in our efforts to facilitate timely delivery of key data in a simple-to-use dashboard. Department Chairs and Directors will be given access to the EMR tool by the end of October in preparation for a full campus deployment when we return from Winter break in 2012. This effort is the result of collaboration between the Provost's Office, Information Technologies, Financial Services, Institutional Research, and numerous academic units who have participated in the College and Academic Reporting Group (CARG). You can find additional information on this initiative at http://it.unm.edu/emr.

Promotion & Tenure (P&T) Faculty Committee: As promised in an earlier communiqué, I want to further explain the process of engaging faculty in a new main campus Promotion & Tenure Committee. This is NOT an extra step in the process but rather and according to the faculty handbook, an advisory committee that replaces the review of the deputy provost that occurred in previous years, "*4.4.5 Faculty Advisory Committees: Academic Officers with responsibilities for the review of faculty members are encouraged to appoint experienced faculty advisory committees. If advisory committees are used, they shall have access to the complete dossier of the faculty member. Advisory committees shall communicate with the candidate or chairs only through the academic officer whom they advise and shall not discuss the consideration outside committee meetings.*" I am choosing to name this faculty committee as an extension of the Provost's Office that will represent the breadth of academic activities across the main campus. Initially, membership will be made up of former Deputy Provost Richard Holder, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Michael Dougher, and Associate Provost for Academic Personnel Jane Slaughter, who will work with me in the coming months to name additional members. This process has

been vetted with the Faculty Senate Operations Committee and the University Secretary to make sure it conforms to the spirit of the Faculty Handbook. The Operations Committee felt that the proposed procedure is a positive step in favor of faculty governance, and it will help to distribute the knowledge and expertise that has been so far concentrated in the Office of the Provost. If you have any questions about this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Research & Teaching: I want to share with you a recent article in the Chronicle of Higher Education that references research by a University of Virginia Professor that shows graduate students who teach gain positive impacts to their own research. It can be found at: http://chronicle.com/article/Want-to-Be-a-Good-Researcher-/128753/?sid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en. Additionally, I suggest the research article, "*Graduate Students' Teaching Experiences Improve Their Methodological Research Skills*" by DF Feldon, et al, Science, 2011, Vol. 333, Issue: 6045, page 1037. It can be found in University Libraries collections at http://unm.worldcat.org/title/graduate-students-teaching-experiences-improve-their-methodological-research-skills/oclc/747348747&referer=brief_results.

A PDF version of this communiqué is available at: http://provost.unm.edu/communique/index.html

Sincerely,

Chaouki Abdallah
Interim Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs