



# The Academic Affairs Weekly Brief

**February 16, 2018**

The results are now in for the Legislature's actions on the state-funded portion of the UNM budget. Their final budget affects UNM in a number of ways. Watch the president's Communiqués for details, but the broad picture looks like this: UNM employees will receive a 2% compensation increase, and the university will receive significant new money from the state appropriation. Students on the Lottery Scholarship will no longer receive a set percentage of tuition, but rather a specific dollar amount. New bond funding is on the horizon for the Chemistry building and a new ROTC building on main campus, plus new construction at the Gallup campus and smaller amounts at the other branch campuses. We now await decisions by Governor Martinez, who has line-item-veto authority (i.e. can veto particular budget lines). The final state appropriation figures will inform the UNM Budget Summit on March 22. The Board of Regents will then set final funding flows for the 2018-19 academic year.


More broadly, the "re-engineering" effort at UNM is now moving forward, coordinated by former senior vice provost and vice provost for research Mike Dougher (Professor Emeritus of Psychology). Task Force chairs and members will be announced soon, and the re-engineering effort will continue after the arrival of President Garnett Stokes on March 1. Please plan to welcome her to the UNM community (event planned for Thursday, March 1, 10-11 a.m. in the Student Union Building). More details to come.

I continue to draw on the Division of Equity and Inclusion Task Force report to discuss "excellence-and-equity" as a way to think about UNM's future as a research university in New Mexico and best route to national prominence (report still available [here](#); feedback invited [here](#)). That ongoing effort is occurring via conversations in a wide variety of leadership forums around campus: Deans Council, the Faculty Senate, the Board of Regents, Academic Affairs leadership team, etc. If your college or department would like to discuss this, please reach out. Individual feedback is welcome at link above.

- Richard Wood, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs (returning March 1 to full time role as interim Senior Vice Provost)

## **Beyond Combat: A Reason for Hope**

UNM student groups do many good things around campus. Here's [one coming up](#): the Muslim Student Association and Hillel House bring together two public speakers—former combatants on opposing sides



of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The speakers will be presenting in Ballroom B in the SUB on Monday, Feb. 19 from 6-8:30 p.m. For more information on the event, please see [here](#).

### **Community Perspectives on the Politics of the Zimmerman Mural**

The Ortiz Center, working with the Zimmerman Mural Task Force, is organizing a [public discussion](#) on the history of community protest of the Zimmerman Mural. The panel features UNM alumni who were part of previous protest actions focused on the mural, as well as current representatives from MEChA and the Kiva Club. The panel will be held Monday, Feb. 19, 5-7 p.m. in Hibben Center 105. The event is open to the public.

### **Global Refugee Crisis**

An upcoming book launch celebrates the collaboration between students and faculty in the creation of [Outside the Margins: The Blue Book on the Global Refugee Crisis](#). As described in the [news.unm.edu article](#), the book was produced by UNM students in the Anderson School of Management over a two-year period. The students are members of International Business Students Global (IBSG), which was established seven years ago with the guidance and support of faculty advisor Manuel Montoya, Associate Professor of International Management and Global Structures at ASM. The book launch will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 22 in Ballroom B of the SUB.

### **Lobo Reading Experience Welcomes Juan Melendez**

Please join the Lobo Reading Experience to hear the incredible story of a man who spent over 17 years on Florida's death row for a crime he did not commit. The [event](#) will be held Tuesday, Feb. 27 11-1 p.m. in the SUB. More information is available on the [event flyer](#).

### **From the faculty and staff team in the Office of the Provost/Academic Affairs**

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