

The Wednesday Communiqué

October 4, 2018

Much to report from Academic Affairs/Office of the Provost this week, and more to come:

Today at the SUB, all day:

Star undergraduate students from UNM and around the country invite you to join their research talks, poster sessions, and graduate school fair—stop by and see what fine work our students are doing, and maybe recruit them to your graduate program! Details at mcnair.unm.edu. Thanks to all the UNM faculty mentors for this program.

Appointment of the Interim Senior Vice Provost

I am enormously pleased to [announce the appointment](#) of Dr. Barbara Rodriguez to serve as Senior Vice Provost in an interim capacity this year. Dr. Rodriguez was born and raised in New Mexico and has served the University, our students, and the academic mission with deep distinction. She will bring great talent, keen insight, and unwavering dedication to this role.



Murals in Zimmerman Library

After much consultation over the last year by a dedicated task force, drawing on scholarship and a broad range of views, President Stokes and I are recommending an immediate way forward regarding the controversial Kenneth Adams Murals in the west end of Zimmerman Library. The murals are part of the historic character of Zimmerman Library and any change to the murals will have to be considered carefully by the Regents Historic Preservation Committee and ultimately decided by the Board of Regents. Moreover, we have to consider the costs and environmental hazards involved in any proposed remedy. Therefore we will be recommending to the Regents Historic Preservation Committee some steps to address this matter. It will take some time to discuss this proposal and ultimately seek appropriate approvals for this slight modification to Zimmerman Library, but we are committed to starting this process.

Toward a New UNM Seal

We are simultaneously constituting a new task force to carry forward the work of addressing our historic legacies. Dr. Robin Minthorn and Dr. Lawrence Roybal have agreed to co-chair a task force that will be charged with proposing a new UNM Seal to replace the old seal that has been officially suspended.

Spring 2019 Mediation Training for Faculty

The Spring 2019 Mediation Training for UNM Faculty and Faculty Administrators is now [open for enrollment](#). All faculty, chairpersons, associate/assistant chairpersons, deans, associate/assistant deans and central administrators are invited to enroll in the 4-day (all-day) training to learn the process and skills of mediation for lessening and resolving workplace conflicts.

The training will be held Friday, Feb. 1; Saturday, Feb. 2; Friday, Feb. 15; and Saturday, Feb. 16, from 8:30-4:30 pm each day. The training requires your full participation: 36 hours (32 in-class hours plus 4 hours allotted time to review demonstrations). Refreshments are provided in the morning and afternoon. This is a faculty benefit—there is no cost for this professional training.

Sandia Mountains

Autumn is one of the great times of year in New Mexico; if you can, enjoy this fabulous weather and landscape.



Interim Provost Wood in the Sandia Mountains recently with staff, faculty, and graduate students from UNM's Cradle to Career Partnership Institute and local partner Mission: Graduate!

Photo credit: ABQ photographer Sylvia Giomi

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.