

The Wednesday Communiqué

November 14, 2018

Come one, come all: **This morning** from 9:00-11:00 a.m. in SUB Ballroom C is the launch event for UNM's [Grand Challenges](#) initiative. Want to be part of conceiving and implementing research-based solutions to some of the biggest challenges facing New Mexico? Want to re-invigorate your passion for research by working in a cross-campus team of colleagues focused on those challenges? Grand Challenges offer the chance to do so.

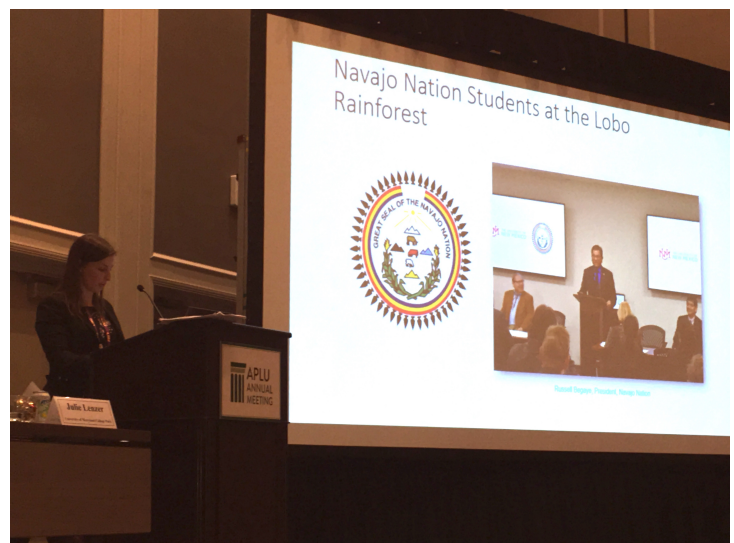
Lots of good work going on around campus to finish UNM's work toward reaffirmation of accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission, address current enrollment challenges, build on our student success achievements, and revise this year's budget while protecting our academic mission. Also: I've just returned from the annual meeting of the Association of Public & Land-Grant Universities (APLU), with some new ideas for solidifying UNM's research partnerships with the national laboratories, doubling down on student success, and better using data to support students' long-term thriving after graduation.

Lightning Lounge

UNM's "Lightning Lounge" series is back! Great event [last month](#), and [today's](#) is even better as it moves to the **Draft & Table** pub on the main floor of the SUB: 4-5 p.m. this afternoon, with fun seven minute talks by Irene Vasquez (Chicano/a Studies), Beth Davila (English), Jenn Rudgers (Biology), and Mahmoud Taha (Civil Engineering).

UNM wins economic development award from APLU

At the APLU national meetings noted above, UNM was designated an [Innovation & Economic Prosperity University](#)—one of only 60 in the nation. Even better: UNM also received the top prize for economic development work focused on "Place" via work in public service, outreach, and community engagement. UNM's submission for this designation and award came out of



Cara Michaliszyn, Director of Economic Development at STC.UNM, presenting UNM's work at the 2018 APLU

[STC.UNM](#) and its [Office of Economic Development](#).

Tribal Summit with Leadership of UNM

President Stokes, Chancellor Roth, and I participated in a rich dialogue with the leadership of New Mexico's tribal nations and pueblos last week. We want to continue building ties of respect and partnership with all of the state's communities, part of UNM's work to heal past shortcomings, celebrate new collaborations, and continue forward with President Stokes' commitment to being "the University *for* New Mexico."

Life in New Mexico

I have been out of town, so no photos to share of the gorgeous snow on the Sandias! But here's one of Dr. Yolanda Teran Maigua and Dr. Gregory Cajete of the UNM Department of Native American Studies, formally giving to Academic Affairs copies of her new books on native language acquisition in South America.



Quick Notes

- The Provost's Committee for Staff will be providing four Staff Scholarships for the Spring 2019 semester in the amount of \$350.00 each. Submit applications online at pcs.unm.edu from 11/19-12/21.
- The Office of the Secretary is accepting nominations for honorary degree recipients. Please send nominations to the Office of the Secretary, Scholes Hall 103, MSC05 3340, or email secretary@unm.edu no later than Monday, Dec. 17. The Honorary Degree policy and list of past recipients are [available online](#).

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