



# The Wednesday Communiqué

## January 23, 2019

Major things are shaping our future at UNM:

- The HLC accreditation visit will occur in early March, and you can [provide input](#) on our key accreditation document. Students also received an email invitation yesterday to provide feedback on their experiences directly to HLC (check your inbox).
- The new Governor may soon be announcing her nominations for the UNM Board of Regents. The New Mexico Legislature is in full swing. Higher education in the state absorbed over 40% of the budget cuts in state government since 2010, and UNM urgently needs new funding to thrive. Compensation increases for staff and faculty are at the top of our agenda; please [encourage your legislators](#) to support higher education.
- The [searches](#) for Provost/EVP, SVP for Finance & Administration, and VP for Equity & Inclusion are fully launched.
- Task forces on enrollment and retention, the UNM budgeting model, and redesigning the university will soon come forward with input to leadership and the shared governance process.

You can have a voice in all those efforts. Together, we will build the university we, our students, and New Mexico need.

## UNM Grand Challenges

Great news! We received 14 strong proposals for Grand Challenges. These proposals represent more than 60 UNM departments and administrative units, and more than 160 UNM faculty and staff members. The proposals will next go through an intensive review process involving both outside experts and internal advisors, leading to a recommendation to President Garnett S. Stokes, who will select UNM's three Grand Challenges. We anticipate the announcement will be made early during the week of February 4. So stay tuned!

## ADVANCE and Academic Affairs:

The Office of the Provost continues its partnership with the NSF-funded [ADVANCE@UNM project](#) that promotes the success of women and minority faculty in the broad STEM fields. We together sponsor the Women in STEM Awards (administered by ADVANCE and the Faculty Research Development Office in OVPR); here's the [new call for applications](#). And on Thursday, Feb. 7 and Friday, Feb 8, ADVANCE brings Nancy Wayne to lead research-based workshops on the “competence/confidence conundrum” and on negotiation skills. Both workshops run from 11:30-1:30 p.m.; [register here](#).

## Visions of the Hispanic World

Albuquerque Museum has generously extended a special invitation to the University of New Mexico community to visit the exhibition “Visions of the Hispanic World: Treasures from the Hispanic Society Museum & Library,” which includes over 200 of the most exceptional works spanning over 3,000 years from the collections of the Hispanic Society of America in New York City. The exhibition closes on March 31, so do not miss out on this incredible opportunity to see works from El Greco to Goya and many more. With your official LoboCard ID as UNM faculty, staff, and students, the general admission charge will be waived; you’ll pay only the special \$5 entrance fee to this world-renowned exhibit.

## The Jim & Mary Lois Hulsman Award: Applications Due

The [Jim & Mary Lois Hulsman Undergraduate Library Research Award](#) recognizes excellence in undergraduate research that incorporates the use of University Libraries resources and demonstrates significant information literacy skills. Research projects completed by undergraduates for a credit course or independent study project during 2018 are eligible. Student award winners receive a cash prize and recognition of their outstanding efforts. Please encourage students to apply by Monday, Feb. 11.

## Life in NM

Now is a fabulous time to get to one of New Mexico’s wonders: The [Bosque del Apache](#) two hours south of Albuquerque provides refuge to a vast array of birds and other wildlife (and it *is* accessible during the federal shutdown; you will want to time it to reliably be there at sunset and/or sunrise). I wasn’t able to go, but friends visited last weekend and sent photos:

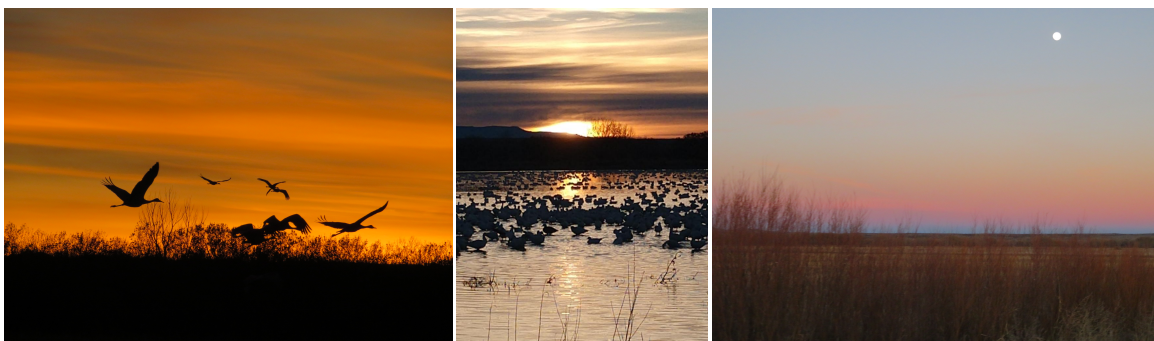


Photo credits: Julie Walleisa and Dana Bell

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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](mailto:provost@unm.edu).