



The Weekly Communiqué

July 3, 2019

Dear UNM Community:

The University of New Mexico is an institution of higher learning with a long and storied past, and an exciting and vital future. We educate thousands of students, developing within them the habits of mind and tools of intellect that will be the foundations of their personal success and their social contribution. Through our quest for discovery and creative practice we develop new ideas, methods, processes, and knowledge that will change the way humanity thinks and the way we live. The service that our community of scholars provides to the state supports the well-being of all New Mexicans. With new leadership at the University, new faculty joining us this fall, and new students anticipating their own transformative experience within the Lobo community, this is an exciting moment to be here. I am honored to be joining you as a new colleague, and look forward to serving the university and our mission, and to seeing the amazing fruits of your work.

The Office of the Provost is undergoing a transition and we look forward to developing new ideas for supporting and enhancing the full academic mission of the university. Within this period of change, stability is also important. It therefore gives me great pleasure to announce the appointment of Professor Barbara Rodriguez as Senior Vice Provost within the office. She has served in this role in an interim capacity since last October. As I met my new colleagues in the office, I received much positive feedback on this remarkable colleague. Faculty comments and reviews of her work were very strong, and input from the deans and other key administrators extolled her many skills and talents. I'm thrilled to have Barbara on the team, along with Associate Provost Pamela Cheek and the rest of our talented and dedicated staff. We will also soon be launching a search for a new associate provost for faculty development.

Finally, I must thank outgoing Interim Provost Rich Wood for his exemplary dedication to the institution. Beginning in 2012, he has served academic affairs in several roles, as a special advisor, as Senior Vice Provost, and for the past year as Interim Provost, guiding the academic enterprise of UNM. His support and assistance to me over the last few months have been invaluable as I have transitioned to my new role. With such amazing faculty among us, we can only succeed in our mission as the flagship institution of New Mexico, and as a growing powerhouse of discovery, education, application, and service.

Dr. James Paul Holloway

Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Professor of Nuclear Engineering

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