



University Communication and Marketing.

March 30, 2022

Spring is here. Daylight is lengthening. New Mexico is blossoming. As the many and varied beauties of our state present themselves under the blue sky of our land, UNM is also bursting forth with academic activity. Let me take a few moments of your day to let you know about some of these!

New Mexico is a Quantum State

Tomorrow and Friday you can join in the inaugural [Quantum New Mexico \(QNM\) Symposium](#) being held here at UNM. This symposium will exist in two states simultaneously, both in-person and virtual. Both an exploration of research and an opportunity to position our state to be a key player in the developing industry of quantum information, the symposium will involve quantum powerhouses and leaders across the state, including the University of New Mexico, Sandia National Labs, Los Alamos National Lab, Air Force Research Lab, New Mexico State University, and many more. The event will mark the launch of the QNM Coalition, a statewide effort between multiple research institutions to establish New Mexico as a national hub for the rapidly growing field of Quantum Information Science and Technology. The event will also launch QNM-I, a joint research and education institute led by UNM and SNL, which will create opportunities for workforce and economic development in New Mexico's emerging Quantum Economy. For more information on how to participate, see [here](#).

Celebrating Undergraduate Research

Students at a Research-1 university have opportunities not all college students will have. The annual [Undergraduate Research Opportunity Conference](#) (UROC) is a showcase of UNM student research. On April 7, come see 112 research projects presented via Poster, Oral and 3-minute speech formats. This is a

free public event to highlight UNM undergraduate students. Please see more information at the [UROC website](#).

SEP Call for Applications

Learning happens in the mind, but is created by experiences. We [invite faculty](#) to join the Student Experience Project (SEP) this upcoming academic year. UNM joined the research-based and grant-funded Student Experience Project in 2019 to work with faculty in bringing tested techniques to students' classroom experiences that enhance their sense of belonging, social connectedness, and growth mindset. These proven practices improve academic outcomes, especially for our least well-served students (e.g. low-income, first generation, and students of color). Students with these enriched classroom experiences are significantly more likely (~26%) to earn As or Bs, and significantly less likely (22%) to receive Ds, Fs, or withdrawals. At UNM, students in classes with SEP interventions reported a high sense of belonging (80%), as opposed to 58% for our undergraduates overall. Please consider [becoming a SEP fellow](#) next year for a one-semester, stipended opportunity to learn how to use SEP tools in the classroom and to improve your students' academic and university experience.

Canvas Implementation

We're delighted that students and faculty will be using Canvas as the new UNM Learning Management System for courses beginning in Summer 2022, replacing UNMLearn/Blackboard. Instructors and students can get more information about Canvas by visiting the [UNM Canvas Info website](#). Faculty will want to familiarize themselves with the platform ([Training Opportunities](#)) and migrate their courses (see [Course Migration Options](#)) to Canvas. Reference access to Blackboard will be available until summer 2023.

Provost Committee for Staff: Spring Staff Award Nominations

You can help us recognize staff deserving of recognition this spring. Each year, the Provost Committee for Staff recognizes excellent staff at UNM with the Outstanding Staff Award and Outstanding Workgroup Award. Staff, faculty, and students may nominate any permanent, non-faculty staff member for the awards. Collaborative nominations for a single person or workgroup are highly encouraged. More information about eligibility for awards and nomination forms can be found at [pcs.unm.edu](#). Nomination Deadline: April 22, 2022.

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