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1 University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

**TO:** Distribution

**FROM:** Craig White, Interim Provost and EVP for Academic Affairs

**DATE:** September 25, 2017

**SUBJECT: Appointment of Taskforce on UNM's Equity & Inclusion Efforts**

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Following on my memo of August 28 and in consultation with Interim President Abdallah, I am hereby appointing a task force to make recommendations regarding the goals and associated administrative structure guiding the University's equity and inclusion efforts. The charge of the Equity & Inclusion Task Force will be to recommend answers to the following two questions:

- i) As the flagship research university in New Mexico, what should be UNM's key *strategic goals* regarding equity and inclusion?
- ii) What administrative *structure* will best support UNM meeting those goals?

This assessment is timely and necessary given the recent departure from UNM of the Vice President for Equity and Inclusion for the main campus; the urgent character of UNM's mission regarding equity and inclusion; its strategic relationship to our efforts to deepen academic excellence at UNM; and our commitment to help foster a campus climate of respect and free exchange of ideas.

We received several dozen nominations from a wide variety of sources across the University, far more qualified nominees than could be appointed and keep the task force to a workable size. We have carefully considered all nominees, based on the criteria published in the earlier memo: "Excellence of performance in current work, demonstrated commitment to equity and inclusion at UNM, support for the linkage of equity and academic excellence in the contemporary university world, and capacity to discern best answers to the two questions that constitute the charge of the Task Force (above)." Based on these criteria plus a decision, in light of the large number of qualified nominees, to appoint no more than one person from any unit, I am requesting that the following individuals serve on the Task Force on Equity & Inclusion:

<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Department</u>
Barbara Rodriguez	Professor and Chair	Speech and Hearing Sciences
Christine Zuni Cruz	Professor	School of Law
Jane Ellen Smith	Professor and Chair	Psychology
Claudia Valdes	Associate Professor	CFA Diversity Committee, Art/Art History
Francie Cordova	Director	Office of Equal Opportunity

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<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Department</u>
(continued)		
Brandi Stone	Program Specialist	African American Services
Irene Vasquez	Professor & Chair	Chicana/o Studies
Nasha Torrez	Dean of Students	Student Affairs
Pamela Agoyo	Director	American Indian Student Services
Sonia Gipson Rankin	Associate Dean/Curriculum & Senior Lecturer	University College Africana Studies
Kathy Powers	Professor	Political Science
Yemane Asmerom	Professor	Earth and Planetary Sciences
Brenda Pereda	Assistant Dean for Diversity	UNM School of Medicine
Jessica Hidalgo Holland	Director	Women's Resource Center
Meriah Heredia Griego	Director/Research Asst Prof	CEPR
Rosa Isela Cervantes	Director & Special Advisor to the President on Latino Affairs	El Centro de la Raza
Charles Becknell	Director	Africana Studies
Geraldine Forbes	Dean	Architecture & Planning
Julia So	Assistant Professor	UNM-Valencia
Leila Flores-Duenas	Associate Professor	Teacher Ed, Ed Lead & Policy
Adriana Ramirez de Arellano	Lecture III & Coordinator	Women Studies
Glenabah Martinez	Associate Professor	LLSS
Gregory Cajete	Professor & Chair	Native American Studies
Kymberly Pinder	Dean & Professor	College of Fine Arts
Chantel Trujillo	Coordinator of Student Success Initiatives	ENLACE
Amanda Butrum	Associate Director	Accessibility Resource Center
Mario Rivera	Professor	Public Administration
Nancy Lopez	Associate Professor	Sociology
Felisha Rohan-Minjares	Co-Director	Cultural Competence Educ, HSC
Richard L. Wood	Associate Professor	Family and Community Medicine
Felipe Gonzales	Senior Vice Provost (interim)	Academic Affairs
Francisco Javier Certain	<i>ex-officio</i> advisor on higher ed <i>ex-officio</i> fiscal advisor	ADVANCE Project Academic Affairs fiscal office

I am pleased with the extraordinary quality of this group of faculty, staff, and administrative leaders from across campus, and deeply grateful to those willing to serve. The Task Force itself is internal to UNM, in keeping with its focus on recommending goals and structures within the University. It will create an opportunity for input from community groups, and will draw on that input in its deliberations

Richard Wood will serve as chairperson of the task force, whose work will begin immediately. Administrative support will be provided by the Provost's Office with a goal of a recommendation formulated by December 20, 2017. Therefore, members will be asked to participate regularly until that date. Questions may be directed to [provost@unm.edu](mailto:provost@unm.edu).