



CONNECT

Wednesday, May 10, 2023 | Edition #79

Message from the VP



Dr. Scott serving at the Late Night Breakfast

Dear Student Affairs Colleagues,

It is hard to believe that this is the last Connect of the semester and finals week will wrap up in just two days followed by our commencement ceremony Saturday morning in the PIT where we will honor our graduating Lobos and wish them well on their next steps. Over the past few weeks, and continuing this week, I have been gifted the opportunity to offer reflections and words of appreciation for our graduating students in a variety of settings, in particular in special graduation celebrations that many of our departments host. The energy, excitement, pride, and comradery that I have witnessed in these spaces is clear evidence of the central role our student affairs work plays in the holistic success of our students. No matter who they are or where they come from, our students benefit from a campus culture that is diverse, supportive, and culturally responsive, and I am confident that the environment we strive to create here at UNM results in graduates who are uniquely prepared for success in our increasingly connected world. We have a responsibility to continue leaning in and finding ways to expand our reach while also calibrating our services to the distinct identities and needs of each of our students and removing barriers when we encounter them. I am excited about the ways in which our expanded leadership team will aid in the planning, assessment, evaluation, and implementation of outstanding, research informed, and culturally responsive work. I hope you will consider joining me tonight for Raza Graduation and tomorrow evening for American Indian Convocation to recognize the accomplishments of our students and draw inspiration for our continued work.

With appreciation,
Eric

Meet and Greet the Finalists for the Student Affairs Director of Operations



Just a reminder that we are hosting meet and greet sessions with each of the finalists for the Student Affairs Director of Operations. If you missed yesterday, you can still get more information on each of our candidates via the link below. All sessions will be held in the SUB Santa Ana room from 1:15 to 1:45 p.m. [See bios and resumes for each candidate here.](#)

Laura J. Hall
Tuesday, May 9

Florencio Olguin

Monday, May 15

Dr. Wade Brown
Tuesday, May 16

Now What?! Transitioning from College to Career



May 10
noon to 1 p.m.
Career Services, UAEC, Room 220

Making the transition from college to career can be daunting! Career Services can help! Attend this workshop on to learn how to make that jump to your career!

CAMP Welcomes New Advisor



Cynthia Padilla was born in Chihuahua, Mexico. Her and her family migrated to Dallas, Texas when she was six years old. They lived in Texas for six months and then relocated to Albuquerque, New Mexico. Her mom recalls seeing Cynthia’s love for books and curiosity develop at an early age. Consequently, her mom always encouraged her to strive for her education as it would allow her to have greater opportunities. Cynthia’s appreciation for education, literature, and her parents’ sacrifice led her to the University of New Mexico in 2013. She pursued her Bachelor of Arts in English Language & Literature and graduated in 2017. She worked at South Valley Academy as a program assistant coordinator where she worked with high school students. However, Cynthia’s mentor, Dr. Jesses Alemán, inspired her to aim

for her graduate studies. In 2019, she started her Master's program and she took on a teaching assistantship with the English department. She taught English composition courses. Through her teaching, she realized she was passionate about working with students in higher education. Cynthia graduated with her Master of Arts in English Language and Literature in the Spring of 2021. After she graduated, she was hired as a Sr. Academic Advisor at University College Advisement Center. She worked there for two years before transitioning into CAMP as the program advisor. Her goal is to continue to inspire students (as her mentors inspired her) to embrace the opportunities that education has to offer.

UNM Employee Engagement Survey

We're writing to ask for your help. As managers and supervisors, you see the changing dynamics of employee recruitment and retention every day. To help understand and meet the challenges head on, and to help meet UNM 2040 goals, we need to hear directly and honestly from staff. To this end, we encourage you to complete the UNM Employee Engagement Survey when you see the invitation from Gallup in your inbox, and please encourage your staff to take it as well.

A few things for you and your staff to know about the survey:

- **It's quick!** The survey consists of about 20 questions and should take no more than five to ten minutes to complete, and it's available in both English and Spanish.
- **The invitation and reminder emails are not spam or phishing messages.** Some may think the survey emails are spam as they come directly from Gallup (the research and analytics company, **NOT** the UNM Gallup branch campus). Reminder emails will be sent to those who haven't yet taken the survey and will have a subject line of "**Reminder: UNM Employee Engagement Survey**" and will come from support@mail.gallup.com.

The body of the reminder email will look like this:



- **The survey is confidential.**
- **After the survey, the results will be shared with the UNM community.** Managers and supervisors will have access to the data to help you make department-level decisions.

EI Hiring Program Manager



The UNM Division for Equity and Inclusion (DEI), is seeking a motivated, dynamic, detail oriented individual to join the team as Project Manager. This position will coordinate, oversee and perform a wide variety of administrative activities on behalf of DEI and the Vice President for Equity and Inclusion (VPEI), and manage and executive administrative, project, and executive support activities. Please click [here](#) for

the job description and more information or contact [Assata Zerai](#).

Introducing Student Affairs Staff Spotlight Tuesdays



The Student Affairs communications team wants to shine a bright light on the countless, outstanding, staff and student employees who provide invaluable support to our Lobos and UNM community through a new Staff Spotlight Tuesday social media campaign.

With 500+ staff and student employees in our division, how well do we really know the people we work with every day? Do you know what your colleagues value most about UNM, their favorite campus spot to decompress, what they would tell their 15-year-old self about college, or what ridiculous, but useful, fact they know that makes them unique? This new initiative will help you get the answers to these and other questions.

Each week, we'll choose someone and give them two days to complete this [simple, short, form](#). We'll plug their information into a graphic, post it, and we'll all learn a little more about each other!

Excited to be part of this campaign, but don't want to wait for us to reach out to you? Just fill out the [form](#) and we'll feature you on the next available Tuesday slot. Looking forward to getting to know you!