



COLLEGE OF
ARTS & SCIENCES
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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WELCOME TO THE A&S NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2025
ISSUE

Dear Arts & Sciences community,

We hope you had a restful Fall Break. Join us this Wednesday for the fall Town Hall (details below) and check out other October opportunities to connect with your College community.

This month, we're celebrating A&S faculty, student, and staff accomplishments, plus upcoming events to add to your calendar.

–A&S Dean's Office Staff

P.S. The Vrapi Weeks Law Firm will lead a session on immigration, travel, and permanent residency this Tuesday:

Know Your Rights Presentation

Date: Tuesday, October 14

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: SUB Ballroom A

The 30-40 minute presentation will be followed by a Q&A. Open to all UNM students, faculty, and staff—**no registration or RSVP required**.

[See the Provost's announcement for more information.](#)

UPCOMING
COLLEGE



A&S Fall Town Hall

Join Dean Malat for College updates and conversation. Share what's on your mind this Wednesday.

Date: Wednesday, October 15

Time: 2:00–3:00 PM

Location: SUB Ballroom C

Monthly Community Mingles

This fall's Mingles are on the road due to the Humanities Building demolition. Join us at these College locations at noon:

- **Thursday, November 6:** PAIS Courtyard, hosted by Physics & Astronomy
- **Thursday, December 4:** UAEC Building, Rm. 135, hosted by the A&S Center for Academic Success

Lunch is on us! Vegetarian and gluten-free options available.

Staff Coffee with the Dean

Dean Malat is hosting small gatherings (around 10 people) for staff to discuss ideas, share what's working well, and address challenges.

[Sign up for these limited-capacity sessions](#) to speak directly with College leadership in an informal setting.

Date: Thursday, November 20

Arts & Sciences Staff News



Welcome, Jason Farmer! We're excited to welcome Jason to the Dean's Office as our new

Jason brings academic administration experience from his previous A&S roles as Graduate Coordinator for Geography and Unit Administrator for the Latin American & Iberian Institute. Jason will support IFAIR, LLC, IMS, and FRI.

Jason is currently pursuing his Master of Public Administration at UNM. Outside of work, he enjoys camping, country dancing, and staying active.



GOOD NEWS & UPDATES

Distinguished Professor Scott Collins (Biology) was named a [2025 Fellow of the American Geophysical Union \(AGU\)](#), one of the highest honors in Earth and space sciences.

Professors James Cavanaugh (Psychology) and Melvatha Chee (Linguistics) received Research and Creative Works Leadership Awards at the [Promoted Faculty Reception](#). 2025 Distinguished Professor Iain D. Thomson (Philosophy) was also recognized.

Professor Julianne Newmark (English) returned from a year-long Fulbright fellowship in Finland, where she taught at Tampere University and helped establish a new UNM student exchange agreement. She continued work on her co-authored textbook *UX+You*.

Jennifer Kavka received the OVPR Outstanding Research Staff Award in the category of Exceptional Research Staff Mentorship, which includes a \$1,000 prize.

[A recent *El Palacio* magazine event](#) featured A&S faculty research on New Mexico:

- **Daisy Atterbury** (WGGS; American Studies) signed copies of her debut book *The Kármán Line*.
- **Professor David Correia** (Geography & Environmental Studies) discussed his research on the Gallup Coal Wars of the 1930s.
- **Professor José Rivera** (Center for Regional Studies), **Emeritus Professor Levi Romero** (Chicana & Chicano Studies), and **Emeritus Professor Enrique Lamadrid** (Spanish & Portuguese) presented on the impact of historic gristmills on Spanish colonial village life.

Professor Kun Huang (SPA) delivered the invited talk "Social Capital and Policy Compliance: An Analysis of COVID-19 Vaccination Rates" at the 2025 Voluntary Governance Conference at University of Pittsburgh.

Professor Roli Varma (SPA) gave invited presentation "Ethics in Technology" at the New Mexico Society of Professional Engineers Annual Meeting.

Professor Cristyn Elder (English) has been appointed Special Advisor to the Interim Provost for Labor Relations, where she will support collective bargaining negotiations with faculty and graduate student unions and lead the Labor Management Committee.

NEWS FROM THE A&S RESEARCH TEAM

Congratulations to the recipients of the Fall 2025 Event, Subvention, and Supplemental Travel awards!

[Event Fund Recipients](#)

- **Matthew Goodwin** (Chicana & Chicano Studies)–Latinx Visions 2.0: One Planet—Many Worlds
- **Martin Kirk** (Chemistry & Chemical Biology)–ACS Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting Funding Proposal
- **Tyler Mackey** (Earth & Planetary Sciences)–2026 Rocky Mountain Geobiology Symposium

Subvention Fund Recipients

- **Davorka Gulisija** (Biology)
- **Pierre-Julien Harter** (Philosophy)
- **Michael Lechuga** (Communication & Journalism)
- **Owen Whooley** (Sociology)

Travel Fund Recipients

- **Rick Arenas** (Speech & Hearing Sciences)
- **Evan Ashworth** (Communication & Journalism)
- **Jessica Feezell** (Political Science)
- **Les Field** (Anthropology)
- **Tamar Ginossar** (Communication & Journalism)
- **Nancy López** (Sociology)
- **Andrea Mays** (Africana Studies)
- **Mary Quinn** (Spanish & Portuguese)
- **Osman Umurhan** (Languages, Cultures, & Literatures)

Newly Funded Projects

NSF & NIH-Funded Research

- **Terefe Habteyes** (Chemistry)–Nanoscopic Analysis of Gas Adsorption on Ionic Liquid Droplets. Sponsor: National Science Foundation
- **Ellen Martinson** (Biology)–CAREER: Molecular Mechanisms Behind the Venom Phenotype of Ectoparasitoid Wasps. Sponsor: National Science Foundation
- **Sally Seidel** (Physics & Astronomy)–Experimental Particle Physics. Sponsor: National Science Foundation
- **Lomeli Shull** (Biology)–Functions of PRDM Histone Methyltransferases During Cartilage Development in the Craniofacial Skeleton. Sponsor: National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research
- **Benjamin Warner** (Geography) & **Jami Nuñez** (Political Science)–Collaborative Research: IRES: Partnerships Along the Headwaters of the Americas for Young Scientist Program. Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Government & Agency Funding

- **Angelyn Bass** (Anthropology)–ABO Painted Rocks Graffiti Treatment Project at Salinas Pueblo Missions National Historical Park. Sponsor: National Park Service
- **Stephen Boyd** (Physics & Astronomy)–Development of MMC DES for IAEA NML. Sponsor: Lawrence Livermore National Security LLC
- **Cecilia Hinojosa** (Psychology)–Sex Differences in Reward Neurocircuitry Underlying Alcohol Craving and Consumption in Trauma-Exposed Individuals. Sponsor: National Institute on Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism
- **Esteban Muldavin** (Biology)–Gunnison's Prairie Dog Surveys 2025. Sponsor: New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
- **Sally Seidel** (Physics & Astronomy)–Engineering to Study the Impact of Radiation on the Resolution of AC-Coupled LGAD Detectors for Space Science. Sponsor: New Mexico State University
- **Gregory Taylor** (Physics & Astronomy)–Supporting Commensal Open-Source Multimode Interferometer Cluster. Sponsor: SETI Institute

State & Community Impact Research

- **Shirley Baros** (Earth Data Analysis Center)–NM DoIT: FY26 Office of Broadband

Access & Expansion (OBAE). Sponsor: New Mexico Department of Information Technology

- **Corinne Myers** (Earth & Planetary Sciences)—Investigating the Role of Sulfide-Oxidizing Chemosymbiosis as a Driver of Animal Evolution. Sponsor: Trustees of Purdue University
- **Carmela Roybal** (Center for Health Policy)—ECECD Strengthening Policies and Procedures Related to New Mexico Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations. Sponsor: State of New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department
- **Alexander Severson & Paul Guerin** (Institute for Social Research)—MDC COMPAS Revalidation. Sponsor: Bernalillo County

Research Security Training Required

Faculty submitting proposals to the NSF or USDA must now complete ORIC's research security training before applying. The one-hour course, available in Learning Central under ORIC_Research_Security, satisfies both agencies' requirements.

Please keep a copy of your completion certificate and upload it to your Streamlyne record with each submission.

Applications Open for LIFT Faculty Leadership Program

The WeR1 Leadership Innovation for Faculty Transformation (LIFT) program is expanding in 2026, offering tenured faculty on the Albuquerque campus mentoring, support, and a focused cohort model to strengthen research leadership while advancing UNM's mission.

[Applications are due Thursday, October 16](#), with selections announced in mid-November.

If you receive notification of a stop work order, termination, or reinstatement of a federal research grant, please:

- Notify the **Office of the Vice President for Research** AND
- Send the notification to awards@unm.edu and CC **Sharon Nepstad** (nepstad@unm.edu)



NEWS FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Advisement Prepares for Registration Week

Message from Marlene Sanchez, Director of Center for Academic Success

Registration week is November 3–7. Our A&S Advisors are guiding students through course planning and degree progress for spring semester.

The team is conducting degree checks and hosting individual advising sessions to help students understand their requirements and stay on track.

Thank you for encouraging students to schedule appointments early!

A&S Center for Academic Success Workshops for Faculty and Staff

"Faculty Role in Undergrad Processes"

This workshop strengthens faculty-advisor partnerships to support student success. Topics include transfer equivalencies, course overrides, departmental honors, grading implications for financial aid and degree progression (C- grades, W versus F, etc.), and collaborative processes. Participants will share best practices for effective collaboration.

Date: Tuesday, October 14

Time: 1:15–3:00 PM

Location: Center for Academic Success Conference Room (UAEC)

"Demystifying the Undergrad Degree"

Learn about core curriculum, major/minor requirements, and key policies affecting degree progress. This session will help you guide students and ensure consistent understanding of undergraduate degree pathways.

Date: Thursday, November 20

Time: 10:00–11:45 AM

Location: Center for Academic Success Conference Room (UAEC)

[Sign Up](#)

Upcoming CTL Workshops of Note

National AI & Teaching Workshops

CTL is partnering with the AI and Machine Learning NMSU Global Teaching Academy to offer two Zoom workshops from national expert Professor Christian Moriarty:

Law, Ethics, and Generative AI

Dates: Thursday, October 23, 10:00–11:15 AM or Friday, October 24, 9:00–10:15 AM

AI & Integrity in Teaching

Dates: Thursday, October 30, 2:30–3:30 PM or Friday, October 31, 11:00 AM–12:00 PM

Related to the rise of AI, instructors are thinking about engaging student intrinsic motivation by developing assessments that encourage learners to develop novel solutions to 'real world' problems.

[Register Now](#)

Conversations about Disability and Academia

Join CTL Presidential Teaching Fellow Professor Marissa Greenberg (English) for the second in a series of conversations about disability and academia. The group will discuss the short reading, ["When You Are Waiting to Be Healed" by June Eric-Udorie](#).

Date: Monday, October 27, 10:00 AM

[Register](#)

Volunteer Opportunity: "The Pack's Got Your Back" Returns

Join fellow faculty and staff for "The Pack's Got Your Back"—share healthy snacks and encouragement with our campus community. Sign up to participate and share some Lobo spirit.

Date: Wednesday, October 15

Location: UNM Duck Pond, Alumni Clock (26 on the [map](#))

[Volunteer](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Research & Discovery Week

Showcase of UNM scholarship and creative activity through keynote lectures, symposia, workshops, performances, exhibitions, and two special open house events on Friday, November 14.

Dates: November 6–14 ([detailed schedule here](#))

Nobel Prize Laureate Speaks at 15th Annual Riley O. Schaeffer Endowed Lectureship in Chemistry

The Department of Chemistry & Chemical Biology will host Dr. Paul Modrich (2015 Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry) from Duke Department of Biochemistry. Dr. Modrich will present "DNA Mismatch Repair in Human Cells: Mechanisms and Some Functions."

Date: Friday, November 14

Time: 4:00 PM (reception starts at 3:00 PM)

Location: Rodey Theater

LAII and CCS Celebrate Día de los Muertos as Part of Hispanic Heritage Month

Join the LAII and CCS to celebrate [Día de los Muertos](#) with fun activities and community altars at both locations, a food truck, and more.

Date: Thursday, October 30

Time: 12:00–3:00 PM

Location: LAII (801 Yale Blvd NE) and CCS (1829 Sigma Chi Rd NE)

Festival of Languages

The Language & Learning Center (LLC) will host the Festival of Languages with presentations on language, cultural practices, and research and careers related to languages.

Date: Friday November 7

Time: 3:00–5:00 PM

Location: Ortega Hall inside the LLC, Room 124

Reading & Conversation with Andrew Bourelle

Professor Andrew Bourelle (English) reads from his new novel, [Shot Clock](#), and discusses his writing process. This Contemporary Authors series event offers students the opportunity to engage directly with working writers.

Date: Thursday, November 13

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: FUSION, 700 1st St. NW, Albuquerque

UNM's LGBTQ Resource Center Marks 15 Years

This year, the LGBTQ Resource Center celebrates its 15th anniversary as a University center and will host a series of celebratory events throughout October.

Upcoming events include:

- **Tuesday, October 14:** Queer Cumbia & Lotería (5–8 PM at El Centro de la Raza)
- **Saturday, October 25:** Pride Brunch (11 AM–2 PM at the SUB's Draft & Table)
- **Wednesday, October 29:** Molé Making & Día de los Muertos ([time and location TBA](#))



A&S IN THE UNM NEWSROOM

- [Professor Jingjing Wang \(Economics\) Receives 2025 NM EPSCoR Mentor Award for Student-Centered STEM Guidance](#)
- [Professor Jessica Carey-Webb \(Spanish & Portuguese\) Guides 2025–6 Fulbright Scholar's Award-Winning Research on Brazilian Conceptual Art](#)
- [Chicana/o Studies Hosts Sabor y Sonido: A Backyard Fiesta](#)

UNM's "It's Not Rocket Science" Podcast Featuring A&S Faculty

[Detained and Dismissed: When Jail Time Ends Without Trial](#)

This episode with Professor Paul Guerin (Institute for Social Research) explores why some people held in jail for months are later released without trial and how this shapes public perception.



LATEST GUIDANCE ON PARTIAL FEDERAL SHUTDOWN

[Office of the Vice-President for Research](#)

[Office of Sponsored Projects](#)

Fall 2025 Newsletter Deadlines

- November: Submit by Wednesday, 11/12; published Wednesday, 11/19
- December: Submit by Wednesday, 12/3; published Wednesday, 12/10

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