To My Faculty Colleagues,

First, I want to thank faculty and staff for working so diligently during this very stressful time. I appreciate the amazing efforts by everyone to make mostly remote, some face to face instruction, successful. We are all doing our best to let students know that we are here for them as they strive to complete their education during this pandemic.

While we are currently down double digits in both headcount and FTE, we anticipate that our dual credit numbers will bring us back to single digits after the census date. As you may know, our local high schools are cutting back on both CTE classes and electives, which clearly will affect our very strong dual credit program.

As to our current fiscal situation, after a more than 6% cut in the Legislature including cuts in nursing expansion and dual credit and CARES act funds, we are anticipating a 5% cut in the January Legislative Session for the next fiscal year. We have always tried to maintain fiscal stability, especially in order to deal with a crisis like the pandemic we are experiencing now. We are looking at cost savings and at the same time are submitting proposals to the state and the federal government to assist us with COVID-19 related expenses.

We are very pleased that our TRiO SSSP Grant which provides support for first generation students, low-income students, and students with disabilities has been funded for five years for a total of over $2 million dollars. Many thanks to our Grants and Development Staff, our Student Services Staff, and our Budget Staff who worked so hard to make this project possible. This grant will serve 140 students with intensive advising and tutoring.

When you come on campus you will see ongoing facilities projects including parking lot resurfacing, cafeteria remodeling, Academics 101 refurbishing, and several solar projects. We are currently going through the final project approval for the Workforce Training Center, which we hope will assist us with increasing our CTE programs as well as providing a feeder center for our Tomé campus.

Again, many thanks to all of you who are keeping our students engaged in the education that will help them realize their hopes and dreams.

-Alice
Cycles.

Back in March, I had hopes that the cycle of COVID-19 might be wrapped up by fall semester; alas, that has not yet come to pass. We thus have adapted, and continue to adapt, to the changing nature of instruction. The faculty at UNM-Valencia has continued to impress with their flexibility, good nature, and desire to improve/build their online teaching skills. For some people, this has been a totally new adventure—not necessarily sought, but taken head-on. We know that our students are just at the start of their post-secondary journeys, and that they are vulnerable. Heck – I think we all feel vulnerable. But, that instinctive desire that teachers have to help students grow has remained at the forefront of the work, guiding our steps and motivating us in strange times. It is a testament to your ability and dedication to our mission that we have been pushing through this storm with grace and strength. I can’t express my admiration enough.

A couple of weeks ago, during the R2S2 STEM Curious Week event, a student asked how the faculty had done when all the changes happened. She stated that she had definitely struggled, and wondered if the faculty had experienced anything similar. I told her that when Spring Break came, the faculty had no more warning than the students, but that they moved quickly and skillfully to the online environment because they knew it was critical for students to be able to continue learning. Despite the difficulty and the uncertainty, there was a body of people who stepped forward to keep instruction going for the students. I know that she felt a sense of connection to her teachers – the notion of being in an untenable situation together, with both oars in the water, pulling for all we are worth.

The cyclical rhythm of the academic year has definitely been disrupted. This is probably most disconcerting for our newer faculty, who are just establishing their own rhythms in academia. The disruption is likely not over yet. I anticipate that spring semester will look much like fall semester. I also still hold my breath for the face-to-face classes that we have running currently. I am gratified, however, by the good will that all of those who are coming to campus are expressing. During the first two weeks of classes, every student has been masked and is amenable to having his or her temperature checked. I like to think that they are relieved that we are trying to protect them (and each other). So, we forge ahead. As any changes occur, I will continue to keep everyone up to date.

I will be off campus for a bit in September. In another cycle of life, my husband and I are happy to welcome our first grandchild to the world. His name is Henry Michael, and he and his parents live in Manhattan, Kansas, where our daughter is the Assistant Director of Assessment at Kansas State and her husband is getting his masters in music education. She is navigating working from home as well as we are, and he is trying to figure out how to socially distance a 400-person marching band for the ill-fated football season. We will visit little Henry for the first time and will need to quarantine when we return. In fact, I will be Zooming in from there for this very Faculty Assembly meeting.

A new little human and a new chance at improved cycles.

-Laura
I want to welcome everyone back to the semester.

There have been some minor changes to the Humanities Division.

First, I would like to welcome Sarah Heyward to the fold as assistant professor of Fine Arts. Sarah is an artist from the San Francisco Bay Area in California. She received her MFA from Tyler School of Art at Temple University in Philadelphia and her BFA in Painting and BA in French from Sonoma State University in California. She has spent the past few years at several institutions in the Philadelphia region. Sarah teaches art passionately and is an active advocate for students. Her work has been exhibited nationally and is included in several publications. Currently, Sarah loves exploring New Mexico, researching vintage jewelry, seeing roadrunners, chatting with students, and making art. She is thrilled to be a part of UNM-Valencia and cannot wait to meet the students in person.

Second, I want to welcome our new crop of part-time faculty members. New to Humanities this semester are Anne Turner (English), Breanne Potter (English), Steven Romero (English), Sally Kewayosh (Film Studies), Crystle LaCroix (Communications), Michael Ogas (First Year Experience) & Evan Ashworth (Linguistics). We are excited to have all seven of these gifted new faculty working with us this semester. You may not see them in person, but trust me, they exist. If you get a chance, reach out to them and say hi.

Third, I want to “introduce” Alexa Wheeler to the Division. She’s been a Fine Arts faculty member for, like, twelve decades, but is just now returning to her rightful place within Humanities after a stint as Chair of BIT back when Fine Arts was housed there. She will be serving as the vaguely titled Humanities Coordinator where she will continue to coordinate the FDMA program and help with mentoring Sarah in her first year on the job. Just to be clear, this is a lateral move, not a newly created coordinator position. She was serving as a freelance “coordinator without a division” last year.

Fourth, I would like to give a shout out to all who have worked so diligently to ready themselves to teach online during the pandemic. I know that you have put in an incredible amount of effort, most of it unpaid, because you are devoted to your students and to your craft. If it were up to me, you would all get considerable raises in addition to all-you-can-eat-tacos for the rest of your life.

Lastly, Because the semester is entirely virtual, it will be a little bit different than usual. We are holding Reading New Mexico, our annual New Mexico themed literary event, on Zoom. More on this will be forthcoming. Also, our regular Fine Arts Gallery exhibitions will be delayed until spring, during which time they will likely be held online.

Here’s to getting through this semester, and the election cycle, in one piece. [Glass raised.]

To quote the kitten, “Hang in there!”

Justin
I hope everyone’s semester is off to a great start.

I wanted to update the campus community on my new role as a Humanities Coordinator focusing on the Film and Digital Arts programs. I learned so much as Chair of Business and Industrial Technology (BIT) with a one-year interim appointment that somehow molded into a three-year appointment. I am still very supportive of Career and Technical Education, but I am now back in the Fine Arts and Film and Digital Arts where my passion lies—the Humanities. I am excited to have a clear focus and am hoping we can continue to grow these programs! The BIT programs are currently being managed by Stephen Takach and Dr. Laura Musselwhite in the event that you need to reach out to anyone in regards to those programs.

As part of this growth, we have a wonderful new Film Professor, Sally Kewayosh. She is from the Walpole Island First Nation in Ontario, Canada, with both Ojibwe and Cree ancestry. She earned a BA in Film Studies from Western University and a Master of Fine Arts in Film Production from New York University, Tisch School of the Arts. As a First Nation woman, Sally creates films that inherently and overtly exemplify First Nation culture. While continuing her journey as a narrative storyteller, Sally founded her own production company, Achimowin Films. In addition to her latest documentary, three young ladies, Sally has written and directed several pieces for Sesame Street, most notably, R is for Routine, which was filmed entirely in Albuquerque where she has made her home for the past five years. Sally has been involved in education since 2003 and continues to be a dedicated mentor to up-and-coming artists and encourages lifelong learning. I have no doubt our students are going to absolutely love her.

We are hoping to put together a virtual film festival to make up for the cancelled one this past Spring semester. Hopefully, we can make this happen come Spring!

-Alexa
Art from a distance...

As a new UNM-Valencia Fine Arts Professor, I was initially unsure how I could teach art successfully online. The biggest surprise I have so far is all the encouraging emails from students who express their enthusiasm on a daily basis. I knew this semester was going to be fun, but I expected the challenges to overshadow the fun. I did not anticipate that the students would come to class with the most courageous and optimistic attitudes! While this could be UNM-Valencia’s culture in general, I found it to be unique in Fine Arts online teaching.

UNM-Valencia has purchased ten portable, Speedball Artists tabletop wheels for ceramics courses! This is really exciting because it allows students to throw pots in a safe environment and continues sharing an artistic medium that is historically important to the area.

Jan Pacifi co our lead ceramics professor took one home to try it out and loved it. “I am really grateful we got these wheels. They will also be a great supplement to our existing wheels when we go back to face to face,” she says.

While these wheels are helpful during the pandemic, I am looking forward to being able to use them for future community-based projects as a unique addition to UNM-Valencia.

-Sarah

Please join the Be Kind Ad hoc Committee! | Cheryl Bryan

This year, with COVID-19, Be Kind Week in February (2021) will be a challenge, to say the least. Since we will most likely not be on campus, we will need to be creative in the ways we express kindness. I was thinking that this year we will focus on working with the food banks instead of collecting stuffed animals. It’s just a thought and I would love to work with you to create a great Be Kind Week! Faculty, staff, and students are a part of this committee.

I appreciate your continued support of Be Kind Week, whether you’re a part of the committee or just contribute. Your participation is greatly appreciated by those in need. If interested, please contact Cheryl Bryan at cbryan@unm.edu, or you can text/call Cheryl at 505.301.6222.

With gratitude for your commitment to kindness,

-Cheryl

The new Faculty Assembly newsletter | Ana June

It’s my great pleasure to take charge of the Faculty Assembly newsletter this academic year. Though my degrees are both in the Humanities, each with an emphasis on writing, I worked as a graphic designer for more than 20 years prior to joining the English faculty at UNM-Valencia. I particularly enjoy designing publications, and previously worked as the Art Director for the now-defunct New Mexico Free Press; Art Director and Cover Photographer for Tumbleweeds Family Newspaper; Assistant Art Director and Ad Production Manager for New Mexico Magazine, and freelance designer for multiple clients over the years. I hope you enjoy this new look, and I welcome your thoughts and feedback for future issues: anajune@unm.edu.

-Ana
Hello Faculty,

We are all online teachers now, aren’t we!? I am amazed at how each one of you continued your teaching during the emergency remote Spring and how this Fall semester is already proving a success at serving our students. I am honored to serve as the Distance Learning Coordinator [DLC] for Valencia Campus in conjunction with my role as Chair of the Faculty Online Teaching and Review Committee [FOTRC] this year. The members of this committee are: Soledad Garcia-King, Kat Gullahorn, Eileen Davis, Ian Burch, Piotr Filipczak, Justin Bendell, Ana June, Elaine Clark, Juliette Cunico, Heidy Roberts, and myself.

We are discussing the best way we can support faculty through our roles on this committee. We are just beginning to meet. We want to make sure that each of you feels supported as you teach remotely this year, and that your needs are being met. We are discussing the possibility of “Open Lab” hours each week to troubleshoot in real time. We are working on the training/workshop calendar in conjunction with Soledad Garcia-King, who is the Director of The Teaching & Learning Center [TLC] whose focus partly is to train and support faculty. Soledad is our campus Blackboard guru, and any how-to/technical support questions can be directed her way at sgking@unm.edu.

In fact, Soledad is offering a 2nd 8-week course specifically as a training in Blackboard Learn: 66780 EDUC 1996 501 Blackboard for Instructors. It is a 1 credit class, and faculty with benefits can use their tuition remission to cover the cost, and faculty without benefits can apply for Professional Development Funds to cover the cost. Either way, it is free-of-charge for all faculty to take this course. You can find the “Professional Development Form” on our faculty website, under the “Forms” section near the bottom right of the page: http://valencia.unm.edu/academics/faculty-resources/index.html. (This form will be updated with the new committee members once they meet for this year.) You can also find the “UNM Tuition Remission Form” on the same Valencia faculty website under “Employee Resources” and also at: https://hr.unm.edu/benefits/tuition-remission. Elaine Clark has already started the Online Course Design & Delivery (OCD2) course for this Fall semester, but it will be back again in the Spring and Summer. This course is meant to train and certify faculty to become online/hybrid professors or to offer continued education for faculty who have already taught online. All faculty who teach online or hybrid at our Valencia Campus should have some sort of certification for online teaching in order to schedule their online/hybrid class. When classes had to pivot to emergency remote teaching this past Spring, we waived that requirement in order to continue the semester’s work. But we will begin this requirement again by next academic year. If you have not yet earned an online teaching certification, I highly encourage you to sign up for this OCD2 course for the Spring/Summer semesters coming up! More information will be shared through the faculty listserve and online teaching website once more has been determined. This course is a non-baner course and does not have any credit hours attached to it. It is also, therefore, free-of-charge without the need to file paperwork to cover the costs.

Over the Summer, I created the “Faculty Online Teaching” website for our Valencia Campus: http://valencia.unm.edu/academics/online-learning/faculty-online/index.html as part of training I am receiving through the Online Learning Consortium [OLC] to become a certified Instructional Designer. I am hoping that this website can be a repository for online teaching pedagogy, techniques and tools. It most definitely is a WIP (work-in-progress), but I hope that it can help you in your course creation. Please send me feedback and anything you feel could be helpful at alexa08@unm.edu.

Alexa
Welcome to the last month

of the Next Generation Project, the U.S. Department of Education Title V grant that has brought many changes and improvements to our campus students and faculty.

English and Developmental Math:
Our objective was to reach a combined pass rate for Freshman English of 65%. We achieved 73% in both fall 2019 and spring 2020. Thank you Patricia Gillikin, Writing Center Coordinator, and the student consultants for your hard work in helping us reach this goal. The Writing Center will continue to provide services to students.

The objective for Developmental Math to raise the pass rates to 60% was almost reached. Our spring rates were 59.5%. We thank the Math Center coordinators, Sarah Garde and after her retirement, Ariel Ramirez, who worked closely with Elaine Clark and others to better prepare students for college level algebra and statistics. Cindi Goodman and Michelle Godfrey worked this summer to analyze our students’ progress and continue improving the program.

Integrative Information Technology:
The IIT curriculum and labs were fully revised and updated. James Hart, IT Coordinator, accomplished that and created three mini certifications that students can earn along the way to their degrees. We came close to achieving the goal of 25 IT majors. In fall 2019 we had 22 UNMIF students and 3 students from another branch taking our IT classes. A second lab was created and all the equipment was replaced with new updated servers, computers and licensing that made it possible for students to gain the modern IT knowledge needed for continued education and employment.

We were not as successful with the second IT objective of students earning 15 certificates or degrees by fall 2020. Last year the students achieved 11 certifications including two Associate degrees. In May 2020, three students earned Associates of Applied Science in Information Technology. Several of our students have been hired to work in the IT field: Sandia Labs, Intel, Isleta Casino, Valencia County, Los Lunas Schools, and Edgewood. Two of our students, one has graduated, have created their own company, Key Systems, that will install and maintain video surveillance systems. That is success, too. Thank you, James.

Distance education:
As you all know COVID-19 threw us into uncharted territory in terms of having to quickly change our teaching to the virtual environment. One of the goals of our grant was to increase the number of online classes, offer five online/hybrid programs, and train 75% of full-time instructors. We achieved them all.

- Our online/hybrid programs are: Liberal Arts, Integrative Studies, Criminal Justice, Secondary Education, and Business.
- Prior to having to go fully online after Spring Break, we had exceeded our objective of online/hybrid classes and had offered 123 unique online/hybrid classes since 2015.
- Faculty training: In 2019, 73% of full-time faculty had participated in training to teach online. By the end of summer 2020, we exceeded our goal by reaching 81%.

I couldn’t be more grateful to Elaine Clark, Distance Learning Coordinator and the Faculty Online Teaching and Review Committee for the work they did establishing policies and achieving our objectives and especially for their efforts since March to get everyone on board with virtual teaching through workshops and full training sessions.

In all, the Next Generation Project has had a resounding impact on our campus and students. We thank you for your efforts and support. I hope that you will continue to support our other grants including the Title III STEM grant: R2S2. Thank you faculty for all your efforts in meeting the challenges of teaching in the COVID-19 world.

-Rosa
Commitment, Connection, & Camaraderie

I am sending you all a big warm fuzzy virtual hug, despite the chilling number of COVID-19 cases in the country.

Some happy notes...

From the Division of Social Sciences, I am extremely proud to report that our faculty have all demonstrated our commitment to our profession as educators, are continuing to connect with our students, even virtually, and are enjoying our camaraderie.

On a more celebratory note, our Dean of Instruction, Dr. Laura Musselwhite, has become a granny to baby Henry, and Dr. Sara Furnal, our political science professor, has welcomed baby William.

Dr. James Gadberry and his wife, Alena Gadberry, co-authored an article entitled, “Black Drowning Deaths: An Introductory Analysis,” in the July issue of International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education. If interested, here is the link to the article: https://scholar-works.bgsu.edu/ijare/vol13/iss1/4/. Dr. Gadberry teaches SOCI and CJUS courses for us from Athens, Alabama. Congratulations to them both for the publication of this important work.

On July 30th, Professor Barb Thompson delivered a presentation on gender diversity at the "Lunch and Learn" session of the Road Runner Food Bank (RRFB) for its employees. Barb discussed some well-known terms such as gay, lesbian, and transgender as well as the less commonly used terms like cisgender and nonbinary. Many RRFB’s employees were unaware of the significant number of transgendersed individuals that work in the trucking industry as well as in the warehousing and distributor business. The session provided an opportunity for employees to better understand members of the LGBTQ community and how to interact with them respectfully. Professor Thompson teaches Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies in addition to other SOCI courses.

Last month, I presented two Zoom webinars, “Inclusivity begins with the Syllabus.” One was for the Center of Digital Learning at UNM Main and the other was at the 2020 National Conference of the Society for Women Sociologists.

Do you recall the TP Task Force back in March? It was dismantled as quickly as it was formed. Since then, our faculty have been chatting every other week over Zoom. Nope. We did not gossip, nor did we rant. We talked about virtual food and recipes for destressing. As some of us are beginning to experience screen-fatigue and zoom-exhaustion, we are scaling the chat to once a month since the beginning of the Fall semester. Talking about destressing, some of our faculty members are attending either a Sunday Yin Yoga class or a Saturday qigong class or both. Others? They simply chill.

Over the summer, the Reading Club of SS had discussed articles on raising students’ motivation, creating a brave space for students in the classroom and facilitating students’ learning in an online environment. To accommodate the change in the meeting time of the Faculty Assembly, the Reading Club will continue our SoTL articles discussion on the third Friday of each month at 1:30 PM. All are welcome!

Last, but not least, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all our faculty for your hard work and flexibility in helping our students transitioning from F2F to online learning while facing a myriad of challenges under the impact of COVID-19. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Till next month. In the meantime, please remember the 3Ws—wash your hands, wear your mask, and watch your social distance.

-Julia
Strengths-based, Anti-racist Writing Assessment Workshop

The English Department has invited Professor Bethany Davila of the UNM-Albuquerque English Department to provide a workshop on “Strengths-based, Anti-racist Writing Assessment,” which will happen in Zoom on Sept. 21, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Any faculty who teach and respond to writing, not just English faculty, are welcome to attend.

Dr. Bethany Davila teaches and mentors undergraduate and graduate students in academic writing, focusing on helping students to identify and then meet audience and genre expectations. She sees this work as part of a social justice agenda to increase access to higher education for traditionally underrepresented students. Her scholarship, teaching, and administrative work explores opportunities for valuing linguistic diversity in writing classrooms in order to challenge “standard” English.

Faculty Updates

Justin Bendell:  
This summer, Justin spent much of June working on his novel in progress. He shopped it to one agent, got some half-positive feedback, and will be working on revisions throughout the year. His crime fiction podcast, Point Blank, released episodes 48 and 49, both focused on Attica Locke’s terrific rural crime novel, Bluebird, Bluebird. Justin also released a string of pandemic-inspired rock ‘n roll albums, the latest being a fake live album set on the moon by a fake band performing the songs of another fake band in front of a very enthusiastic fake audience. Justin has been participating community scholarship work with Abolish APD, an organization he co-founded in June with colleagues at UNM-Main that conducts research on police abolition & provides analysis of the long history and ongoing patterns of police violence in Albuquerque. They have published several essays in Counterpunch, a renown political news blog with national reach. Most recently, Justin submitted a proposal to MLA that explores the sometimes insidious relationship between crime fiction and policing.

Heather Wood recently presented at the UNM-VC Faculty Connections Conference held virtually in August. Her presentation was geared toward new online instructors and was entitled—“Rapid Response, Command of Tools, and Training/Development: Dr. Wood’s 3 Tips for Online Instructors.” Over the summer, Heather attended several webinars, including the Online Learning Consortium’s Innovate 2020 Virtual Conference, the American Association of University Women Rocky Mountain Virtual Conference, Global Green New Deal Webinar w/ Naomi Klein & Arundhati Roy, and the National Council of Teachers of English/Library of Congress Webinar on teaching the works of Walt Whitman. She also created a video presentation for Buttons and Figs Children’s Show on behalf of the Phoenix Public Library. (cont.)
Ana June has a nonfiction piece entitled “Collapse” published at Complete Sentence, a magazine of single-sentence prose. https://www.completesentencelit.com/

Liz Axelrod had a busy summer studying best practices for online teaching while surviving the pandemic; and spent a good deal of that home-time baking, growing tomatoes and writing. She worked with her New School MFA poetry classmates on weekly Zoom workshops and had a few publishing successes. A poem written in Anastacia Andersen’s UNM Continuing Ed. Poetry class was published in Maintenant 14: a Journal of Contemporary Dada Writing & Art, another poem, “Kittylust,” was published across the pond in Purrfect Poems, an anthology created to raise money in support of Cats Protection, “The UK’s largest feline welfare charity with the vision of ‘A world where every cat is treated with kindness and an understanding of its needs.’” (https://www.cats.org.uk August 2020).

And she’s most proud of her just published review of Lauren Russell’s Descent, a book of hybrid poems about her ancestry as part slave and part slave owner. The review is part of Boog City Paper, a community newspaper for an extended community that also has a fabulous, comprehensive feature on all things Anne Waldman.

Kristian Macaron has had several publications of poetry and fiction this summer:

- 3 poems (“Maps with Monsters”, “Las Vegas, 2049”, & “Inside I am Raining”) in Petrichor Magazine
- “two hearts” in Rust + Molt
- “Shipwreck on Olympus Mons” in Red Planet Magazine
- “Imperator Visits the Ocean” in Drunk Monkeys Magazine
- A haiku in Bones Journal
- “The Red Ribbon Tide” in Fresh.ink
- “Quake” in Gyroscope Review

These are available on Kristian’s website: kristianmacaron.com

Kristian has also become the Academic Affairs Coordinator co-overseer of the Learning Resource Center at University of the People and a board member to the local theater organization Theater-in-the-Making.

Patricia Gillikin took a course in Motivational Coaching, this summer, that was conducted through NM Delt, a state Adult Education organization that offers professional development, taught by Peggy Marquez, Cash Clifton, and Tina Hite. She also participated in a webinar on Experiential Learning in online settings offered by Rebecca Tedesco, and then Patricia joined a follow up playgroup which met weekly to try out and discuss ideas for effective experiential learning in synchronous sessions. That latter was delightful and extremely useful, and she’s already begun using ideas from other participants in her classes and tutor education workshops. Additionally, Patricia participated in the International Writing Center Association’s Summer Write Club, and as part of this met regularly with two Writing Center professionals; the group wrote together and encouraged each other’s writing.

Since the Conference on Writing Program Administration, CWPA, had its conference online and for free this year, Patricia joined sessions offered by them in July. Toward the end of the summer session, Patricia, along with summer Writing Consultant Allie Hefner, attended a webinar, “Anti-Racist Writing Center Pedagogy,” offered by the Mid-Atlantic Writing Centers Association. All summer long, she managed to tend three lovely tomato plants Ana June gave her in May, and now has an abundance of cherry tomatoes. More recently, Patricia began working with a Writing Center mentor, Shareen Grogan, former president of the International Writing Centers Association (IWCA) and all-around sweet person.

- Patricia
STEM-H and Learning Center Embedded Tutors

We now offer Embedded Tutoring!
Embedded Tutoring is when a Tutor is “embedded” into a course by:
- gaining access to the course syllabus, homework assignments, the textbook, and other academic materials
- attending lectures and/or watching recorded lectures
- facilitating weekly study sessions exclusively for their assigned course

See the next page for our current Embedded Tutors and their respective courses and study sessions.

Writing Center Embedded Tutors

Any instructor—not only in English!—can have a Writing Consultant embedded in their classes. At the most basic level, this means adding tutors in the course as Builders so they can read assignments and be prepared to support students with them. It also involves strong communication and clear expectations between tutors and instructors. Instructors can enable tutors to reach out to students in several ways, including through Course Messages, Announcements, an “Ask a Tutor” forum in Discussions, and specific spots in Learn where tutors can provide information about themselves and resources. (cont.)
TUTORS can also, schedule permitting, sit in on synchronous Zoom class sessions with students and do brief presentations on tutoring services, and instructors can provide extra credit for working with tutors. Finally, in coordination with Patricia Gillikin, Writing Center Director, instructors can ask students to meet with a tutor as part of an assignment sequence. The coordination will make sure that five full classes of students don’t attempt to make appointments in the same week (the Writing Center does not have enough weekly hours to accommodate that!), and integrating working with tutors into coursework for one assignment often “breaks the ice” and shows students what tutoring is like, such that they are more inclined to work with tutors in the future.

To arrange for embedded tutors in your classes, email Patricia Gillikin, gillikin@unm.edu.

Creative Writing Workshop
This workshop, Tuesdays 11 to 12 in Zoom, email gillikin@unm.edu to get a link, is laid back and full of appreciation and laughter. Typically, Allie Hefner, the tutor who facilitates it, invites participants to a focused free write with a prompt, and after seven to ten minutes of writing people who wish to share. Conversations about writing, supportive feedback, sharing of ongoing writing projects, and guest speakers happen regularly. In the summer, Professor Ana June participated several times at a student’s request to talk about and share prompts on memoir writing, Ana’s focus for her MFA.

Organizer Allie Hefner is seeking more participants, and when that has been achieved, wants to continue inviting guest speakers like Ana.

Thank you very much!

- Shalaine, Trevor, & Patricia

CURRENT EMBEDDED TUTORS: 
Respective Courses and Study Sessions

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<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Course Meeting Days</th>
<th>Course Meeting Times</th>
<th>Embedded Tutor</th>
<th>Embedded Tutoring Sessions: Days/Times</th>
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<td>Intro to Algebra</td>
<td>Precious Andrew</td>
<td>Mon/Wed</td>
<td>11:30am - 1:10pm</td>
<td>Elisa Ashford</td>
<td>Thursdays 2:30-4pm</td>
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<td>Intro to Algebra &amp; Intermediate Algebra</td>
<td>Eric Chavez</td>
<td>Mon/Wed</td>
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<td>Math for Elem-Mid School Teachers</td>
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<td>ASYNCHRONOUS</td>
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For Questions, Contact:
Shalaine Buck: Education Specialist, Learning Commons, sbuck07@unm.edu
Trevor Ballinger: Staff Tutor, STEM Center, ballingert@unm.edu
Patricia Gillikin: Writing Center Director, gillikin@unm.edu
September 2020

Embedded Librarians
Embed Kat or Barbara into your online or hybrid classes. The Library has Blackboard content for you to include in your Learn courses.

Career Ladder
Cory Meyer, who began working at the Valencia Campus Library in September 2017 was promoted from Library Information Specialist II, a non-exempt position, to Library Information Specialist III, an exempt position, on July 26, 2020. Cory is a credentialed Librarian; holding a Masters degree in Library Science in addition to decades of experience working in Libraries. We are so pleased about this promotion! Congratulations, Cory!

We are pleased to announce that our very own Cory Meyer was this year’s recipient of the Calistra Award. This is awarded by the Staff Association Executive Committee to an employee who fulfills and exceeds their duty with full dedication to excellence at UNM-Valencia. We are so pleased to have Cory in the Library and on the Valencia Campus.

Constitution Day, September 17, 2020
Constitution Day commemorates the formation and signing on September 17, 1787, of the Constitution and recognize all who, are born in the US or by naturalization, have become citizens. The library celebrated this day with a display and information presented through the library’s social media.

Banned Books Week 2020:
Banned Books Week 2020 is September 27-October 3, 2020. It brings together the entire book community—librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types—in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular.

The books featured during Banned Books Week have all been targeted with removal or restrictions in libraries and schools. While books have been and continue to be banned, part of the Banned Books Week celebration is to highlight the fact that, in a majority of cases, the books have remained available. This happens only thanks to the efforts of librarians, teachers, students, and community members who stand up and speak out for the freedom to read.

Check out the frequently challenged books section of the ALA website: http://www.ala.org/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks

COVID-19 Library Services
The Valencia Campus Library has remained committed to continue to provide services and resources to our Students, Faculty and Staff during the COVID-19 crisis. The Library began expanded hours and days beginning Monday, August 24, 2020 for UNM-affiliated (students, faculty, staff) only. Library in-person hours are now as follows:

- Monday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- Tuesday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- Wednesday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- Thursday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

We encourage making an appointment in advance so that we can manage maximum capacity and ensure social distancing. A mask is required when in the library. In-person services we offer:

- Lobocard ID creation (make sure to have your Banner UNM # and a picture ID)
- Library Course Reserves (contact Cory Meyer for more information)
- Laptop checkout (make sure to have the appropriate form filled out and signed before coming to the library)
- Pottery wheel checkout (make sure to have your Lobocard ID)
- Book/media checkout (make sure to have your Lobocard ID)
- Scanning
- Desktop computer use
- Printing (black & white and color)
- Reference/Research Assistance

We also extended our Zoom drop-in days. You can get live assistance via Zoom at https://unm.zoom.us/j/527080943 during the following times.

- Tuesday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Wednesday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Thursday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

We appreciate your making an appointment during our in-person and Zoom times. If you require assistance outside of these times, please contact us at unmvclib@unm.edu or at 505-925-8990.
Welcome...

To the 2020-2021 Academic year, as we begin “Bringing Back the Pack.” Just as the previous academic year ended, this year begins with most of us performing our professional duties over email and through the lens of a webcam. While the details are quite different from a year ago, the mission remains the same. The work that you all have put in to continue to deliver a quality education to our students no matter the circumstances is awe-inspiring. These efforts have not gone unnoticed by both the students and administration. In addition, many thanks go out to the countless faculty, staff, and administration who helped craft our reopening protocols to ensure the safety of those who are resuming face-to-face instruction. Additional thanks are due to the facilities staff that have taken on the critical task of cleaning the classrooms and other facilities in between uses. If you find yourself on campus, please take a moment to acknowledge their efforts.

The Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) more than ever remain committed to being the voice to the faculty.

If you cannot attend, the meetings will be recorded – one of the benefits of Zoom. Sadly, it seems that at least for the fall semester, we will be responsible for our own clementines and Oreos.

-Jerry

¡Somos Valencia! ¡Somos Lobos! ¡Somos Unidos!
Faculty Assembly Meeting Draft Agenda
Friday, September 11, 2020 (1:00 – 2:30 PM)
Zoom Meeting URL: https://unm.zoom.us/j/414697641

1. Call to Order (1 minute)
2. Acceptance of Agenda (1 minute)
3. Approval of Minutes (1 minute)
4. Chancellor’s Report – Alice Letteney (10 minutes)
5. Dean of Instruction Report – Laura Musselwhite (10 minutes)
6. Treasurer’s Report – Cheryl Bryan (1 minute)
7. Teaching and Learning Center Update – Soledad Garcia-King (5 minutes)
8. FAIT Update and New Statement – Justin Bendell (10 minutes)
9. Timing of Draft Agenda / Minutes – Greg Barnett (1 minute)
   a. Draft Minutes will be sent out at most one week after each meeting.
   b. I will ask for agenda items about two weeks before an upcoming meeting.
   c. Draft Agenda will be sent out one week prior to an upcoming meeting.
10. Be Kind Ad Hoc Committee – Cheryl Bryan (3 minutes)
11. Standing Committee Reports
   a. Adjunct Faculty – Ana June (3 minutes)
   b. Conflict Resolution (2 minutes)
   c. Cultural Enrichment – Alexa Wheeler (1 minute)
   d. Curriculum (2 minutes)
   e. Faculty Communications – Alexa Wheeler (1 minute)
   f. Faculty Handbook (2 minutes)
   g. Faculty Online Teaching and Review – Alexa Wheeler (2 minutes)
   h. Faculty Professional Development (2 minutes)
   i. Faculty Program Development (2 minutes)
   j. Faculty Senate Representative (2 minutes)
12. New Business / Announcements
13. Adjournment
1. Call to Order (1 minute)
   • 1:35 PM

2. Acceptance of Agenda (1 minute)
   • Motioned = Juliette
   • Seconded = Justin

3. Approval of Minutes (1 minute)
   • Motioned = Elaine
   • Seconded = Juliette

4. Chancellor’s Report – Alice Letteney (10 minutes)
   • Enrollment numbers for summer are down, but not as much as they could be
   • Independent community colleges created advertising campaign starting April 22
     - General kind of promotion
     - Joined all together
     - Saying that now that everyone is at home, it’s a good time to take classes online
     - Will air for three weeks
     - Will do our own local promotion as well
   • Graduation
     - Some are hoping to do face to face graduation still
     - Some are just doing webpages honoring the graduates
     - If you have ideas about that then email Alice or Laura or Hank
     - Some are doing virtual graduations
     - Alice is in favor of maybe doing something on the website
   • Special assistant to the governor on higher education
     - Cathy Winegrand, former president of CNM
     - Secretary of higher education resigned about a month ago
     - Cathy stepped in as special assistant
   • Anticipating that compensation increases will be reduced or cut
     - Sanding
     - Could be as high as 15%
     - Capital projects are on the table as well, but we don’t have any at the moment
     - Talked about the possibility of going into the fund balance, which hasn’t been discussed in a long time. Alice doesn’t think this will happen this year.
     - Worst cuts will probably be January of 2021 because that year’s budget stands to take the worst hit
     - State budget down by 1.5 to 3 billion dollars (expected)
     - What does it mean to go into the fund balance?
     - About 60% of our budget comes from the state
     - State can go in and take money from reserves
     - We have several million dollars in reserves
Colleges that have saved money over time can lose some of that money. Alice doesn’t think it will happen this year, but should consider the possibility that it could happen next year.

Heather and Elaine bring up not using Chrome books, because they are limited, but other laptops would be good to have. Jerry says students are more concerned about access than hardware. Having trouble with their internet connection. Elaine says Chrome books aren’t good for CS classes either because they can’t run any of the environments needed for coding. John points out that pretty good laptops are often not much more expensive than Chrome books. Alice asks if Alexa thinks we need two different platforms. Alexa says her students would be more comfortable on a Mac, but it’s a small population so she doesn’t know.

Soledad thinks it is important for students to have experience with Mac and PC products. Stephen talking about UNM Re-app
- Low prices
- Wondering about maybe using assembly funds to buy technology
Elaine talks about new processors coming out soon. Good time to buy because of that. Alice says any thoughts you have about computers and technology should be sent to her.

Dean of Instruction Report – Laura Musselwhite (10 minutes)
- Memos related to course evals and promotion and tenure clock
- Perfectly free to not do your course evals this semester
- Need to send a message to opt out
- Even if you do the evals, there will be a memo in the files reminding people that these evals are going to be different than usual
- Don’t forget that this has happened
- Jerry asks if you choose to not extend it, then will there be an adjustment to what is expected? Laura says yes.
- Elaine asks about supervisor observations in person that couldn’t take place
- Laura says almost any strange situation is going to be acceptable this semester
- Or when we come back in the fall, you could have someone do two to make up for the one that was missed
- Julia So asks if the tenure and promotion question needs to be decided now, or not. Laura says you need to decide the May prior to the review year.
- Elaine asks about full professor process. That one you don’t have to do, but you can if you want to after eleven years.
- Approaching fall as normal, although it might not end up working out that way
- Unionization

Treasurer’s Report – Stephen Takach (1 minute)
- $433.80 remaining of our $500
- Elaine is going to email Stephen what we have done in MECS for exams

Faculty Executive Committee – Voting (5 minutes)
- 27 people responded to the email poll
  - None of the positions were contested
  - President Elect: Jerry
  - Cheryl Bryan: Vice President Elect
  - Greg Barnett: Secretary
  - Juliette Cunico: At Large
  - Teresa Goodhue: At Large

Nominations for Faculty Senate representative
- Stephen Takach nominated. Cannot accept because of his teaching schedule.
- Barbara Lovato nominated. She accepts.
- Cheryl discusses some of the responsibilities and activities when you are a faculty senate representative
- Jerry asks for volunteers for the two alternate positions.
  - Julia So volunteers (alternate for Alexa). None oppose.
  - Nancy Engler volunteers (alternate for Barbara). None oppose.

Faculty Senate Information – Cheryl Bryan (10 minutes)
- Really making an effort to more fully include branch campuses
- Trying to call it the ABQ campus instead of the main campus
- Had a conversation about why branch campuses might be looked down upon
  - Want to work on changing that attitude
- Alexa said Finney didn’t know we are not really allowed to take sabbaticals

Changes to the FOTRC part of the Handbook – Elaine Clark (15 minutes)
- Got pre-meeting input from only one person, Julia
- Not a lot of substantive change to the first part
- Motion to accept the changes to the one-page part of the handbook
  - Motioned = Justin
Seconded = Juliette and Soledad

- Second part that changed is longer
- What we do as due process once the review of a course is done
- Initial reviews are just looking at the course making sure there are the correct learning objectives
- Have had a couple of issues recently with ABQ campus not accepting transfer credit because they said the objectives listed in the syllabus were not correct
- Meeting the initial review is easy
- Template being created for those initial reviews
  - Helping our faculty learn how to write objectives
  - Appendix in the handbook
- Peer review workshops
  - Mentors from the committee who work with the faculty and give them pointers
  - Julia said can we give people two semesters to address those changes instead of just one semester, if those corrections are substantive
  - Julia says sometimes it is unreasonable to ask the faculty member to address the issue in just one semester. Recommends instead addressing half in the first semester, and rest in second semester.
  - Juliette suggests that she likes the idea of the full year revisions in some cases, but help faculty who have not designed unit level objectives first because that is important before worrying about the rest of the possible issues.
- Elaine mentions accountability. In the past, decided that peer review should not be included in tenure and promotion considerations. Wary about sharing reports with division chairs.
- Cheryl thinks even in the peer review process changes should be addressed within one semester rather than one year. Nancy agrees and mentions that you only need to bring it up to 85% of what is expected, not the full 100. She things one semester should be enough to accomplish that.
- John Bollweg suggests that a flow chart would make it easier to understand this whole process that Elaine is describing.
- Julia suggests that any faculty member who requests to have a course review, they must already have student learning outcomes aligned with course outcomes.

Soledad says that should already be a part of the initial review. Also mentions that a course that needs an overhaul might need more than one semester to correct.

Juliette says if a class needs substantial changes, then during the first semester there is a minimal list of what must happen in the first semester, then maybe more in the second semester.

Elaine says she wants to go back to the handbook committee and firm up the changes they are making. Then she wants to do an electronic vote to confirm the changes they settle on.

10. New Business / Announcements

- John Bollweg wants to re-iterate invitation of faculty to the staff virtual lunch on Wednesdays. Inside Higher Ed article from earlier today. Recommends taking a look at it. Insidehighered.com
- Elaine mentions Soledad, Justin, and her are working on totally revamping the training class. Changing it to a non-banner class so you won’t have to go through Francis to register and through Debra to pay for it. Will have a flyer to share on April 24th regarding this subject.

11. Adjournment

- 3:05 PM