# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Report Type</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President Report</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>CHESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Executive Officer Report</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Adult Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dean of Instruction Report</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>TTT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library News</td>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>Writing Center Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title III and V Grants</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>MES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Tech. &amp; Fine Arts</td>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>Reports from the Road</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Photo courtesy of Dean Laura Musselwhite
The Spring 2017 semester is well underway. I am already referring to Spring Break in class. Times sure flies! We welcome our new full-time math instructor, Mychael Smith, as well as Laura Newland, our newest nursing instructor. Best of luck to those going through the promotion process. Plans are being formulated to introduce Valencia students to undergraduate research under Dr. Tracy Terry, Dr. Kevin Hobbs, Dr. Ben Flicker, Dr. Alfonso Heras Llano, and me with Dr. Miriam Chavez and Victor French overseeing this research made possible by the Title III grant. Please encourage your students to take part in the inaugural Student Reading Series and/or Literary Journal Day on February 22, Pi Day on March 23 and Earth Day on April 20, 2017.

Thank you,
Annette Hatch
Chief Executive Officer Report  

By Alice Letteney

First, a big thank you to all of our faculty, staff, and students who assisted with the SOUPER BOWL on February 5th, and especially to Bev for her role in the soup production, our maintenance staff, our police, and Kristina who provided so much of the planning. The Tome Gallery volunteers were effusive in praise of our staff for this event which raises money for art student scholarships. And, finally, thank you to Jan Pacifico and her volunteers who make this event such a great community gathering over the years.

As you may know, we learned on January 13 that our NSF S-STEM grant has been confirmed. This grant will allow us to provide up to 15 STEM student need-based scholarships per year for the next five years. Many thanks to all the faculty and staff who worked on this grant, and especially to Dean Musselwhite who was instrumental in preparing this submission with Cindy Shue. And thanks to Miriam Chavez who serves as our P.I.

News from the legislature is that we can expect a somewhat higher cut to our state appropriations for next year than we received this year. We are anticipating an additional 1% cut over the 5.5% cut we received this year, as well as a 6.5% cut to Special Projects. This will mean a cut of well over $331,000 to our base and $10,200 to our Nurse Expansion Special Project.

However, we are looking at every expenditure, and working to increase our student enrollment, and are fortunate to have received federal grants which allow us to explore new avenues of teaching and learning and service to students.

As you may know, we have a Gala scheduled for March 4, with catering by Scalo’s Restaurant who have been extremely generous in donating their food and staff. The proceeds from the event will match our grant endowment funds and will provide student scholarships. Kristina Martinez will be asking our staff to donate items for the silent auction and/or volunteer for the event. Since this is our 35th Anniversary, we are asking you to provide some photos of you during the 80’s.

We were honored to have our Department of Education grant monitor, Rick Gaona here for a visit a few weeks ago. He was very impressed by the enthusiasm of our faculty and staff and your commitment to our students. You continue to make Valencia a special, welcoming place! As ever, my door is always open should you like to come and share your thoughts.
Dean of Instruction Update for February Faculty Newsletter
*By Laura Musselwhite*

Hello everyone! I hope your spring semester is going well. We have a wealth of activity this month. It was wonderful to see such a large turnout at the Soup-R-Bowl on the 5th. The parking lot and the SCC were packed, and I appreciate all of you who came to volunteer. The scholarship funds raised by this event are a great boon to our students. Valencia Speaks on the 9th featured one of our own, Rebecca Evanko, talking about Autism. Thank you to Julia So, who continues to organize this event each semester. Towards the end of the month (February 27th through March 31st), we will have our First Annual Student Art Exhibition, curated by Ben Johnsen. This will be wonderful opportunity to show off student work in a professional setting. A unique event occurs on March 2nd. Noel Harvey Pugach will be here to share his portrayal of author John Steinbeck. Lastly, I hope some of you can attend the upcoming UNM-Valencia Gala on March 4th. It will have an ‘80s theme, and should be a lot of fun! The administration is requesting photos of you during the ‘80s. I personally cannot wait to see them, and yes, I will add one of myself.

An event that merits special mention is our upcoming ACEN Accreditation Site Visit on March 7-9. Three committee members from the Accrediting Commission for Education in Nursing will be on campus to hopefully affirm our initial accreditation of the Nursing Program. Kudos for tons of hard work go to Marji Campbell, Mary Moser-Gautreaux, Sheral Cain, and Laura Newland, our newest Nursing faculty member, plus the Nursing Department staff Barbara Sanchez and Kathryn Trujillo. Thanks also to those faculty members who have volunteered to meet with the visitors during their time on campus. Years of preparation have gone into this moment, and I am excited for a positive outcome!

As I write this update, it has been a day when professionalism during moments of stress has been obvious across various offices on campus. It has also been the day when Betsy DeVos was confirmed as Secretary of Education, which I know has caused consternation and fear among colleagues, during a time when the role of higher education in society seems somehow lessened. Even though I, hopefully, regularly affirm the excellence of your work and depth of devotion to students, today I also want to affirm the choice that all of us have made to a career of service in the cause of intellect, reason, and growth of the human experience. Our work is made up of thousands of baby steps, as we guide students and other colleagues down a path designed to increase our knowledge and ultimately result in the betterment of society at large. Some days it doesn’t feel like that, I know. It feels more mundane, more routine; however, if you have taught for any length of time, you know there is more to it. Every student success (those we are privy to and those we are not) validates our choice to teach. Never lose sight of your intellectual goals and the spark that drew you to education in the first place.
Spring Break Library Hours
March 13-17, 2017 8:00am – 5:00pm

LearningExpress Library™
LearningExpress Library features nearly 1,000 online tutorials, practice tests, and eBooks. It offers job search and workplace skills improvement, skill building in reading, writing, math, and basic science, career certification and licensure exam prep, college and grad school entrance test prep, GED® test prep, and more. Below are just a few of the centers included in this resource.

**High School Equivalency Center**

**Are You Ready?**
- Test Yourself: TABE®-Based Skills Check

**Build Your Basic Skills**
- Build Your Reading Skills
- Build Your Writing Skills
- Build Your Math Skills
- Build Your Grammar Skills

**Prepare for the GED® Test**
- Learn About the GED® Test
- Reasoning through Language Arts
- Mathematical Reasoning
- Social Studies
- Science

**GED® en Español**
- Aprenda Sobre el Examen de GED®
- Razonamiento a través de las Artes del Lenguaje
- Razonamiento Matemático
- Estudios Sociales
- Ciencia

**Prepare for the HiSET®**
- Language Arts Practice Exams
- Mathematics Practice Exams
- Social Studies Practice Exams
- Science Practice Exams

**Prepare for the TASC**
- Language Arts Practice Tests
- Mathematics Practice Tests
- Social Studies Practice Tests
- Science Practice Tests

**College Center**

**Math Skills Review**
- Algebra
- Basic Math
- Calculus
- Geometry and Measurement
- Trigonometry
- Statistics
- Logic and Reasoning
- Quantitative Comparison and Word Problems

**Reading Skills Review**
- Reading Comprehension
- Vocabulary and Spelling

**Grammar and Writing Skills Review**
- Grammar
- Writing
- Public Speaking

**Science Skills Review**
- Chemistry
- Biology

**Prepare for Graduate School Admissions Exams**
- GMAT® Preparation
- GRE® Preparation
- LSAT® Preparation
- MAT® Preparation
- MCAT® Preparation
- PCAT® Preparation
Library Instruction
Library instruction helps students formulate topics, develop search strategies, locate, evaluate, and effectively use targeted, high quality academic sources for projects ranging from short speeches to term papers. Instruction sessions are typically conducted in the Library classroom (LRC 143) in order to provide students hands-on experience using the resources during the session and can contain general library information or be customized to specific assignment. Sessions can also be scheduled in other classrooms or labs.
Please contact LeAnn Weller, lweller1@unm.edu, 925-8993 for more information.
Title III and Title V Grants

**The Title III STEM** grant is in full hiring and purchasing status. Congratulations to Victor French who has joined the faculty ranks and will be overseeing the Undergraduate Research Lab project from developing the course curriculum to working with several contractors to build the lab and ultimately working directly with students doing research. The lab will be located in the Vocational Career/Technical building Rm 103. The goal is to have the lab up and running for fall classes. Students will work with STEM faculty to participate in real research in their discipline of choice. We will keep you posted.

**Title V Next Generation Project:**

**Distance Learning:** Elaine Clark and the FOTRC Committee continue to work on improving our online course offerings through faculty training and course reviews.

**The Writing Center:** Patricia Gillikin has many activities planned for the spring. Please read her article.

**The Math Center:** Sarah Garde is working with students and tutors to improve the pass rates of Introductory Algebra. She continues to provide training to faculty on the use of the SMART Boards. Please contact Sarah, sgarde@unm.edu, if you are interested in using the board in your classroom. We have students who can help you convert your course materials for SMART use.

**IIT Coordinator, James Hart** is busy rebuilding the IT classroom. He revamped the IIT degree program which is making its way through Main Campus curriculum committee.

**The Learning Commons:** Thank you to all the faculty who are contributing some of your office time to the STEM, Learning and Writing Centers. It is rewarding to see students interacting with you in the Centers. Anyone who wants to contribute an hour or more a week, please let me know and we will put you on the schedule.

Lucille Farrington has retired and we are in the process of hiring a qualified person to oversee the Learning Commons. If you know someone who is interested, please have them speak to me and apply at https://unmjobs.unm.edu. Posting #0837338.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosa Auletta

Title III and V, Project Director
**Business, Technology and Fine Arts Division Report**
Alexa Wheeler, BTFA Chair

The semester in BTFA is off to a great start. We had some class cancellations and room adjustments, but things are running smoothly now thanks to our wonderful faculty and staff. We are working on the Summer and Fall 2017 schedules to consolidate classes and offer a wider variety of course options to boost enrollment, including new online sections and times.

Three BTFA Faculty, Roseanna McGuinn, Justin Romine, and Julia Lambright, are currently enrolled in the EDUC 293 course for UNM-Valencia Online Teaching Certification. Two other faculty in BTFA, James Hart and I, are already certified. We are working on finding a pathway to a fully online degree in the near future. It has been a pleasure to serve on the Faculty Online Teaching and Review Committee, chaired by Elaine Clark, which has facilitated this process. I am excited to present with Elaine Clark, Heather Wood, and Soledad Garcia-King at the NMHEAR Conference on February 23.

Susan Jackson and I will attend the 97th Annual American Association of Community Colleges Conference in New Orleans in late April. This conference will provide excellent opportunities to network, learn from educators, industry, business, and government professionals, and discover innovative curriculum and certifications, with a CTE focus, for our campus. Look forward to a report on what we learned and how we can apply that to our programs!

All of the curriculum revisions submitted last Fall for CAD, DMA, IT, Film, Auto and a new Welding program have been approved! Keep an eye out for the changes in the online catalog as the website goes through updates. The Studio Art and HIT programs are still working their way through UNM’s Curriculum Workflow. We hope to finalize those curriculum changes soon. BTFA Programs that will be reviewed in the upcoming curriculum cycle include OBT and Business Administration.

The Information Technology program, coordinated by James Hart, has now become part of the following academies: Oracle Academy, Cisco Academy, RedHat Academy, and VmWare Academy. All of these academies provide industry-standard curriculum and certifications for our students across a wide variety of disciplines. We are excited for the hard work James put in to make this happen, and for our students to be professionally recognized in their respective fields upon graduation.

Ben Johnsen and Alex Sanchez are excited to be offering a new 2nd 8-week class for this Spring 2017 semester: IT 293 / CADT 293 / FA 229 (cross-listed) - 123D Create. Ben explains the course - “Exploring free software applications students will capture three-dimensional objects, manipulate them with computer modeling and reproduce them by laminate layer fabrication, with layers cut by laser, to gain an introductory knowledge of the principals and practices leading into three-dimensional printing.” This class will be utilizing the new Laser Cutter purchased through Perkins. It will be exciting to see it in action by students.
Ben Johnsen’s wife, Theresa, has accepted a position in Las Vegas, Nevada and we will unfortunately be losing Ben at the end of this semester. He has been an invaluable asset to our compass over the past few years, first as an adjunct and now as a Visiting Lecturer, Program Coordinator and Gallery Coordinator in Fine Arts. He facilitated the setup of our woodshop, has been an excellent teacher, and has brought amazing artists to lecture as well as to exhibit at our campus. He has always gone above and beyond, which will surely prove to land him an excellent position wherever he goes next. Thanks for your service, Ben!

On a side note, Stephen Takach and I have been working hard as Co-Chairs of the Lecturer Track Committee to facilitate the first-ever Lecturer Promotion process here at Valencia Campus. Currently, four lecturers have compiled their dossiers as candidates for promotion: Barbara Lovato, LeAnn Weller, Tina Hite, and myself. We are looking forward to seeing all of our campus Lecturers at the voting meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 15 at 3pm in the Business & Technology Conference Room - B121.

The Fine Arts Gallery Report
The Professional Gallery currently is exhibiting works by David Cudney. Please stop by - it’s an excellent show! Thanks to all of you who attended the reception on February 9. We appreciate you taking time out of your schedule to support the arts. The show will be up until February 17.

Ben has organized our First Annual Student Art Show which will take place in our Professional Gallery! He is looking for student artwork for a show on display from February 27 to March 31. Any and all art or craft work will be accepted. That includes, but not limited to the following: Painting, drawing, Photography, Film, Sculpture, video game design, ceramics, 3-D prints or pretty much anything made using creative talents.

All works need to be presentation ready and have a clear and durable way to be displayed. If you have questions on presenting your work and what is available from the gallery, please contact Ben at bjohnsen@unm.com.

Drop off of student work should occur the week of February 20-24. Work can be dropped off Tuesday through Thursday to Ben at the gallery or art studios. If another time needs to be arranged, please contact Ben at 925.8571.

Students in any program are encouraged to submit. They do not have to be enrolled in art specific classes. There is a wealth of talent at our campus, so spread the word!
CHESS Report

In December, Patricia Gillikin visited two writing centers in Austin, Texas: St. Edward's University and the University of Texas at Austin. Though they contrast greatly in size, both gave her ideas for our writing center. In January and February, Patricia has been taking the improv class Intermediate I at The Box, and will participate in a Showcase from various classes on Feb. 19. Meanwhile, Patricia and Erin Northern are planning another OUTSpoken Trans and Queer Poetry event on Saturday, March 11 at Winning Coffee in Albuquerque. Poet Jesse Yelvington will lead a writing workshop before the event, and Eva Crespin, Gigi Bella, and Mercedez Holtry will feature.

**JOHN STEINBECK-“THE TRAVELING MAN”**

By Noel Harvey Pugach

Please join us for a presentation of John Steinbeck’s writing by Noel Harvey Pugach. This presentation captures the essence of John Steinbeck—his personality, his struggles, and his psychology in all its complexity. Steinbeck was compelled by the art of travel—Pugach embodies the writer as he expresses this theme in Steinbeck’s most compelling works.

Please join us March 2, 2017 at 2:30PM!
Student Reading Series & Literary Journal Kickoff Meeting!!

Wed.2.22
The UNM-Valencia Writing Center

Please join us for the first UNM-Valencia Student Reading Series. Bring your stories, poems, songs, jokes, and whatever else you want to share! Come to read or come to listen. We will be giving information on how you can get involved in the publication of the forthcoming LiteraryJournal.

Creative Writing Student Reading Series: 12-1 pm
Literary Journal Introductory Meeting: 1-2 pm

For more information, visit our Facebook event page. Open Mic sign-up at event. To sign up early to read please email Professor Bendell: jbendell@unm.edu
Adult Education
By Michael Carriere

In November, the state funding for Adult Education was reduced by 5.5%. This was a $13,745 reduction for the program. This reduction challenged us to develop creative ways to reduce our spending, how we duplicate and deliver homework to our students. Class offerings have been reduced, and we are making more effective use of blended learning courses where students complete most of their work independently online.

The ACCE (Accelerated College and Career Education) project is a state-wide partnership with HSD, SL Start, and other adult education programs. The program was developed to help as many TANF clients as possible receive a high school equivalency certificate. Instruction is provided through a blended learning model where students meet with the instructor 1-3 times per week with intensive follow-up by the instructor and SL Start staff. The curriculum includes: career explorations and planning, financial literacy, computer skills, communication skills, reading for information, locating information, and mathematics. A challenge for this project is ensuring that students have access to the technology and internet required to complete assignments at a distance. SL Start and adult education partners are working on a solution.

Our instructors have also started utilizing a new mathematics web-based program called EdReady (http://nmdelel.edready.org). NM DELT (Distance Education and Learning Technologies) created EdReady assessments that align with Adult Education College and Career Readiness Standards and National Reporting System educational functioning levels to which adult education programs are held accountable. Students are introduced to the program by completing a diagnostic test. Depending on the level of the test (1-6), it may take students as long as 10 minutes to a few hours to complete one test; however, once completed, a learning plan is generated. The student studies towards mastery in areas that they missed during the diagnostic portion. The program utilizes a variety of methods to help the student gain mastery, from videos, written explanations, to practice problems. Once a student has studied and feels confident, they may attempt to gain mastery over the specific area they were studying. Our instructors have adopted an emporium model to instruct mathematics. Only time will tell how well this method works.

One of our annual events is quickly approaching, Adult Ed. day at the Round House. AE day will take place on February 22. Students will take the train to Santa Fe, tour the Round House, watch the legislature in action, and visit with legislators.
As we continue on our journey learning about best teaching practices, November’s TTT Workshop focused on using “Critical Thinking Cubes” as a means of initiating class discussions in a fun, non-threatening manner. LeAnn Weller presented the research behind the Critical Thinking Cubes, and led the whole group discussion on possible uses for them. Participants then broke up into subgroups based on disciplines to further brainstorm ideas specific to each discipline. Participants used materials provided to create customized models of the Critical Thinking Cubes.

**Upcoming TTT Workshops:**

- **February 22:** Andragogy vs. Pedagogy
- **March 29:** Best practices in teaching web-enhanced/hybrid/on-line classes
- **April 26:** Gamification Ideas (e.g., Kahoot, etc)

**Location:** LRC101-C  
**Time:** 1:30 – 2:45 pm  
**SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED!**

*We look forward to seeing you at our TTT Workshops on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 1:30 – 2:45 pm in LRC-101C! Workshops are hands-on and engaging! Spend quality time with your colleagues sharing ideas!*
Writing Center Report
By Director, Patricia Gillikin

The UNM-Valencia Writing Center is over a year old now; it feels good to have it solidly established even as we work continuously to improve and grow.

Our spring hours are 9 to 6 Monday through Thursday and 10 to 1 Fridays. We do synchronous online appointments as well as in person appointments, and we have a new phone: 925-8548. We have faculty Amiee Stahlman, Kristian Macaron, Justin Bendell, and Mary Cooper-Wallace holding office hours in the Writing Center (if you would like to do so as well, let us know!).

Consultants have been working hard on sessions for CRLA training. Cindi Goodman and Ashley Lucero, who have taken over the trainings from Lucille, have taken up the consultants on their offer to do three Friday sessions. The first was January 27; Michael presented on asking questions. On February 24, Fernanda, Ector, and Sarah will present on working with English Language Learners, and on March 10, Rae and Chynna will present on working with writers with disabilities. I am proud of their professionalism, creativity, and dedication, and I’m incredibly pleased with how much they are learning.

As of the beginning of the fourth week of classes, every in-person writing course from 100 through 120 has done a class visit and orientation in the Writing Center—as well as a few others such as Evan Ashworth’s Linguistics and Laura Musselwhite’s History 101. Consultants are especially enjoying working with writers on their History 101 Hammurabi paper. The Writing Center is also doing whole class workshops on MLA and is available for other topics—come let us know if you are interested.

February 13 through 17th we will celebrate International Writing Centers Week; come over to craft a thank you and/or a valentine. On Tuesday the 14th from 12:30 to 1, we’ll also celebrate Mother Language day with videos and conversation.

Rae continues to offer a Creative Writing Workshop on Thursdays 12 to 1.

Meanwhile, on Wednesday, February 22 from 12 to 2, the Writing Center will host an event organized by Kristian Macaron, Justin Bendell, and Rae: Student Reading Series and Literary Journal Meeting. This is the kick-off not only to a showcase for student creative writing, but also for a literary magazine.

I’ve been using what I’ve learned in my improv classes to augment the professional development I prepare for consultants, and on Feb. 23 I’ll present at NMHEAR on what we’ve been doing.

In early March, we’ll again join Katie Denton and the tutors at UNM-Main’s Writing and Language Center for joint training.

If you haven’t stopped by yet this semester, please do so! We still have a puzzle that needs work and the art center that we’ll make for International Writing Centers Week will become a permanent part of our space—you are welcome to come play.
Victor French, our former Lab TA, is now in a faculty position working with the Title III STEM Undergraduate Research Initiative. Victor has a Master’s Degree in Biology. It’s an awesome move for Victor to share his research expertise with our students and to work with our other science and mathematics faculty in developing our new undergraduate research program.

Virginia Chang, one of our Chemistry faculty, and I are part of the EPSCoR Faculty Leadership and Professional Development Institute. In December she and I participated in a workshop about Mindset and we met other people involved in the institute. Our work with the institute will be ongoing this spring. Here is a link to the website describing the purpose of the FLPDI [www.nmepscor.org/education-and-outreach/programs/faculty-leadership-and-professional-development-institute-flpdi](http://www.nmepscor.org/education-and-outreach/programs/faculty-leadership-and-professional-development-institute-flpdi).
**Dr. James Farslow** is a native of Albuquerque who spent much of his youth living in various parts of the U.S. and Canada. He graduated high school from New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell in 1978, and later entered a 25-year career as a radar air traffic controller with the FAA. After retiring from the FAA in 2009, Dr. Farslow completed his PhD in Biology from UNM in December, 2015, specializing in evolutionary and molecular genetics. He has had a lifelong interest in science in general, and biology in particular. His primary research interest is the formation and evolutionary consequences of new genetic information. We welcome James who is teaching Biology for us part-time.

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**JMM 2017 by Annette Hatch**

The Joint Math Meeting 2017 was held in Atlanta GA in early January. This 4-day conference regularly attracts approximately 6000 attendees. This was my third JMM and every year I am more amazed at the diversity of the presentations. It is an incredible opportunity to hear about everything mathematical in presentations ranging from 10 minutes to an hour. This year, I particularly enjoyed learning about research areas for undergraduates and outreach to K-12 students. Thank you to the Faculty Professional Development Committee for helping me attend this wonderful event.