



Faculty Newsletter

February 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Dean of Instruction Report
- 3 Reflections on Attending the AP
Precalculus Symposium
- 4 Humanities Division Note
- 6 Reading New Mexico
- 6 Call for Art
- 7 Library News
- 8 Faculty Senate Report
- 9 Tutoring Services Report
- 12 Volunteering Opportunity
- 13 Faculty Assembly President's Message



DEAN OF INSTRUCTION REPORT

Dr. Laura Musselwhite

Welcome to Spring Semester everyone! I hope you had time to recharge over the break. It has been great to see everyone in the hallways!

I want to acknowledge your high level of participation in the New Mexico Higher Education Assessment and Retention Conference once again this year. We have ten faculty and staff members participating in five separate presentations this time. Our showing at this conference is always strong, and I am very proud of all of your hard work. Several of the presentations relate to the PASOS grant, and I want to thank Cheryl Bryan for being our faculty activities coordinator this year. We started year three of the grant last October, and I look forward to seeing how our work morphs as we mature in the processes we have created or improved upon.

Faculty search season is in full swing, and many of you are serving on search committees. We have five searches open at this time. As I tell every committee, bringing high quality colleagues/teachers to our campus is one of the most important things in which we can engage. It is our opportunity to strengthen the faculty body, shape our future, and ensure stellar teaching and learning. Your role is key, so please know how critical your committee work is for our road ahead. If you are engaged in the strategic planning process, we are aiming for a rollout of the plan in April. That means we will soon be wrapping up initial work in order for the Strategic Planning Committee and workgroup chairs to craft the plan from all of the ideas that have come in from the various groups. We will use the plan to identify priorities and effective ways to achieve them over the next five years.

Speaking of strategic planning, I appreciate your patience as we navigate faculty workload. As of this spring, we moved to a 4/5 teaching load for all faculty. Currently, the administration is analyzing the financial impact so that we can plan with intention and good information. I know it is a difficult conversation, which elicits great passion because of how fundamental it is to our daily life and work. The many talks I have had with members of the faculty convey a range of emotions, which I respect and honor, as does Dr. Dosumu. We are listening, as well as meeting with Cheryl, as your representative, on a regular basis.

Please make note of these events:

Week of February 6 – Be Kind Week

Tuesday, February 7 – eDay (LRC101), 12pm

Friday, February 10 – Faculty Academy (A-101), 10am, followed by Faculty Assembly (LRC-101), 1pm

Wednesday, February 15 – UNM Data Event (Zoom)

Thursday, February 16 – Wellness Expo (SCC), 10am-2pm

Thursday and Friday, February 16-17 -- NMHEAR

REFLECTIONS ON ATTENDING THE AP PRECALCULUS SYMPOSIUM

Precious Andrew

This summer I was invited by College Board to attend the Higher Education Symposium on Advanced Placement (AP) Precalculus. The event took place November 4-6, 2022, in Cleveland, Ohio and I am excited to say that I was there to represent The University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus.

As a relatively new tenure-track faculty member, this symposium was my first opportunity to participate in a scholarly event at the national level. The purpose of this article is twofold: to share the value I felt was in attending an event with a broader scope than a local or state conference, and to highlight some of what I learned about the proposed AP Precalculus test itself.

The symposium gathered over 100 mathematics faculty from across the country from a broad range of universities, colleges, and even a few high schools. Participants represented a diverse collection of institutions; in fact, there were educators from institutions that varied all the way from low-income high schools to prestigious universities whose entry-level mathematics course is calculus.

Participants were presented with the draft course framework for AP Precalculus and a sample of the exam itself, proposed to roll out in the next one to two years. As college educators, we were asked for our input on the content of the course and exam.

Would a student who passed this exam be prepared for a calculus course at our respective institution? Does the proposed course have more content than a student needs to succeed in a college calculus course? How does the course align with the content we teach in precalculus at our institutions? Depending on the college or university, students who pass the AP exam could be awarded college credit for courses like College Algebra, Precalculus, and Trigonometry.

Hearing the variety of responses to the difficulty of the proposed exam from faculty was a great reminder of the varying levels of rigor and diverse expectations that even our students who transfer from two-year to four-year institutions will face. There was a heated debate between two attendees, one who said that the exam was too difficult and that while many of his calculus students arrive to his class without basic arithmetic skills, the door should not be closed on them. The other argued back that if students arrive in his calculus class unable to do the problems on the proposed AP exam, he would not kick them out but would happily fail them. What a spectrum of expectations that students may encounter!

The content in the course framework was also cause for debate. Having taught precalculus for many years, it was interesting for me to learn which topics that other instructors found valuable and which they place less emphasis on. The general consensus was that the proposed course went into too much depth on polar and parametric functions, vectors, and matrices. Most attendees felt an introduction to these topics was more appropriate. I was glad to hear that this is in line with our typical syllabus at UNM.

Another point of contention was that a significant portion of the sample exam relied on students using a graphing calculator. Some attendees felt that our student demographic may include those not able to afford this technology. Attendees also noted that many of us teach our college courses with minimal calculator use, insisting that students do the algebra by hand. The percentage of data-based and calculator reliant questions on the exam seemed out of line with what most faculty expected, although there were a few who felt that students mastering the use of a graphing calculator was indeed essential. I am curious to see what the finalized version of the AP Precalculus exam looks like, considering the varied feedback given by faculty at the symposium. I hope the exam opens the door for more students to pursue a college degree at my institution and others by allowing more STEM majors to bypass prerequisite courses and finish a degree in four years. I hope that my input from the perspective of an instructor at a two-year college was valuable in shaping the prospective exam.

While I enjoyed learning more about the exam itself and helping to shape its content, I also felt that the symposium was a great professional development opportunity. I loved hearing the thoughts, ideas, and expectations of a variety of faculty from a spectrum of institutions. While local and state events are great in the sense that many attendees share a similar student body, attending this national event really gave me perspective on the varying expectations that we prepare our students for, and also the varied backgrounds they may come from.

I valued the chance to network with mathematics faculty from across the nation and I learned about the opportunity to participate as a grader in the annual AP Calculus reading held during June in Kansas City. Perhaps yet another great professional development opportunity.



$f(x)$

HUMANITIES DIVISION NOTE

Justin Bendell, Chair

Hello everyone. This is the first communique of 2023 from the Humanities Division. Here's what's up.

General:

I have requested new tenure track lines for Spanish & English. This is a crapshoot, but the first step to getting anything is asking nicely.

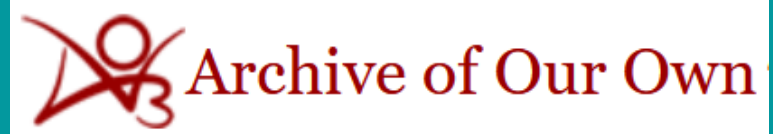
English:

In mid-January, we began the interview process for two tenure-track English faculty positions vacated by Dr. Heather Wood (resignation) & Professor Jami Huntsinger (retirement) in Fall 2022. We hope to complete the process by late March.

The incipient AA in English Program soon hopes to pass another threshold. In early February, I will be presenting the Program to the SSTAR Committee at UNM-Albuquerque. I hope they like it.

Patricia Gillikin participated in a Fic Exchange Event for the Emergency! fandom over the winter break. For this event, sixteen writers wrote stories as a gift for one of the other writers. Patricia's story "Love in a Family Dose" is 6,500 words long and responded to the prompts "hurt/comfort" and "found family." It is posted on Archive of Our Own (AO3)

New part-time English faculty **Natalie Sheppard** is spending most of her time working on her dissertation, which is about visual rhetoric in comic book adaptations of literature from *The Odyssey* to *Harry Potter*. She hopes to finish this Spring and will be graduating from Louisiana State University. Before the pandemic she was a frequent conference goer and has presented on topics such as deaf semiotics in *Hawkeye* comics, music visualizations in *The Wicked + The Divine*, and narratology in *Magic: The Gathering*, as well as using popular culture in the classroom. Her most recent publication is a chapter in *The New Witches: Critical Essays on 21st Century Television Portrayals*, about open access libraries and alternative modes of education in SyFy's *The Magicians*. She's currently teaching College Reading & Writing, English Composition II, and Intermediate Writing, a themed course in which she's chosen to focus on Fan Fiction and Fandom Studies. When she's not teaching or working on finishing her degree, she enjoys playing Dungeons and Dragons, rock climbing, and making art. She recently edited a vampire YA novel, *This Crimson Debt* by Rose Sinister, which is available on Kindle Unlimited and bookstores everywhere.



HUMANITIES DIVISION NOTE (CONT.)

Justin Bendell, Chair

Professors **Patricia Gillikin, Ana June, Scott Kamen & Justin Bendell** will be applying to a *Radical Teacher Fellowship* Grant with the hopes of securing monies to develop an interdisciplinary & applied research project for AY 2023-2024. Radical Teacher Journal welcomes proposals that “promote and amplify projects that center “radical pedagogy and/or other radical educational activity.” The grant was created to support the time that activist-scholar-teachers put into pedagogical & educational work.

Professors **Justin Bendell & Ana June** will be submitting a presentation to next year’s Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) in Spokane, WA. The title of our presentation is likely to be “Actualizing the Possible: Reshaping Writing Departments through the Stories we Tell.” We hope they like it.

Fine Arts:

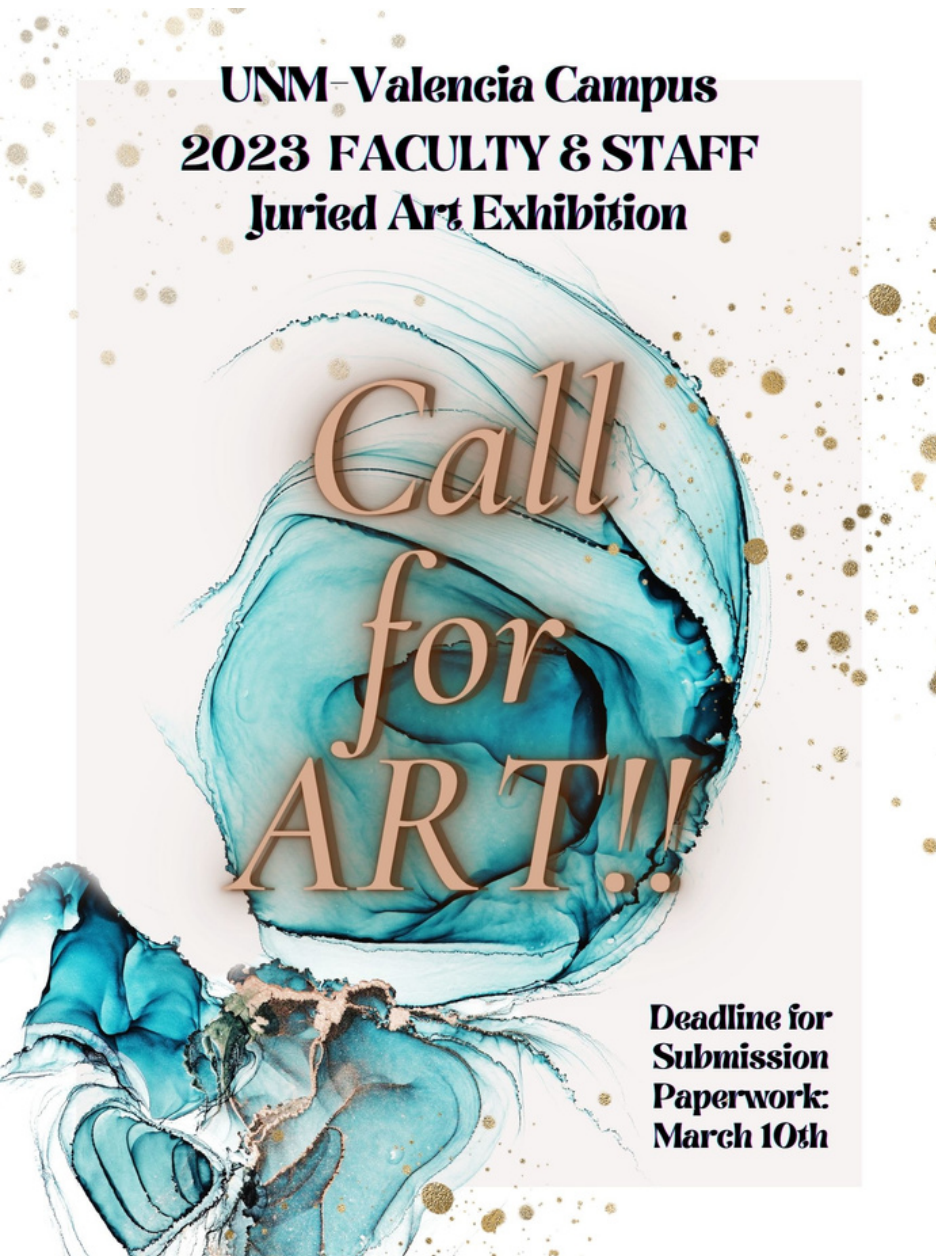
In early February, we will begin the interview process for a new tenure-track FDMA faculty position. We hope to complete the process in early April.

Professor **Sarah Heyward** has elicited a call for art for the 2023 Faculty & Staff Juried Art Exhibition, an exhibition “which will build community through celebrating the amazing artwork made by faculty and staff on our campus. This showcase of talent and creativity by members of our community is built with a focus on inclusion and celebration.” Deadline for submission is March 10. See next page.

Spanish:

The Spanish Dept. will meet soon to debate the merits of replacing the current expensive textbook with Open Education Resources (OERs) that will be free for our students to use. I’ll let you know what we decide.

Mary Salinas Gamarra, a new part-time instructor in the UNM-Valencia Spanish Department, was born in Bolivia, South America and later obtained her U.S. citizenship. Before working at UNM-V, she taught for over a decade at the Instituto Cervantes of Albuquerque. She has also worked as an Academic Coordinator. At the Instituto Cervantes, Mary taught 16 sublevels (Beginner, Intermediate, advanced, and Superior Levels), and special courses on Latin American short stories, Spanish for travelers, and Spanish Terminology for Physicians. She did her doctoral studies at Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Spain, with an emphasis on Peninsular Literature and Hispano-American Literature, obtaining a certificate of completion for her research. She has a Master’s degree from the University of New Mexico (in Latin American Literature) and holds dual undergraduate degrees in Cultural Anthropology and Latin American Studies.



About:

UNM-Valencia Campus Fine Arts is pleased to announce a call for art to kick off the 2023 Juried Faculty and Staff Art Exhibition which will build community through celebrating the amazing artwork made by faculty and staff on our campus. This showcase of talent and creativity by members of our community is built with a focus on inclusion and celebration.

Mediums:

Artists of all mediums and genres are encouraged to apply. (Can include and are not limited to: Ceramics, Cardboard, Sculpture, Sound, Video, Film, Glass, Fibers, Digital, Painting, Drawing, Photography, Writing, Collage, Mixed-Media, etc.) *No dangling art.

Submission Requirements:

Complete the attached form with required information for up to 2 works of art and submit via email to the Fine Arts Coordinator Sarah Heyward at sheyward@unm.edu. Be sure to include images of your artwork! Submission forms due by midnight, March 10th.

Artwork Drop Off:

Please submit all artwork for the show by March 22nd. Show will open and run from April 3rd – April 17th with the reception taking place on April 6, 2023. More details about show will be available when artwork is dropped off.

Sales:

Exhibiting artists will retain 100% of artwork sales. The Gallery and University/Campus will not participate in the facilitation of sales beyond making their preferred contact information accessible.

Jurors: Artist and Educator Alexa Wheeler

Submit this information with image of each piece of artwork!

Artist / Author Name	
UNM Affiliation	Faculty / Staff
Title of Artwork #1	
Medium	
Dimensions	
Installation Notes	
Title of Artwork #2	
Medium	
Dimensions	
Installation Notes	

LIBRARY NEWS

Barbara Lovato

GO Bond 2 for Libraries passed

UNM – Valencia Campus Library is projected to receive approximately \$40,000.00 from this Bond to be spent on Library resource materials before June 2025.

From <https://nmbondsforlibraries.wildapricot.org/News/13050060>
Library Bond Measures Successful throughout New Mexico in 2022 Election
By Joe Sabatini

Library bond issues were successful statewide in the 2022 New Mexico General Election. State General Obligation Bond 2, providing \$19,266,000 for public, academic, public school and tribal libraries passed by a margin of 161,818 votes. With 401,235 yes votes and 238,410 no votes, Bond 2 won with 62.69% in favor, 3.6 percentage points lower than attained by library bond issue B in 2020. Mora, Harding and Grants were the only Counties which had a higher approval rate this year compared to 2020. The largest declines in support were in Lea, Curry, Chaves, Roosevelt, Eddy, Otero and Valencia Counties. Seven counties, Catron, Chavez, Curry, DeBaca, Lea, Quay and Union, rejected the measure. Taos was once again the banner county for support at 77.6% yes, followed by Santa Fe at 74.4% and McKinley at 74.3%.



Library Banners

Our very own, Library Information Specialist III, Cory Meyer, designed and created two banners for the library. The quotation reads "Books are lighthouses erected.... In the great sea of time".

Conference Attendance

Kat Gullahorn attended LibLearnX (The Library Learning Experience) January 27-30, 2023 In New Orleans, LA. A collaborative learning experience designed to motivate, inspire, and engage discussion that will shape the future of libraries and their communities. Attendees will be engaged in posing questions, experimenting, and solving problems together with their colleagues around the topics of instructional design and active educational experiences. Attendees will also be able to build networks through the planned networking activities and celebrate their peers and colleagues at the award celebrations. instructional design and active educational experiences.

NMCAL Director's Business Meeting and Library Legislative Day

Barbara Lovato gave a presentation on Library Legislative Activities and Updates at the NMCAL Director's Business Meeting in Santa Fe on January 26, 2023. She also attended Library Legislative Day activities at the Capitol Building in Santa Fe on January 27, 2023.

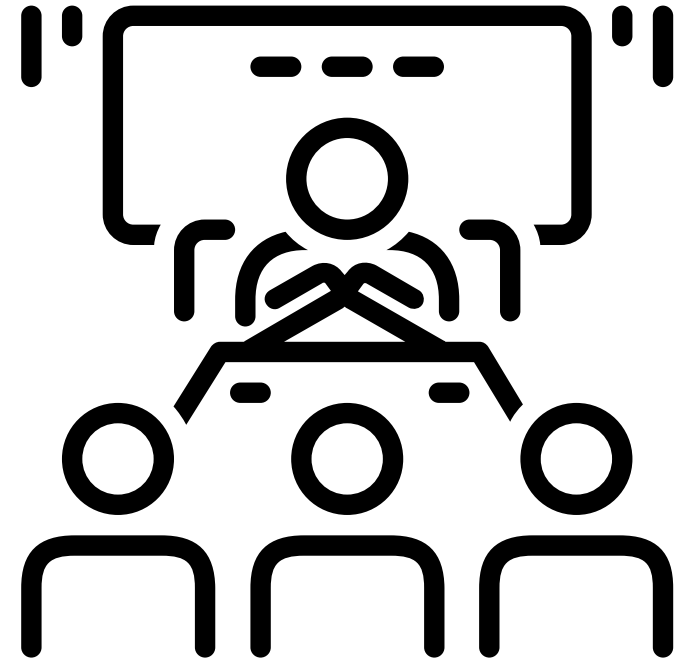


FACULTY SENATE NOTE

Justin Bendell

In mid-January, I reached out to Faculty Senate (FS) President Finnie Coleman to express our concerns about labor/tenure inequity and teaching load disparities between the branch campuses. I shared with him our Faculty Assembly 4/4 Resolution and explained to him the compromise 5/4 teaching load offered by Valencia Administration. President Coleman stated that he has “championed a 4/4 load as a maximum for branch campus faculty” and after communicating with the Provost said that the “Provost has agreed to convene academic leadership from the branches to look at workload policies across the branch campuses in a holistic way.” Finnie asked if I would be willing to represent UNM-Valencia in this discussion. I said yes. Since then, I haven’t heard anything. I emailed him last week to no avail. My hope is that he follows through.

The first Faculty Senate meeting was held on Tues., Jan. 31. Barbara Lovato & I will summarize it at the February Faculty Assembly. One thing I will share is that UNM is seeking from the New Mexico legislature a 10% raise for faculty. This is a goal, but not a guarantee.



LEARNING COMMONS:TUTORING SERVICES REPORT

Shalaine Castillo and Patricia Gillikin



Learning Commons: Tutoring Services

✓ SELECT A SERVICE

Math In-person Tutoring
Appointment: 55 minutes



55 minutes

Math Zoom Tutoring
Appointment: 55 minutes



55 minutes

Writing Email Tutoring
Appointment: SEND DRAFT TO...



Please allow our tutors to review and provi... [Read more](#)
55 minutes

Writing Zoom Tutoring
Appointment: 55 minutes



55 minutes

Writing In-person Tutoring
Appointment: 55 minutes



New Way to Schedule Tutoring Appointments!

The Learning Commons: Tutoring Services has implemented Microsoft Bookings as a new way to schedule tutoring appointments.

Students can schedule in-person and Zoom appointments for math, science, writing, and other subjects. They are also able to request email appointments for responses to a writing draft.

To schedule an appointment, students complete the form at: Learning Commons Bookings

At that link, they choose the specific kind of appointment they want and fill out the information.

If they make a Zoom appointment, they'll get a Zoom link sent to their email before the appointment.

If they are making an email appointment with the Writing Center, they email their draft to tutor@unm.edu after filling out the form above.

If a student has difficulty with the scheduling link above, would like an appointment in a subject not listed at that link, or has a question, they can email tutor@unm.edu. They'll get answers during business hours Monday through Friday.

This is the page people see when they go to make an appointment with us.

End-of-Semester Appreciation Potluck

The Learning Commons hosted an End-of-Semester Appreciation Potluck with PASOS and TRIO in honor of our Peer Tutors and Peer Mentors. Chancellor Samuel Dosumu and Dean Laura Musselwhite attended and briefly spoke about the impact tutoring and mentoring has on students and on UNM-Valencia. Thank you to all the staff and faculty who brought delicious items for breakfast burritos!



Tutors, staff, and faculty just after the Appreciation Potluck posing in front of the tree decorated by Learning Commons: Tutoring Services.

Hablemos en Inglés y Español: Language Conversation Group

Hablemos en Inglés y Español *Language and Conversation Group*

Lunes/Monday: 2:30pm - 3:30 pm

Únete a este ambiente relajado para practicar inglés,
practicar español

Join this relaxed environment for English practice,
Spanish practice, and laughter

Mondays in-person in the Writing Center, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm. This relaxed environment for English practice, Spanish practice, and laughter is facilitated by Writing Consultant Jimena Mendiola. If you have a student wanting to strengthen their English or their Spanish, tell them!

Writing Consultants Participate in Article Reading Groups

Writing Consultants Stephanie Romero, Jimena Mendiola, and Layla Taylor participated in two discussions in Zoom of an article in *The Peer Review* about how tutors at one Writing Center experienced challenges during the pandemic. The discussions are hosted by the East Central Writing Center Association (ECWCA). During the first session, Stephanie and Patricia participated, and the facilitator took notes via a slide show: much of the content in the picture here reflects Stephanie's contributions to the conversation.

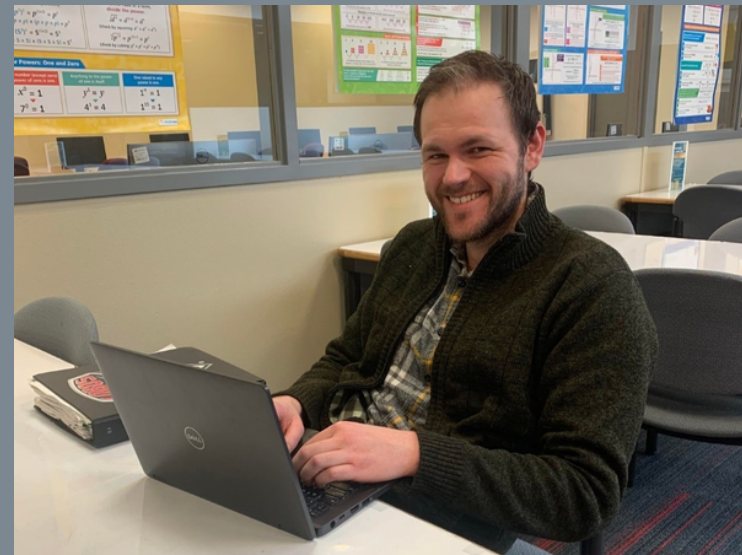
✧ DISCUSSION CONTINUED

- ✧ **What are some self care strategies you see working in your WCs?**
 - ✧ Know to ask for help—open communication. Trust that consultant can advocate for self. Care but avoid “over caring” so that not cross boundaries and avoid labeling/defining students by hard times.
- ✧ **What pandemic lessons impact our current work?**
 - ✧ Creating positive work environments. Teach consultants to be picky about their future work environments. Putting up with crummy work environment did not guarantee job security.

Office Hours Available in Tutoring Areas



Lily Intong in the Writing Center



Andy Taylor in the Learning Center

Faculty are welcome to work with students and hold office hours in the Learning Center or the Writing Center. Andy Taylor works with math students frequently in the Learning Center and Lily Intong holds office hours for her English classes in the Writing Center.

For anyone who is
interested in
volunteering to help
tutor who lives in the
Rio Communities
area!! For any
additional
questions, contact
Cynthia (Cindi)
Goodman
(cyndia@unm.edu)



FACULTY ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Cheryl Bryan

Faculty Assembly President's Message

If you are planning to attend NM HEAR, please be sure to support UNM-Valencia staff and faculty by attending their presentations. Here is a list:

a. Evaluating the Redesign of Student Placement Processes.

Presenters: Cheryl Bryan, John Bollweg, Cindi Goodman, and Steven Romero.

b. Pull the Next One Up: Evaluating Instructional Design Changes with an Equity Lens.

Presenters: John Bollweg, Cheryl Bryan, Ana June, and Julia So.

c. Guided Pathways and Degree Program Mapping.

Presenters: Cheryl Bryan, Ariel Ramirez, Sarah Clawson, and Laura Musselwhite.

d. Instructor's Role in Fostering a More Inclusive Learning Environment.

Facilitated by Dr. Soledad Garcia-King, Dr. Amir Hedayati (UNM), Dr. Julia Wai-Yin So, and Heather Sweetser (UNM).

Last, but definitely not least, please be sure to join us for our Faculty Assembly Meeting, February 10, 1:00 to 2:30 PM. Please plan to stay afterward, when Rick Goshorn will present to faculty on how the budget works. This is an important meeting, especially considering our resolution requesting a 4/4 teaching load.

Speaking of the 4/4 teaching load resolution, Drs. Dosumu and Musselwhite are currently standing by their change to a 4/5 teaching load; however, they are still working to collect data in consideration of a 4/4 teaching load for tenure-track faculty. Some data collected showed that Gallup and Taos have a 5/4 teaching load for lecturers, so it's my understanding that, to be equitable, the 5/4 teaching load will stand for lecturers. However, those same campuses have a 4/4 teaching load for tenure-track faculty—we continue to discuss this change to an equitable workload to earn tenure.

Wishing you all a safe and healthy Spring 2023 semester!

Cheryl

Be Kind Week is early this year—Week of February 6–9—as many participants are also presenting or attending NM HEAR, as shown above. There are activities scheduled throughout the week from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, culminating in a carnival on February 9 from 11:AM to 1:00 PM. Faculty, staff, and Student Government work together to make this event happen. Valencia High School's Culinary Program will bake cupcakes for the event again this year.

We will again this year collect non-perishable food items to donate to the Midwest NM Community Action Program's food bank (local to Valencia County). If you don't have time to purchase food items, we will collect donation checks as well (make out to Midwest NM CAP). Last year we collected 168 pounds of food plus \$125 . . . Let's exceed last year's donations! There are donation box in most buildings on campus, including Academics

If you'd like to reserve a table for the carnival, here's the link:

<https://valencia.unm.edu/bekind/kindness.html>

If you would like to send someone a kind message, here is the link:

<https://valencia.unm.edu/bekind/index.html>

Have you purchased your Gala 2023 tickets? This is a fun event where we can connect socially with people on campus as well as the community. It's also a scholarship fundraiser for our students.

[Purchase your ticket\(s\) here:](#)

2022-23 FACULTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President: Cheryl Bryan cbryan@unm.edu

President Elect and Treasurer: Ana June anajune@unm.edu

Secretary: Ian Burch ianburch@unm.edu

Members at Large: Tammi Duncan: tammid31@unm.edu,

Precious Andrew pandrew@unm.edu, Andre Callot acallot66@unm.edu

Faculty Senate Representatives: Barbara Lovato

bllovato@unm.edu and Justin Bendell jbendell@unm.edu