



NEW MEXICO ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 16, 2020

*PRESENTATION TO THE HIGHER
EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL*

NEW MEXICO
HIGHER EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT





GOVERNOR

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

ACTING CABINET SECRETARY

STEPHANIE M. RODRIGUEZ

HIGHER EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT
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HIGHER EDUCATION: *THE “TRIFECTA”*

In collaboration with my colleagues at the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED), I diligently reviewed the Common Course Numbering System over the Fall. While much progress has been made over the years, it is clear that the agency and public higher education institutions must recommit and refocus our time and attention to this key initiative in order to improve student transfer and articulation of courses.

We must examine these three areas – dual credit, general education, and common courses, particularly unique courses – as a whole to improve student success and the efficiency of our programs.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Representation includes members from research institutions, tribal colleges, comprehensive universities, independent community colleges, branch campuses and various entities within the State of New Mexico.

- James P. Holloway, Provost, University of New Mexico
- Carol Parker, Provost, New Mexico State University
- Mark Cal, Associate Campus Director, NMSU – Alamogordo
- Laura Musselwhite, Dean of Instruction, UNM – Valencia
- Colleen Bowman, Provost, Navajo Technical University
- Roxanne Gonzales, Provost, New Mexico Highlands University
- Jack Crocker, Provost, Western New Mexico University
- Ivan Lopez, Provost, Northern New Mexico College
- Kathleen Sena, Registrar, Santa Fe Community College
- Sherri Schaaf, Registrar, San Juan College
- Roberto Vasquez, Director of Transfer Pathways, Central New Mexico Community College
- Larry Sanderson, Vice President of Instruction, New Mexico Junior College
- Marc Saavedra, Executive Director, Council of University Presidents
- Kathy Ulibarri, Executive Director, New Mexico Independent Community Colleges
- Mark Valenzuela, Principal Analyst, Legislative Finance

Agency Lead: Mark Chisholm, Director, Academic Affairs and Policy

AGENDA

- Welcome
- Introductions
- Purpose
- Discussion
 - Common Course Numbering System
 - General Education
- Next Steps



COMMENTARY STEPHANIE RODRIGUEZ

Collaboration is way forward for colleges, universities

Dec. 4, 2020

Our agency is committed to providing access to affordable and quality educational opportunities for as many New Mexicans as possible, and doing so requires developing and enacting policies that set students up for success in higher education and beyond. To create positive change in our system, these policies must be informed by strong data, professional expertise, and most importantly, the needs of the students themselves.

For this reason, the New Mexico Higher Education Department has been working to increase opportunities to partner with other state agencies and to facilitate collaboration among higher education experts across the state and across sectors. One key initiative is the creation of a Longitudinal Data System, which will help us gain a greater understanding of student's experiences from early childhood into the workforce and close the achievement gap to support New Mexicans from cradle to career.

In the past few months, we have convened advisory groups including professionals in the fields of academic policy, data analysis, equity and inclusion, and communication, in addition to meeting with student groups to guide higher education initiatives moving forward. These leaders have already begun the significant work of informing the agency's forthcoming strategic plan and priorities for the upcoming legislative session, and raising awareness among New Mexicans about the benefits of higher education.

**WE ARE
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***THIS IS AN
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Photo courtesy of Western New Mexico University

STATEWIDE ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

- Student financial aid program enhancements and additions
- Implemented teacher pipeline support
- Expansions to the Lottery Scholarship
 - Provided COVID-19 support to the program for both current students and graduating seniors
- Maintained and increased federal funding for Adult Education, Financial Aid, and GEAR UP
- We guided and implemented a safe reopening process for all public and private higher education institutions amid COVID-19
- We are committed.
 - Longitudinal Data System
 - Strategic Planning Group
 - Data Advisory Group
 - New Mexico Academic Advisory Committee
 - There is a focus on three main areas: dual credit, general education, and common courses
 - Convening of student-centered success groups and Chief Diversity Officers
 - Convening of communication professionals to share student-centered information

QUESTIONS

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Photo courtesy of Central New Mexico Community College

