

ALL UNIVERSITY MESSAGE

Good afternoon.

UNM's Health Sciences Center (HSC) plays a critical role at our University and throughout the state of New Mexico in delivering quality healthcare, educating the healthcare workforce, conducting innovative research, and improving health outcomes for all New Mexicans.

Last year, after Chancellor Paul Roth made public his plans to retire in 2020, I announced that a national search would commence for his successor and that Dr. Roth would continue in his role until that individual was in place. As the search proceeds, I would like to ensure that the University community remains informed and engaged throughout the process.

Provost James Holloway, who is chairing the search advisory committee, and I conducted special traveling office hours in mid-December to hear from dozens of faculty and staff, and our search firm and I separately have held multiple meetings with many of HSC's constituents. Knowing that the HSC impacts every New Mexican, we are planning to expand our institutional discussions to include the broader community, and will be scheduling additional forums for our many stakeholders.

However, based on feedback to date, I have already made an important decision that will influence the structure of UNM Health Sciences and the search process.

Dr. Roth currently has three titles with accompanying direct responsibility: Dean of the School of Medicine (SOM), CEO of the Health System, and Executive Vice President/Chancellor of Health Sciences. There has been overwhelming support for separating the Dean of the School of Medicine from the centralized HSC leadership structure, and I have decided that it is in our best interest at this time to pursue a separate search for a new Dean of the School of Medicine. The new leader for Health Sciences will be the one to make the selection of the next SOM Dean.

I recognize that there are many details to be worked out with the separation of the Dean's position from the centralized leadership of HSC. We will be working on these issues in the coming months with the intention of allowing HSC's new leader to participate in many final decisions regarding any further changes to HSC's structure, reporting lines, and flow of funds.



February 3, 2020

Not surprisingly, this search will continue to draw much interest due to the profound impact the Health Sciences Center has on our constituency. The search advisory committee currently consists of broad and inclusive membership that represents our community, schools and colleges, and the HSC educational, clinical and research missions. I look forward to the expertise these individuals will bring to the review process for this very important role. To support the search committee's efforts, your valuable input and insight regarding this position are requested and may be submitted via an online survey through February 21.

As milestones and engagement opportunities are identified, I will continue to share them with you. This is an exciting time of both transformation and growth for UNM. I am excited about the future of UNM Health Sciences and the future of the University for New Mexico.

Garnett S. Stokes
President

