

# Geospatial and Population Studies

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Interim Director

2019 Annual Review of Category 3 Research Centers/Institutes | March 26, 2020

# Mission

Geospatial and Population Studies supplies trustworthy information that serves communities and government agencies; offers cutting-edge technology and research methods; and provides a fertile training ground at UNM for a new generation of applied researchers and decision makers.

# CY 2019 Goals and Status

Goal 1: Increase Funding sustainability.

- Status: GPS entered FY2019 with new funds starting late FY2018 and renewed several contracts for continued sustainability. We continue to seek out both yearly and multiyear contracts as evident by the over \$2.5 million worth of proposals submitted in FY2019, several of which were awarded and will be included in our FY2020 awards.

Goal 2: Support state efforts to ensure a complete and accurate 2020 Census.

- Status: GPS staff has been appointed to serve on Governor Lujan Grisham's Statewide Complete Count Commission and is actively involved in commission planning. GPS was awarded a professional services contract to support the commission. Staff provided expert testimony to the State Legislature on multiple occasions and appeared regularly in the press to promote the 2020 Census and the commission.

Goal 3: Standardize all GPS databases.

- Status: Traffic Research Unit databases have successfully migrated to the SQL Server Infrastructure and testing to bring these into production are ongoing. Once this is completed, Demographic Research Unit databases will be migrated and integrated.

Goal 4: Change name to "Center for Geospatial and Population Studies."

- Status: Advisory committee stated the appropriate title would be Center and requires approval from the Faculty Senate and the Provost.

# Membership of Advisory Committee

## Membership List

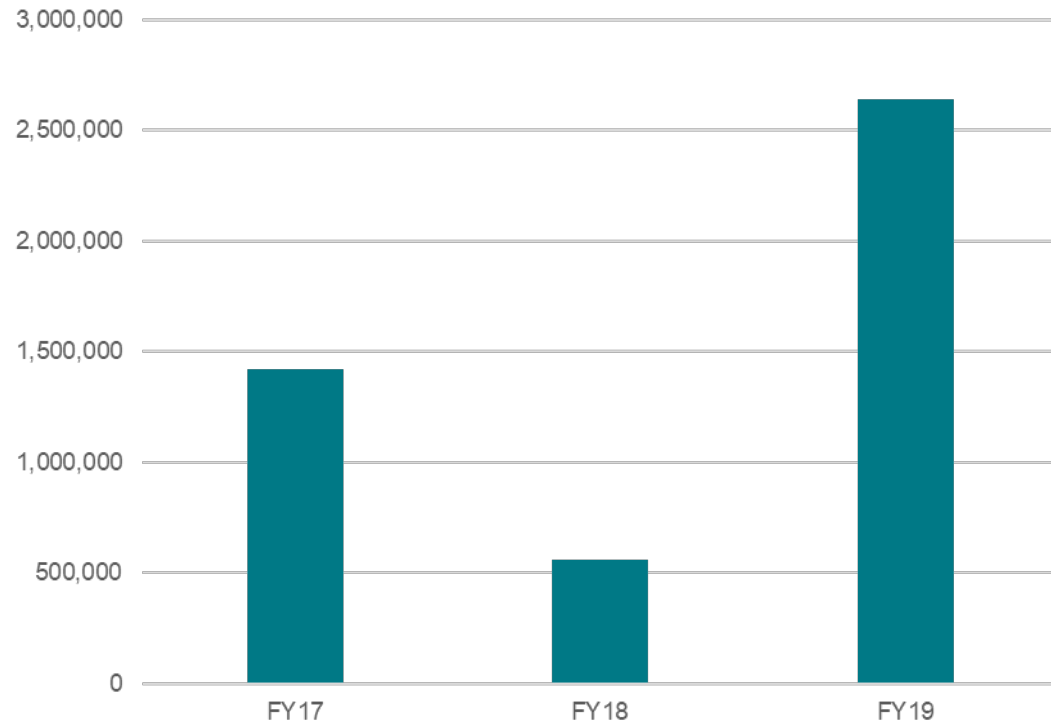
- Amy Ballard, Associate Dean, Central New Mexico Community College
- Renia Ehrenfeucht, Professor, UNM School of Architecture and Planning
- Allan Oliver, Executive Director, Thornburg Foundation
- Gabriel Sanchez, Professor, UNM Department of Political Science
- David Swanson, Professor Emeritus, University of Washington
  
- The Advisory Committee met on 3/19/2019 for its annual review
- The Office of the Vice President for Research has been in consultation with the Advisory Committee in planning for a new permanent director of GPS after the untimely death of Dr. Dely Alcántara

# CY 2019 Highlights

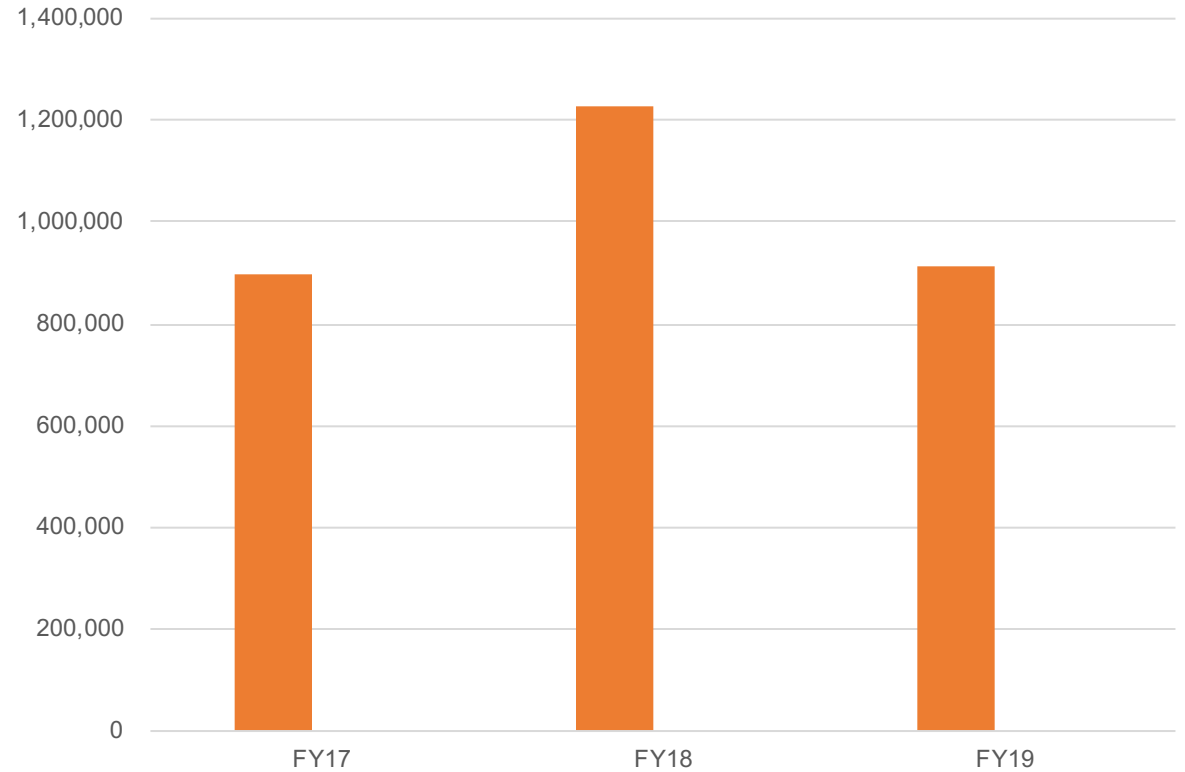
- Through the Local Update of Census Address program, GPS submitted over 100,000 residential address to the Census Bureau with nearly 64,000 ultimately added to the enumeration universe for the 2020 Census. This will lead to an improved census count and result in tens of millions of dollars in federal funding to the State of New Mexico over the next decade.
- Awarded a UNM Grand Challenge Grant for research on Successful Aging (*Intergenerational support among Vietnamese Residents and Service Usage Among Aging Asian New Mexicans*)
- Hosted the Second Biennial Population and Public Policy Conference in February 2019. The conference was such a success it will be sponsored and hosted in the future by the Population Association America.
- Renewed a contract with the New Mexico Department of Health for small-area population estimates with an agreement to provide additional funding when re-series of past estimates are needed.
- Continuation of the New Mexico Department of Transportation Special Projects contract for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year.
- Renewal of Carfax and Experian contracts through the New Mexico Department of Transportation.
- Creation of GPS advisory committee and annual review on March 19, 2019.
- 48,670 views on the GPS Website page from January-December 2019.

# Proposals & Awards

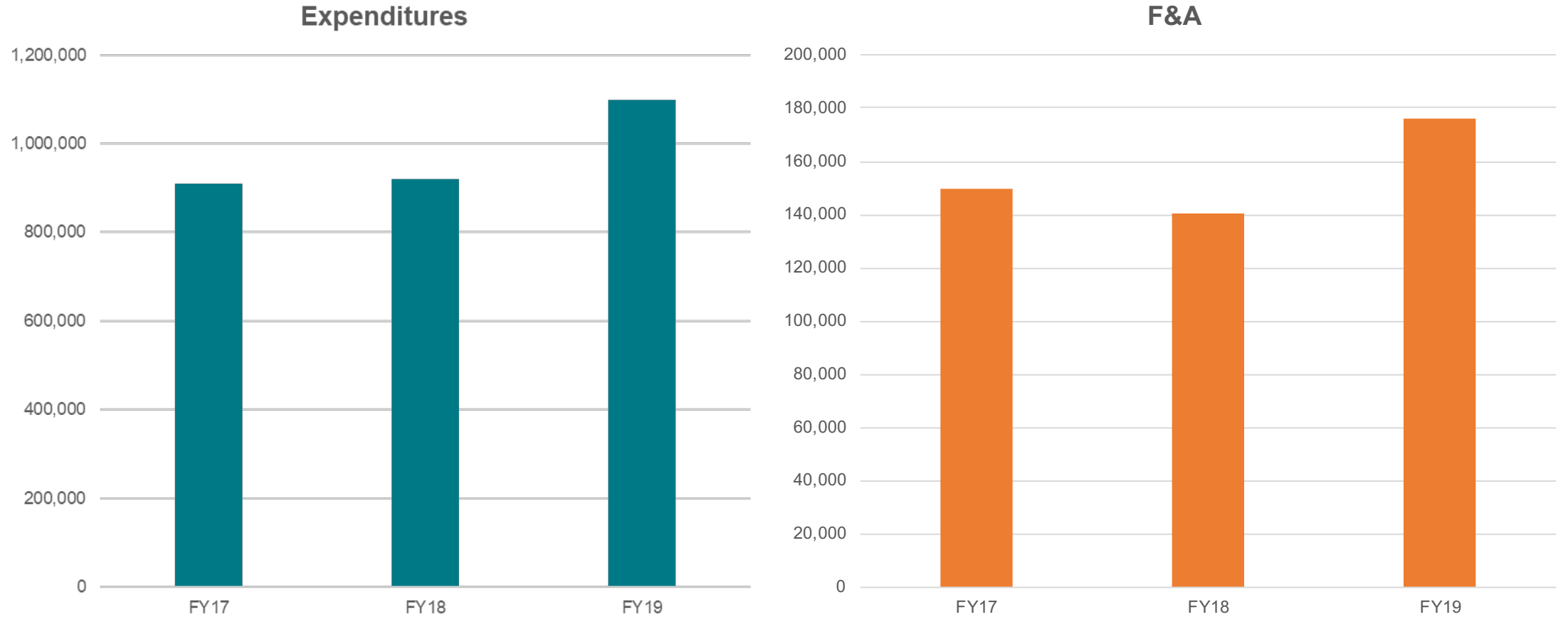
Proposals



Awards

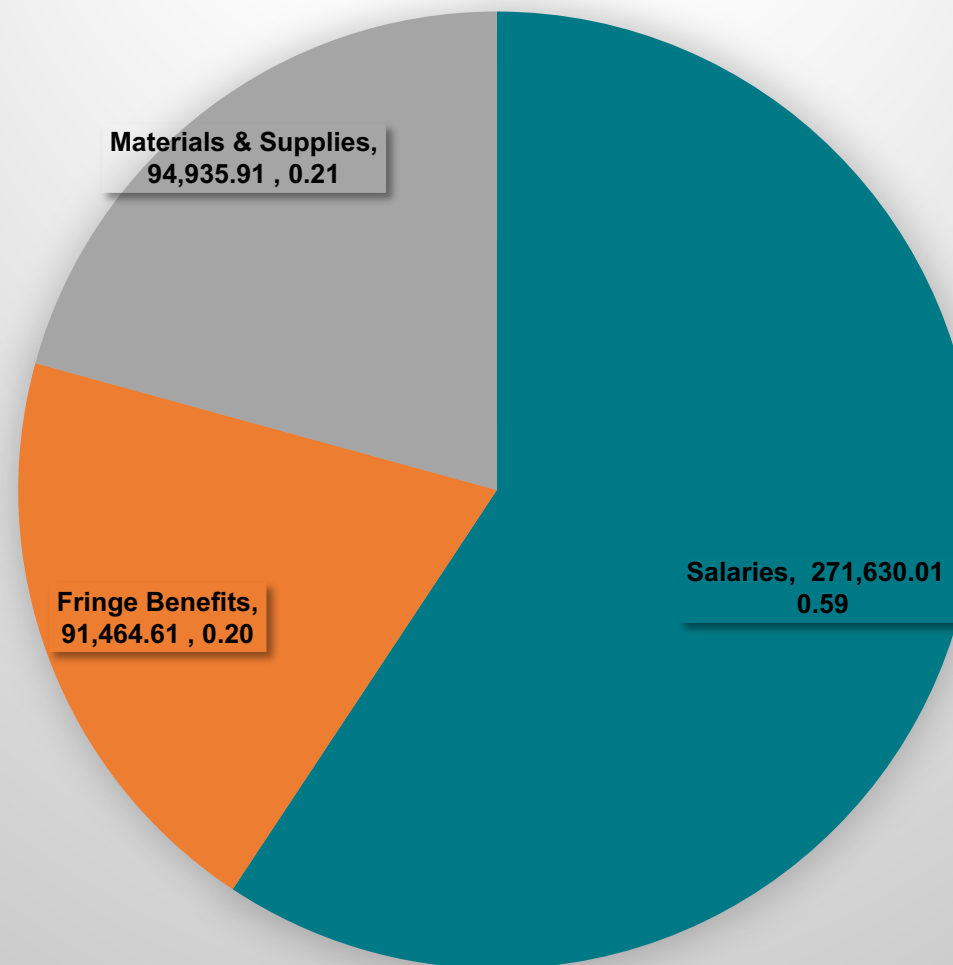


# Research Expenditures and F&A



| FY19 Sources of Revenue |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| F&A Return              | \$52,242.95         |
| State Appropriation     | \$270,400.00        |
| Other                   | \$88,755.67         |
| FY18 to FY19 Reserves   | \$120,319.03        |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>\$531,717.65</b> |

### GPS Expenditure Details





# Research Center Impacts

## Resources provided for the campus

- Provides data for use in research by other institutes on campus.
- Provides demography lectures as part of CRP planning course and other guest lectures as requested.
- Consults with students and faculty members on population topics.
- Provides employment experience and training for students on GIS, database management, programming and more.

## Resource for the state/region

- Provides New Mexico traffic crash data, analysis and publications.
- Provides state and county population projections by age and sex.
- Provides small-area population estimates by age, sex, race/ethnicity.
- Provides expert opinion on socioeconomic and demographic issues.
- Serves as liaison to the US Census Bureau.
- Serves as state-level LUCA reviewer and advises local governments on census programs.

# Return on Investment

- Employed and trained 10 Undergraduate and 6 Graduate students
- GPS was awarded 5 contracts for a total of \$914,296
- Publications and Presentations
  - 1 Peer-reviewed articles:
    - Miller, J.A., Crapo, J.S., Bradford, K., & Higginbotham, B. (2019). Relationship belief patterns among relationship education participants at different venues. *Family Relations*, 68, 390-404. doi:10.1111/fare.12382
  - 85 Reports
    - 2018 New Mexico Small Area Population Estimates
    - NM Traffic Crash Annual Report, 2017.
    - NM DWI Report, 2017.
    - Community crash reports for all 33 counties and over 50 municipalities in the state.
  - 17 conference presentations, 3 presentations to Legislative Committees, 2 presentations to Governor's Commissions, and 2 presentations to government agencies
- Submissions: 4 manuscripts to refereed journals, 8 funding proposals, and 16 conference presentations
- GPS and GPS staff referenced in 11 news articles, including by the ABQ Journal, The Associated Press, SF New Mexican, Los Alamos Daily Post, Searchlight New Mexico. Multiple appearances on local radio and television shows.

- Disparate backgrounds of staff members.
- Long-term records of crash data and population data.
- Recognized expert on New Mexico’s demographics.
- Experienced working with multiple state agencies.
- Only entity in state that produces state and county population projections by age and sex.
- Sustainable, recurring funding streams.

**STRENGTHS**

- Lack of name and brand recognition.
- Lack of diverse fiscal resources.
- Contract limitations on publishing restricts dissemination of research.
- Lack of funding for peer-reviewed research.

**WEAKNESSES**

- Collaborate with other departments to offer courses in traffic safety and demographics.
- Develop interactive mapping and data display of demographic and traffic crash data.
- Pursue funds for global health research.
- Pursue more applied research using Traffic and Criminal Software (TraCS).
- Develop applications using artificial intelligence.

**OPPORTUNITIES**

- Turnover in key positions
- Compensation doesn’t keep pace with inflation.
- Competitive job market increases competition.
- UNM IT costs are increasing, but service quality and timeliness are decreasing.
- Existence of departmental silos restricts collaborative research.
- Negative perception of applied research.

**THREATS**



# Looking Ahead to 2020

- Appointment of new permanent department director.
- Culmination of Census 2020 preparations with the enumeration occurring March – July, 2020.
- New research study on successful aging through the UNM Grand Challenge Grant.
- Renewal of data entry and statistician contract with NM Department of Transportation.
- Renewal of the Department of Health contract.
- Further automation of traffic crash annual report.
- Interactive website for traffic safety data pending funding.
- Developing and implementing an improved marketing strategy.
- Downsizing of space and migration to new offices for some staff.

# Summary

GPS is positioned well for the future after carving out niche areas of research conducted on behalf of the State of New Mexico. Though the death of GPS' founding director Dr. Adelmár Alcántara was a big lose, the center is left with stable, recurring sources of revenue and a great team dedicated to carrying out the GPS mission. With the 2020 Census now here, GPS is poised for the challenges of ensuring a complete count in New Mexico and is receiving great recognition in the process. In 2020, ever greater automation of key operations will allow staff to focus on higher-level initiatives, improve marketing to lead to more contracts, and strengthen its research and analysis capabilities to improve public decision making.