

Dear Colleagues,

As we move deeper into the fall semester, I am thrilled to have a freezer full of freshly roasted green chile and have had a few moments to reflect on the accomplishments and initiatives since the beginning of my journey with the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) at UNM. In the coming weeks you'll be hearing from me about our strategic planning progress and ongoing activities to support our research mission. Today, I want to take a moment to give everyone an update on some important personnel additions to the OVPR.

We recently welcomed two part-time interim Assistant VPRs, **Prof. David Hanson** from Biology and **Prof. Melissa Emery Thompson** from Anthropology, who will be with us through June of 2022. Initially, Dave's primary focus will be working with both internal and external partners on building our industry partnerships and economic development activities in conjunction with Rainforest Innovations. Melissa's focus will be on assisting with the implementation of Streamlyne, our new electronic research administration system, as well as ways to increase faculty research and scholarship recognition. More information on Streamlyne was provided last week—please contact [assocvpr@unm.edu](mailto:assocvpr@unm.edu) with questions.

In addition, we have hired a new Director of our Faculty Research Development Office (FRDO), **Dr. Hannah Torres**. Hannah has extensive expertise in research administration, team science, and proposal development as well as subject matter expertise in environmental science and climate change research. In recognition of her outstanding service to the research community, as well as her increase in duties associated with InfoReady and other initiatives, we have also promoted **Monica Fishel** to Associate Director of FRDO.

We are also excited about **Anita Grierson** joining us as the new director of the Grand Challenges program. Anita's expertise lies in multidisciplinary teams, HSI institutions, and strategic team development and she will be supporting faculty in developing interdisciplinary research programs. Anita has worked in various positions across multiple sectors, including other institutions of higher education, private industry, and NGOs.

I am confident the insights and fresh perspectives these new team members bring to OVPR will generate creative approaches to growing and celebrating scholarship across campus. Additional staff and student positions in the OVPR will be filled in the coming weeks. We're excited to get our new team onboarded and ready to serve the UNM research community. As always, please reach out to me with your feedback at [vpr@unm.edu](mailto:vpr@unm.edu). Go Lobos!!

Sincerely,  
Ellen

