

Charge to the UNM Presidential Search Advisory Committee

The University of New Mexico (UNM) was founded in 1889 as New Mexico's flagship institution and continues to serve students and community alike as the State's premier Research 1 university. With an operating budget of more than \$4.3 billion, UNM's mission is to promote discovery, generate intellectual and cultural contributions, honor academic values, and foster an educated, healthy, and economically vigorous New Mexico.

In the fall of 2025, UNM saw record setting enrollment growth with the largest incoming first-year class in the University's history and 28,285 students pursuing undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees and certificates through fourteen colleges and schools, and four branch campuses. The University employs more than 10,000 faculty and staff, including over 3,200 educators in the academic and clinical settings. UNM delivers wide-ranging learning options, expanding access to affordable, attainable, top-tier education across the state through branch campuses in Gallup, Los Alamos, Taos, and Valencia; a satellite campus in Rio Rancho; and UNM Online degree programs. UNM is the home of a world-class Health Sciences Center that, in addition to serving as the State's only Level 1 trauma center and largest teaching hospital, brings in more than \$230 million in research funding that fuels our focus on developing major new discoveries to improve the health and well-being of New Mexicans. UNM's Division I Athletics program fields 18 teams, competing annually for Mountain West Conference and NCAA championships and graduating student athletes at greater than an 80% success rate. UNM's students, faculty, and staff are integral to the University's vibrant community and contribute profoundly to the growth of city of Albuquerque and the state of New Mexico.

Having served as the UNM's 23rd president since 2018, President Garnett Stokes' tenure represents unparalleled stability and has inspired sustained growth for the University. The Board of Regents now appoints and charges the Presidential Search Advisory Committee ("The Advisory Committee") to advise and assist the Board in identifying the university's next exceptional leader. Through a nationwide search, the Advisory Committee, with the assistance of an executive search consultant, will be responsible for identifying and vetting potential candidates who demonstrate the qualifications, experience, temperament, and drive to lead UNM into the future.

The Advisory Committee will work with the executive search consultant to develop a presidential position profile and evaluation criteria to recruit and screen for highly qualified candidates, and to develop a comprehensive marketing plan and schedule for the search process. All nominations and applications for the position will be referred to the executive search consultant for review and initial screening. The Advisory Committee will conduct initial interviews with semi-finalists and make recommendations to the Board on the selection of finalists. Pursuant to New Mexico law and Regents Policy, the Board will carefully consider the Advisory Committee's recommendations, and will select and publicly announce five finalists who will be invited to campus for interviews. Each person on the list shall, consistent with the position profile and evaluation criteria, be eminently qualified and suited to serve as President.

The Board has the final responsibility and authority on the selection of finalists and on the appointment of the President, with a target goal of having the new president in place by July 1, 2026. The Board directs the Chair of the Committee to be the only authorized spokesperson for the Advisory Committee during the entire search process.

The ability to attract the broadest and most qualified pool of prospects is dependent upon the ability to preserve the confidentiality of the process. Members of the Advisory Committee will have access to formal applications and personal information gathered in the course of the search process. It is absolutely imperative that the privacy of the individual candidates be vigorously maintained in accordance with New Mexico law. To underscore the importance of these principles, each member of the Advisory Committee will be required to sign a statement attesting to their commitment to maintain confidentiality.

The Board of Regents sincerely thanks those who will serve on the Advisory Committee for their commitment to this process, and looks forward to working with the committee to identify UNM's 24th President.