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VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH Julia Fulghum spoke to a Legislative Finance Committee hearing last week about the breadth and scope of research at UNM. She spoke about UNM’s role as a flagship institution, and a Carnegie Very High Research institution and UNM’s impact on the economy of New Mexico. In her remarks she emphasized that UNM research in the areas of nanotechnology, materials and semiconductors, climate change and long term ecology, addictions and substance abuse, health policy, and emerging and sustainable energy technologies are among the best in the world.

http://news.unm.edu/?p=2685

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES of Health and its National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities has announced a five-year, $7 million grant to UNM to establish the New Mexico Center for Advancement of Research, Engagement and Science on Health Disparities. The center will be a multidisciplinary effort partnership with communities to research the causes and solutions of health disparities in New Mexico.

http://hscapp.unm.edu/calendar/output/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.release&EntryID=8916

UNM HOSPITAL has been named one of the 100 Most-Wired Hospitals and Health Systems in the U.S. by the American Hospital Association for the seventh consecutive year and eighth year overall.

http://hscapp.unm.edu/calendar/output/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.release&EntryID=8927

BIOLOGY PROFESSOR Richard Cripps is a big fan of abba. No, not the Swedish pop band from the ‘70s, but a gene found in fruit flies. Cripps’ abba could turn out to make a bigger splash than even the legendary Swedish singers did. Mutations or flaws in the human version of the abba gene cause one form of limb-girdle muscular dystrophy (LGMD). Cripps’ experiments, funded with a $339,561 grant from the Muscular Dystrophy Association, will define at the molecular level how the protein made by abba functions in fruit fly muscles, and should provide valuable insights into how the comparable gene works in humans.

http://news.unm.edu/?p=2844

PRESIDENT DAVID J. SCHMIDLY received the “Premio Ticul Alvarez” by members of the Asociación Mexicana de Mastozoologia on Tuesday, Aug. 17, in a special ceremony at University House. The award is presented every two years to a professional in the field of mammalogy with a major emphasis of that research focused on Mexico. Schmidly received the award for his lifetime of research, including publishing eight books and 76 journal articles, as well as his commitment to working with students.

http://news.unm.edu/?p=2788

REGENTS’ PROFESSOR of Chemical, Nuclear and Mechanical Engineering Mohamed S. El-Genk has been named the recipient of the 2010 Donald Q. Kern Memorial Award by the Transport and Energy Process Divisions of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. The prestigious award recognizes significant contributions to the fields of applied heat transfer or energy conversion or in the translation of research results into useful technological applications.

http://news.unm.edu/?p=2711

THE AMERICAN COUNCIL of Trustees and Alumni released a report yesterday giving UNM a C grade for general education requirements – along with New Mexico State University and nearly a third of the
colleges reviewed. With more than 60 percent of colleges in the report receiving a C or less, the criteria used warrant a closer look. The grades are based on how well a college’s core curriculum aligns with the seven areas selected for the report: composition, literature, foreign language, U.S. government or history, economics, mathematics and science. The report gives UNM credit for only three – math, science and foreign language. http://news.unm.edu/?p=2789

A PROGRAM IN local public schools that aims to prepare marginal students for college is looking for college-aged tutors in a wide range of disciplines including math, science and English as it expands to serve more students. The program, called the Advancement Via Individual Determination or AVID, is a college-prep/motivational program for middle and high school “kids in the middle” or those who are capable and willing of completing college-level work but are falling short of their potential. Tutors will be compensated for their time. http://news.unm.edu/?p=2828

THE “2010 RESEARCH REPORT” by The Mind Research Network underscores the promise of studies to identify these problems in the early stages and produce more positive outcomes for individuals facing these challenges. MRN’s “2010 Research Report” is a summary of discovery by MRN staff and associates of the past year including sections dedicated to advancements in better understanding schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, addiction, epilepsy, autism and traumatic brain injury. http://news.unm.edu/?p=2801

MICHAEL MALAHY Morris, a recently retired research professor in the College of Education, has been appointed as a Special Lecturer to India on Youth Participation and Student Social Responsibility issues by the U.S. Department of State. http://news.unm.edu/?p=2669

ELISHA ALLEN RECEIVED the 2010 Jim Davis Award, recognizing significant contributions to Staff Council. Allen, NMEL associate director, is a staff councilor and served last year as Staff Council president. http://news.unm.edu/?p=2752

BTI SYSTEMS RECENTLY announced that UNM is using its packet optical solutions to create a regional optical network to encourage collaboration across multiple campus locations between various university, industry and government partners. With the solution, students, staff, researchers and administrators will have access to a network that delivers high capacity and low latency bandwidth for Internet access, research and data exchange, distance learning and production-grade video transfers with the speed, performance, reliability and enhanced security needed to access national education networks and provide quality service to the University community. http://news.unm.edu/?p=2665

THE ETHICS INTEREST Group, associated with the UNM Health Sciences Center, will conduct its next meeting on Thursday, Aug. 19, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in rm. B116 at the Domenici Center for Health Sciences Education. The EIG will discuss, “Do prisoners have the right to refuse medical treatments?” Led by Dr. Aroop Mangalik, professor, UNM School of Medicine, the Ethics Interest Group meets periodically to discuss topics under the umbrella term, “Medical Ethics.” The meetings are open to all associated with the UNM HSC, but individuals outside the HSC may also participate. http://news.unm.edu/?p=2723
FREE FOOD, live entertainment and great information take over the Duck Pond beginning Monday, Aug. 23 through Aug. 27 for UNM’s annual Welcome Back Days celebration. Free food is served beginning at noon until it is gone. The schedule for the week includes the UNM President’s Ice Cream Social on Monday, watermelon on Tuesday, on Wednesday - green chile stew, pizza on Thursday and Friday – hot dogs. Stop by from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the information booths and to take part in this great UNM tradition. For a full schedule of events visit: http://sac.unm.edu/wbd.html or call 277-4706.

http://news.unm.edu/?p=2765

STUDENTS INTERESTED IN working on campus will have an opportunity to meet with UNM department and program representatives during the fourth annual UNM Student Job Fair Friday, Aug. 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Duck Pond. Departments with student job openings, including off campus sites, are encouraged to participate. To register visit: http://www.career.unm.edu/employer/sjf-info.php. For the full story visit: http://news.unm.edu/?p=2823

GERALD VIZENOR, UNM Distinguished Professor of American Studies, is the author of Shrouds of White Earth, published this month by SUNY Press. Shrouds is an absorbing novel about an indigenous artist’s long journey of creativity and coming-of-awareness from White Earth Reservation to Paris.

http://news.unm.edu/?p=2694

PUZZLED ABOUT YOUR FUTURE? The UNM Anderson School of Management can help you find the missing piece. Register now and earn a certificate in one of ASM’s session certificate programs that build lasting skills and offer immediate results. Fall offerings include Essentials for Managers, Building Managerial Excellence, Accounting in Your Organization, Mediation, HR Management, Ethics and Advertising, Promotions and Marketing Communications. Programs start Tuesday, Aug. 31. - Your full tuition remission covers the entire cost of two programs and there are no additional fees for books or materials. Call us at 277-2525 or visit us online at http://certificates.unm.edu.

KNME’S PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM, “New Mexico In Focus,” looks at the first gubernatorial debate between Lt. Gov. Diane Denish and District Attorney Susana Martinez, on Friday, Aug. 20 at 7 p.m. on KNME, Ch 5.1. There is no encore broadcast this Sunday. http://news.unm.edu/?p=2851