ALL FACULTY, STAFF and students are cordially invited to attend the All-University Town Hall on Friday, December 12, from noon - 1:30 p.m. in ballrooms B & C in the Student Union Building. The discussion will focus on financial/budget planning, education/research and university governance.

SAYING THE BEST and most qualified person for the job is the person currently holding it, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Suzanne Ortega has appointed Julia Fulghum as Vice President for Research. Fulghum has served as interim in that position since May of 2008.

PRESIDENT DAVID J. Schmidly recently traveled to Mexico to meet with former Mexican President Vicente Fox at the new “Centro Fox” de Estudios, Biblioteca y Museo Vicente Fox Quesada (Education Center, Library and Museum), a non-profit, civic organization located in Guanajuato state, just outside the capital city of Leon.

UNM HAS ENTERED into an agreement with MDRC, a nonprofit, nonpartisan research firm, to test an innovative strategy to increase student persistence and completion rates at UNM. MDRC will provide more than $1.7 million to fund a three-year pilot scholarship program at UNM and at other sites. Overall funding for MDRC’s multi-site investigation is being provided in part by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

TWO RECENT articles about the state of the economy and President-Elect Barack Obama's proposal for economic stimulus through infrastructure quote Jason Scott Smith, UNM assistant professor of history. In the Christian Science Monitor, Alexandra Marks’ article, “Was the New Deal too small?” says that during the Great Depression, Roosevelt didn’t spend enough to jolt the economy into recovery. Marks notes that the depression had been in full swing for three years when Roosevelt took office.

THE UNM SCHOOL of Medicine recently announced its annual La Tierra Sagrada Society Awards to further support and advance health care issues with community health research grants distinctive to Albuquerque and New Mexico.

UNMJOBS, the University’s new on-line application and hiring system is now up and running. Individuals interested in Staff positions can begin reviewing postings and submitting applications as of Monday, Dec. 15, while Faculty and Student postings will be available for review and application as of Monday, Jan. 5, 2009. UNM staff involved in recruitment and hiring and applicants for UNM positions can obtain the most up-to-date information on following two web sites: Department Resources Page at,
THE UNM CENTER for Development and Disability was the beneficiary of an $85,000 check from Albuquerque Mayor Martin Chavez for a future autism center. The proceeds were raised at the Mayor’s 2008 Charity Ball held this past July.


FOR THE FIRST time last spring, the National Survey of Student Engagement introduced an addendum that will help colleges understand how writing can increase student engagement. Chuck Paine, UNM associate professor of English, is a lead researcher on the project, along with Robert Gonyea, Indiana University-Bloomington, Chris Anson, North Carolina State University, and Paul Anderson, Miami.

UNM IS DEVELOPING a new scholarship program to attract the nation’s top American Indian students. The proposed National American Indian Scholars Program, scheduled to launch in fall 2009, is the first national scholarship or recognition program of its kind focused on American Indian students.

IT CAN ALMOST be guaranteed that a lithography workshop anywhere around the world will have a dog-eared copy of “The Tamarind Book of Lithography: Art & Techniques.” This book has been considered the bible of lithography since its publication in 1971. Now the Tamarind Institute announces the release of its new book, “Tamarind Techniques for Fine Art Lithography.”

IT’S THAT TIME of year again, and the Department of Safety and Risk Services wants to help the university community be safe this holiday season. Decorating can be fun and make the environment festive and lively, but there are some safety issues to keep in mind.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES for the Mind Research Network has elected Barry Baumel, M.D. and Laurie Flynn as co-chairs. Baumel, a neurologist, is cofounder of the Baumel-Eisner Neuromedical Institute in South Florida; and Flynn is director of the Carmel Hill Center for Early Diagnosis and Treatment, Columbia University, and executive director of the TeenScreen Program.
A REMINDER THAT the old voice mail system will be decommissioned on Monday, Dec. 15. You can access the old voice mail system by dialing 7-5150, if you have not already done so, to retrieve any unread or saved messages left prior to Nov. 29. If you need assistance please contact ITS CNS Customer Care at 7-1111.

THE NEW MEXICO Rail Runner Express’ route to Santa Fe finally opens later in December. This week on “New Mexico in Focus,” Lawrence Rael, Executive Director of the Mid-Region Council of Governments, the organization who manages the train service on behalf of the New Mexico Department of Transportation, sits down with David Alire Garcia on the train to Santa Fe to discuss the Rail Runner. “New Mexico in Focus,” KNME-TV, channel 5’s weekly one-hour news show, will air on Friday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/003471.html#more