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2020-04-28 A Message from Chancellor Roth (2)

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A Message from Chancellor Roth

Dear Colleagues:

I want to thank everyone who took the time to participate in today's Chancellor's Chat. It was a great opportunity to share the latest updates on how we have been managing the COVID-19 outbreak.

I know many of you were disappointed after trying to dial in and receiving a message that the max number of participants had been reached. Fortunately, we have a [recording of the chat](#) that you may play at your convenience. If you have questions we didn't answer or feedback on the event that you want to share, please email me at Chancellor-Roth@salud.unm.edu.

We plan to have another Chancellor's Chat in the next two weeks and the focus will be on wellness. We will send out more details as we get closer. I do want to thank Dr. Michael Richards, Dr. Michelle Harkins and Dr. Eve Espey who participated in today's session.

I'm pleased to report that the emergency operations center at UNM Hospital is scaling back its daily meetings to three times a week starting next week as we start to map out how to resume normal operations (bearing in mind that "normal" may take on a somewhat different meaning going forward).

In preparing for a worst-case scenario in which the hospital would be flooded with COVID patients, we canceled several months' worth of elective surgeries and other procedures. Now, we must reschedule those procedures and do our utmost to meet the pent-up need for medical services.

As you can imagine, there are many moving parts in our clinical operation that will require careful assessment as we bring everything back online.

We are also nearing the end of the Spring semester, but with social distancing requirements still in place, we are unable to conduct convocation and graduation ceremonies in the accustomed manner. However, we still intend to do something special to help our graduates commemorate their achievements. Please stay tuned for further details on how HSC will celebrate our graduates. As many of you know, UNM is planning an [all-university virtual celebration](#) as well.

I also expect we will gain greater clarity about the resumption of University operations in coming weeks. I'll be sure to share that information with you as it becomes available.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul B. Roth".

Paul B. Roth, MD, MS
Chancellor for Health Sciences
CEO, UNM Health System
Dean, UNM School of Medicine

Please visit the [New Mexico Department of Health website](#) for the latest COVID-19 updates.