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Wednesday Communiqué, 5/8/2013

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WEDNESDAY COMMUNIQUÉ

May 8, 2013

Finals & Grading: Recall that, per the Faculty Handbook, grades are expected to be entered within forty-eight hours after the final exam or last meeting date. The registrar has requested that all grades be entered by Friday, May 17. Also, please note that online grading will close at 5 p.m. on Friday, May 17. By submitting your grades on time, you will be helping your students to graduate and UNM to compile accurate data.

We're in the Cloud: <http://provostcloud.unm.edu> is a new website where you can find data and information about academic affairs at UNM. In particular, you will find presentations to the Board of Regents, the academic affairs dashboard, financial data, faculty data, as well as Sankey diagrams depicting the flow of our students through our various degree programs.

Professors vs. MOOCs: Professors at San Jose State, Amherst College, and Duke have pushed back against the wave of MOOCs. For accounts of the growing debate, you can read a [blog post by Roger Berkowitz](#), academic director of the Hannah Arendt Center, or [this article in the Chronicle of Higher Education](#). As the story continues to evolve, it may help to learn more about [the major players in the MOOC universe](#).

Another Presidents Survey: Many of you have written me to discuss the findings of the university president survey I referenced in [last week's communiqué](#). In yet another survey of college and university presidents by Gallup, I learned that "62% [of university presidents] say they are excited about the future of their institution. In contrast, only two in 10 (20%) are excited about the future of higher education." Moreover, "even with the growth of online universities, presidents are not strong supporters of MOOCs when it comes to improving learning, solving financial challenges that colleges face, or reducing the cost of education for students." The full report, including findings on cost and preparation, [can be found here](#).

UNM Law School: abovethelaw.com is a widely-read site among law students and professors. It is also one of the best sources for news about attorney compensation at the large law firms. According to [a recent ranking by the site](#), UNM law school ranked as the 26th best law school in the country (8th among public schools). The methodology behind these rankings depends primarily on employment outcomes and cost. The rankings do not include the types of inputs used by US News that have caused those rankings to be criticized heavily. The rankings are based mostly on public data, although 10 percent of the outcome depends on an alumni survey that the site conducted (not publicly available).

The Happiest People: pursue the most difficult problems, according to [an article in the Harvard Business Review](#). The author of the article identifies "three primary sources of motivation in high-innovation companies: mastery, membership, and meaning. Another M, money, turned out to be a distant fourth." In fact, the happiest people are working on problems such as "turning around inner city schools. Finding solutions to homelessness or unsafe drinking water. Supporting children with terminal illnesses. They face the seemingly worst of the world with a conviction that they can do something about it and serve others."

The Fulbright Program: is seeking applications for a distinguished lecturing/research award to conduct collaborative research at an Australian host institution. The purpose of the program is to increase the awareness of the study of American politics in Australia. Learn more about [the award here](#).

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Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

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