

# Grand Challenges

**Empowering our STATE of minds.**

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**GRAND CHALLENGES COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE  
Agenda, April 25, 2019. Student Union Building.**

- Welcome and Introductions and Sign-in Sheet
- Committee Charge and Webpage
- Brainstorming for AY2019-2020
- Next Steps
- Adjourn

**GRAND CHALLENGES COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE**

Committee Charge:

- Engage community stakeholders in building wide-scale awareness of, and support for, the UNM Grand Challenge Conceptual Goals.
- Help the GC Research Teams engage external researchers and institutions in GC research.
- Help external stakeholders leverage UNM Grand Challenges to improve New Mexico education, workforce development, entrepreneurial innovation, cross-institutional collaboration, and civic engagement (among others).
- Work closely with GC Research Teams to keep them engaged in community outreach and connections.
- Report regular progress to the GC Steering Council.

Committee Members Present: Tim Schroeder, Mark Childs, Erik Erhardt, Juan Abeyta, Mark Stone (Sustainable Water Resources), Esteban Muldavin (Sustainable Water Resources), Cindy Blair (Successful Aging), Susan McAllister, Monica Kowal

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## Ideas and Plans Generated 4/25/19

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### **Expand and Improve Committee Infrastructure**

- Expand the membership of the GC Community Connections Committee to include more community stakeholders. Ask each GC research team to suggest at least one external partner to recruit to the committee.
- Encourage a representative of the Institutional Research Board to join the committee.
- Host future committee meeting on Zoom in order to allow more community stakeholders to participate.
- The GC Community Connections committee will meet monthly, beginning in the fall semester.

### **Create a strong focus on COMMUNITY ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP among the research teams.**

- Value and highlight the existing community engaged scholarship expertise already present on the three teams
- Tap into the extensive UNM expertise related to community engaged scholarship, including the winners of the Provost Award for Community Engagement and the networks of Monica Kowal and Mark Childs. Possibly host a focused conversation bringing together these experts with GC research teams.
- Develop or adopt a shared terminology (including definitions) related to community engaged scholarship.

### **Improve the GC stakeholder infrastructure:**

- Develop a set of community stakeholder roles relative to GC engagement, possibly including such categories as: consumers, research subjects, practitioners, volunteers, policy makers, advocates and researchers.
- Ask GC research teams to define their capacity/bandwidth relative to engaging community stakeholders in these roles.
- Send out a statewide call to seek new stakeholder engagement at levels our infrastructure can leverage and sustain.

### **Support the networking and research of the GC research teams:**

- Assist the GC teams in improving access to stakeholders who may be *outside* of the traditional power structures (i.e., regulators, legislators, civic leaders).
- For each challenge, assemble a list of external stakeholder organizations and groups (current and potential) in order for committee members to suggest new or additional stakeholders.
- Ask each GC research team to present at upcoming committee meetings in order to better identify ways the committee may help their efforts. Presentations would include such areas as: research foci, existing and potential community networks, capacity for engaging community stakeholders.
- Share community engaged scholarship resources and reports with GC research teams and committee members.

**Develop methods for engaging UNM students as conduits to the community, improving our ability to hear community voices from our diverse state population, and strengthening our efforts at framing the importance of GC work.**

**Tap into existing community engagement meetings and conferences, especially the Imagining America Conference and the International Association for Research on Service Learning and Community Engagement, both of which will be held in Albuquerque this year.**

**Encourage GC research teams to connect to the following stakeholder groups (if they have not already done so): UNM HSC Health Extension Rural Offices (HEROs), and Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI).**

**Develop strategies for building the capacity and expertise of community stakeholder groups to further engage in research, practice, policy and advocacy that contributes to the progress of the three challenges.**

**Reach out to Andy Furco, VP of Community Engagement at University of Minnesota, to learn from his experiences with their Grand Challenge program.**

**Establish metrics, goals and benchmarks for GC community engagement, especially those related to community engaged scholarship.**