

November 1, 2018

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO'S

GrandChallenges

Dear UNM Colleagues and Partners,

We are pleased to announce a **Request for Proposals (RFP)** for the UNM Grand Challenges Initiative. Under the leadership of UNM President Garnett S. Stokes, we have been charged with carrying out this bold new approach to building the research enterprise of New Mexico's flagship institution.

Today's state, national and global challenges require an increased commitment to collaborative and multi-disciplinary research. As New Mexico's leading research university, we are united by our innovation, our research expertise, and our capacity to work across disciplinary boundaries. In the spring of 2019, President Stokes will select three Grand Challenges that will focus our research and education efforts around problems crucial to New Mexico and beyond. The attached RFP describes the aims of this initiative, as well as the requirements for proposals for Grand Challenge Conceptual Goals.

There are many challenges worthy of our attention, scholarship, and resources. We are inviting all members of the UNM community—as well as partners from outside academia—to help identify and conceptualize those that best leverage our existing expertise. On **November 14, 2018 at 9:00 am in the SUB Ballroom C** the Office of the President will host the Grand Challenges Launch followed by a facilitated session to generate and gather ideas for potential areas of inquiry. Throughout the coming weeks, the Grand Challenges Initiative will also host on-line Focus Conversations and open consultation sessions on campus and in the community. Information about these events will be posted at grandchallenges.unm.edu/events.

Proposals for Grand Challenge Conceptual Goals are due January 10, 2019. For questions, please contact grandchallenges@unm.edu. Additional information, including FAQs, are available at grandchallenges.unm.edu. Regular notifications and updates will also be sent out from the UNM communications group and the respective Offices of Research.

Thank you for your many contributions to UNM's research and educational efforts. We look forward to seeing your innovative proposals for UNM's Grand Challenges.

Grand Challenges Co-Chairs,

Richard Larson, M.D., Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor, HSC
Vice Chancellor for Research, HSC

Gabriel P. López, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research