Media contact: Strategic Support Manager Anita Bringas, abringas@unm.edu

March 16, 2020

Keeping The University of New Mexico-Taos campus safe during the COVID-19 crisis is paramount. Information, guidelines, and recommendations are ever-changing.

The following changes are being enacted for the purpose of supporting our students, staff, and faculty, while at the same time allowing us to do our part to exercise an abundance of caution and contribute to social distancing (when possible).

**Reduced Hours of Operation**
To support social distancing and to minimize the spread of the virus, UNM-Taos will be open with reduced hours and limited operations. Effective today (Monday, March 16), and until further notice, campus will be open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Campus will not physically be open on Fridays, but operations will continue remotely.

**Student Courses**
On March 13, UNM President Garnett Stokes announced an extended student spring break until Sunday, April 5. On Saturday, March 14, Provost James Holloway’s subsequent email clarified that UNM will have no in-person/face-to-face classes until Monday, April 6, however, online classes for the remainder of the spring semester and second 8-week courses will begin on Monday, March 23, as originally scheduled.

**Events**
For the time being, in alignment with UNM guidelines, the NM Department of Health, Center for Disease Control, and World Health Organization, campus events are cancelled through the end of April.

The health of our students, staff, and faculty are of the upmost importance and any future/revised prevention plans will be designed to minimize disruption to classes. We believe
that the limited campus hours will contribute to the social distancing objective, provide balance between effective operations, keep our campus open, and help “flatten the curve.”

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Patrick L. Valdez, Ph.D.
Chancellor
UNM-Taos