UNM Division for Equity and Inclusion
Announces Expansion of Staff

(August 7, 2020) – The University of New Mexico Division for Equity and Inclusion is pleased to welcome new additions to the staff for the FY21 academic year. Professors Nancy López and Elizabeth Quay Hutchison will join DEI as Associate Vice Presidents while Mónica Jenrette will serve as a Programmer/Analyst.

Professor López will work with VPEI Assata Zerai to promote a campus culture in which students are welcome and supported; and assure that the success of all students is a priority across all levels of the campus community. This will involve overseeing a wide range of responsibilities and special initiatives of institutional importance to create, maintain, oversee, and assess a high-level of centralized, comprehensive, bold and imaginative initiatives (curricular and co-curricular innovations) that promote and foster diversity, academic inclusive excellence, and an inclusive climate from enrollment to commencement with an emphasis on underrepresented racial/ethnic minority (URM), vulnerable, and transfer student populations.

Professor Elizabeth Quay Hutchison will work to improve UNM’s capacity to support faculty and staff who are targets of (or witnesses to) harassment, threats, bullying, and violence. Such behaviors, which are more frequently experienced by women, sexual minorities, and/or members of URM groups, violate federal and state laws as well as university policies, undermining the university’s commitment to equity as well as its teaching and research missions. Further, she will continue to lead UNM’s participation in the Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education (2019-2023).

Ms. Mónica Jenrette, a Programmer/Analyst, will be providing data and assessment support for DEI. Ms. Jenrette will assist VPEI in securing, analyzing and creating visualizations from relevant sources to assist DEI in amplifying UNM’s mission and impact and driving a strategic path towards the transformation of UNM. Ms. Jenrette will further lead efforts to assess the work of DEI, including the LGBTQ-Resource Center, the Men of Color Initiative, and the Institute for the Study of “Race” and Social Justice and related units.
“We are pleased to welcome Drs. López and Hutchison and Ms. Jenrette to the DEI team,” said Assata Zerai, VP for Equity and Inclusion. “They bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to DEI and with their support we hope to continue our efforts to imbed diversity, equity and inclusion throughout the university.”

Our new colleagues will work with VPEI Zerai, Ms. Blanco-Silva, Mx. Frankie Flores, Mr. Rodney Bowe and Mr. Scott Haskie to advance excellence-and-equity across all dimensions of the academic mission, culture, and climate in ways that improve opportunities for all of New Mexico’s residents, and UNM’s students, staff, and faculty. Additional information regarding DEI staff can be found at http://diverse.unm.edu/about/staff.html.

About the Division for Equity and Inclusion:

The UNM Division for Equity and Inclusion (DEI) was established in 2007 to strengthen the organizational capacity in order to serve UNM’s diverse population. DEI provides leadership for addressing institution-wide equity and inclusion and lends its support to student, staff and faculty efforts which build on the university’s diversity initiatives. DEI Supports system-wide initiatives to enhance student recruitment and retention, academic excellence, employee diversity and campus climate which embraces diversity as an asset.

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