Talking points for faculty recruitment

November 2017

During campus visits, please emphasize the following points about the benefits of life in Albuquerque to help recruit excellent faculty candidates to UNM. Our natural and cultural environment is an asset!

- **Terrific weather**
  - 310 sunny days per year
  - Seasonal and mild climate, with a July high of 90 and January low of 26, and average relatively humidity of 44%
  - Elevation is 5,312 ft

- **Rich cultural life**
  - Thriving microbreweries, galleries, and arts and music scene
  - Hosts international balloon fiesta every October
  - Proximity to Santa Fe, Taos, Acoma Pueblo, and southern Colorado (Durango, Pagosa Springs)
  - Multicultural environment, with tolerance of multiple dimensions of diversity

- **Center for science and innovation**
  - Close proximity to three national laboratories, including Sandia, Air Force Research, and Los Alamos
  - Public-private partnerships to develop downtown innovation center
  - Explora Science Center and Children’s Museum, NM Museum of Natural Science and History, National Museum of Nuclear Science and History

- **Natural beauty and outdoor activities**
  - World class climbing, hiking, mountain and road biking, and skiing, as well as camping, rafting, kayaking, fishing, horseback riding, and more
  - Multiple recreational and outdoor opportunities within close drive and even city limits. There are six ski areas within a three hour drive, including one that is 35 minutes from Albuquerque
– 10,700-foot Sandia Mountains accessible by aerial tram from the city

• Easy and low-cost lifestyle
  – Short commuting times
  – Many bikelanes, parks, playgrounds
  – Median home price of $186,000 in 2017
  – Many housing options, including walkable neighborhoods near campus and downtown, villages in the Rio Grande valley, neighborhoods near the mountains or with a good view of the mountains, and in scenic areas on the other side of the mountains.
  – New zero-emissions rapid transit system (ART)

• Kid-friendly
  – Biopark, aquarium, and botanical gardens
  – Children’s and science museums host many family activities
  – Wide range of summer camps

In light of the cultural, outdoor, and recreational opportunities, people who live in Albuquerque get great value for their money. For more information, see the toolkit on best practices in faculty search, available at [ADVANCE at UNM](#) and the ADVANCE informational video. 