



Office of the Chancellor

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DATE: August 8, 2019

TO: All NMSU Employees

FROM: Dan Arvizu, Chancellor
John Floros, President

Handwritten signatures of Dan Arvizu and John Floros in blue ink.

SUBJECT: NMSU Data Governance Program

Data governance is the overall management of the availability, usability, integrity and security of data used in an enterprise. Representatives from the Privacy Technical Assistance Center from the U.S. Department of Education recently visited our campus and performed a readiness assessment of NMSU's data management practices. The main recommendation from the assessment related to the establishment of a comprehensive data governance program across the NMSU system with executive sponsorship.

Data Governance aligns finely with Goal 4 of the NMSU LEADS 2025 Strategic Plan of building a robust NMSU system. Thus, a data governance program will be established and sponsored by the Chancellor and President to ensure NMSU properly handles data across the system and obtains optimal value from both its information technology resources and data. Some of the core benefits of data governance will result in:

- Enabling data-driven decision making
- Data quality and reliability
- Efficient and timely access to data
- Protection of data according to its sensitivity
- Balance between realizing benefits, optimizing risk levels, and resource.

The establishment of the data governance program will be led by Carlos Lobato, NMSU's chief data privacy and IT compliance officer. Carlos will work closely with the Chief Information Officer and the Chief Information Security Officer and will report to the new Strategic Chief Financial Officer, Ruth Johnston, to strengthen IT compliance and privacy across the NMSU system.

Carlos will soon work and communicate with NMSU officials responsible for major operating units and will establish a committee of Data Trustees, Data Stewards and a data governance working group. A data governance website will keep the NMSU community apprised of progress as will regular update at the University Administrative Council. In the meantime, please refer to the attached for an Executive Briefing about Data Governance and cooperate with Carlos on this initiative.

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