

**DATE:** September 26th, 2018

**TO:** Board of Regents, Chancellor, President, Vice-Presidents, Faculty Senate, and NMSU Community.

**FROM:** Graduate Student Council at New Mexico State University.

**SUBJECT:** An open letter regarding the replacement of the Dean of the Graduate School at NMSU.

We, the Graduate Student Council at New Mexico State University, represent graduate students at NMSU. We are writing this letter to express our concern regarding the lack of communication to the graduate students regarding the replacement of the dean of the Graduate School at NMSU. The Graduate Student Council was astounded by this replacement and the process through which it occurred. Despite the dean of the Graduate School having a heavy impact on graduate student life and success at NMSU, no official communication was shared with graduate students regarding the decision to replace the dean of the Graduate School. We are still unaware about why this reinstatement took place.

The Graduate Student Council feels that the decision and subsequent communication on this matter lacked any form of transparency to graduate students. The graduate students at NMSU are a closely-knit family through the Graduate School's support and have been included in many major decision-making processes on campus. The current lack of transparency relating to the Graduate School leadership has led many students to feel unwelcome and undervalued. As graduate students are an integral part of the University, we feel strongly that our opinion should be taken into consideration, or at the very least we should be communicated to regarding important decisions which greatly impact our graduate school experience. Graduate students are Aggies and demonstrate strong Aggie spirit, as such, we believe that fostering student life and involvement through student centricity is what the Aggie spirit is about.

In conclusion, Graduate Student Council understands that any decision taken by the administration is in the best interest of the graduate students. However, we would like to request that any such decision impacting the graduate students directly be communicated to the graduate student community.

**DATE:** September 26th, 2018

**TO:** Dr. Loui-Vincent Reyes.

**FROM:** Graduate Student Council at New Mexico State University.

**SUBJECT:** A Memorial for Dean of Graduate School at New Mexico University.

The Former Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Louis-Vincent Reyes maintained strong and meaningful relationships with the graduate student community. He was dedicated to consistently assisting any graduate student problems that arose, no matter how big or small. Dr. Reyes's passion for his job was evident as he thanklessly offered his help, resources, and compassion when working to solve issues graduate students faced. Dr. Reyes' door has always been open to all students and employees, so much that we strongly consider him family and a role model.

Under Dr. Reyes' leadership, we saw improvements and significant progress toward the quality of graduate education at NMSU. His initiatives, such as graduate admissions practices, re-examining standards for graduate faculty, and the Masters Accelerated Program, are some excellent examples of positive outcomes of Dr. Reyes' leadership. We believe that his mission and vision held graduate education to a higher standard, something to continue striving for into the future.

We, the Graduate Students of New Mexico State University, appreciate all the support and kind-heartedness Dr. Reyes provided, and hard work he dedicated to enhancing graduate student life at NMSU. We wholeheartedly wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors. It is a sad day for the Graduate Students at New Mexico State University to see Dr. Loui-Vincent Reyes leave the position of the Dean of the Graduate School.