Meet Our Faculty:

- Dr. Shawn Secatero, (Canoncito Band of Navajo), Associate Professor, and POLLEN Coordinator (505) 277-6018 (ssecat@unm.edu)
- Dr. Allison Borden, Professor, (aborden@unm.edu)
- Dr. Russ Romans, Lecturer III, (ruromans@unm.edu)
- Dr. Patrick Lopez, Educational Leadership Program Coordinator (plopez5@unm.edu)
- Dr. William “Toby” Holmes, (Choctaw) (wtholmes@unm.edu)

Application

Students admitted into the POLLEN program must meet all requirements for admission into the University and the College of Education Educational Leadership program. UNM College of Education faculty will provide hands-on guidance and support for candidates that meet the required qualifications.

Requirements:

- Submit a UNM Graduate School Admissions Packet Website: www.unm.edu/apply

Contact: Mary Hooper, UNM TEELP Program Educational Support; 505-277-0513 or TEELP@unm.edu

IMPORTANT DATES:
- Call for Applications: November 1, 2020
- Application Packet Deadline: April 1, 2021
- Review of Applications: April 1-15, 2021
- ZOOM Interviews for finalists: April 15-30, 2021
- Acceptance Notifications: May 1, 2021
- ZOOM Orientation: To be announced in May
- On-line Instruction begins: June 7, 2021

“This program [POLLEN Program] will move mountains in relation to supporting student success. Knowing where you come from as an Indigenous educator within the community, you know exactly the demographic perception, achievement, and process data that you are working with. Adding the mixture of the 16 pillars of well-being in regard to student’s well-being, you know the walk of life they come from. Data is not only assessment numbers, but with all forms of assessments we do on a daily basis. This program has reignited my flame to stand up, speak for, and push for equality for education for ALL of our students, for they are our future and most treasured profession.” - POLLEN Alumni (McREL International p. 43)
Program Information

As part of honoring and embracing leadership and education, corn POLLEN was utilized by Southwestern tribes in recognition of the outstanding leadership attributes of tribal members, and to pray for all living things, as well as educational success and persistence.

Recognizing the importance of pathways to community and educational leadership, the University of New Mexico is pleased to announce the POLLEN program. Funded by, and in partnership with the New Mexico Legislature, the POLLEN Program is designed to increase the number of licensed school administrators serving Native American students throughout the state of New Mexico.

The Educational Leadership Program at the University of New Mexico is actively recruiting our fourth cohort of eligible educators in Native American serving schools who hold an MA degree to pursue their Administrative Licensure. Those admitted to the cohort will receive a stipend covering tuition, books, and technology fees in this accelerated pathway to licensure.

The anticipated cohort start date is Summer 2021. Required coursework will be specifically designed to prepare future principals to be responsive to the needs of Native communities throughout the State of New Mexico. All courses will be delivered through a blended online/face-to-face format to ensure access to communities throughout the state, and will center on Native American leadership, vision, epistemology, and culture in addressing current issues in Native American education.

Eligibility Requirements

You are eligible to apply to this program if you meet the following criteria:

1) Possess a valid Level IIA or IIIA New Mexico Teaching license
2) Masters degree from a regionally accredited college/university.
3) Native American and interested in becoming a licensed school administrator.
4) Commit to serving as a school administrator in a Bureau funded school or district predominantly serving Native American students.

Program of Study

By participating in this program, students will be required to complete the following courses for New Mexico Administrative licensure and earn an Educational Specialist Certificate (24 credit hours):

- LEAD 503 – Data Informed Instructional Leadership (3 hours)
- LEAD 509 – Leadership and Organizational Change (3 hours)
- LEAD 521 – School Finance and Resource Management (3 hours)
- LEAD 560 – Instructional Leadership and Development (3 hours)
- LEAD 561 – Legal Issues for School Leaders (3 hours)
- LEAD 596 - Administrative Internship (6 hours)
- LEAD 520 - School Principalship (3 hours)

Benefits and POLLEN Success

Our unique POLLEN program offers the following benefits and success milestones from 3 previous cohorts which include the following:

- A stipend to be used toward tuition, and technology fees.
- The opportunity to complete coursework for the New Mexico Administrative License in four semesters with indigenous based curriculum.
- Mentorship and support from UNM POLLEN program faculty prior to, throughout, and after the conclusion of the program.
- The establishment of a professional network of fellow school leaders committed to improving Native American education within and beyond the State of New Mexico.
- 97% On time Completion Rate
- 96% Licensure Test Pass Rate—1st Attempt
- 87% Placement in Leadership Position
- 87.5 % Retention as a principal or assistant principal.

“The good thing about our professors is they’re keeping in mind that we’re from Native Schools and serving Native populations so that helps us directly when we go back to our school after we achieve licensure.”

—Pollen Cohort 1 Member