The Regents of Western New Mexico University invite nominations and applications for President to succeed Dr. John Counts who is retiring this summer after 18 years of distinguished service.

Western is located in the rural southwest quadrant of the state on a plateau surrounded by the Mimbres Mountains and the Gila National Forest. Silver City, a historic mining community, has been heralded as one of the nation’s best small towns and also as one of the ten best small towns for the arts. It is increasingly known for its mild, four seasons climate and as a gateway to outdoor recreation and wilderness exploration. Yet, this southwest region, as is true of many mining regions, has experienced economic dislocation and below the norm educational attainment.

The University has actively embraced its responsibilities as a “steward of place,” according high priority to meeting the educational needs of this rural region through associate, baccalaureate, and masters degree programs, online educational opportunities, and with selected applied research and continuing education offerings. Founded in 1893 as a Normal School, the University offers highly regarded programs in the liberal arts and in career fields, including teacher education, nursing and business. It serves over 3300 students on the main campus and in four regional learning centers.

The University community seeks an energetic and experienced leader who enjoys working with colleagues in a student-centered university, understands the purposes of public higher education, and is passionate about serving a diverse population in a region which welcomes the University’s outreach. Other qualities important to the Search Committee include:

- Unquestioned integrity
- Accessibility and personal engagement
- Excellent financial management abilities
- The capacity and enthusiasm to promote the university and to seek for it financial support from public and private sources.

While there is a preference for candidates with a recognized doctorate and significant higher education experience, the Search Committee wishes to consider candidates from outside academia who have a record of strong organizational leadership and outstanding achievement.

Interested candidates should submit a letter detailing their interest in the WNMU presidency, accompanied by a curriculum vitae or résumé and a list of at least three professional references. While an application deadline has not been established, for optimal consideration candidates should forward completed applications by February 10. Applications and nominations will be held in confidence and should be sent to wnmu@academic-search.com.

The Search Committee is assisted by:

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Western New Mexico, a designated Hispanic-Serving Institution, is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and individuals from underrepresented groups are especially encouraged to apply.

President