OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL ANALYTICS

Fall 2026



Director's Column

BY CHARLA OROZCO

Fall Is in Full Swing at OIA

The fall semester is already well underway, and it's been a busy one for the Office of Institutional Analytics! As we settle into another academic year, we're excited to share a few updates on what's new at OIA and what's ahead this semester.

Most notably, we are excited to share that the state of New Mexico is now represented in the Post- Secondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO) dashboard, opening up new opportunities to better understand what happens after students leave UNM, including employment, earnings, and other outcomes that can inform conversations about student success and economic mobility. You can find more information about that here.

We continue to grow the UNM Data Community, bringing together colleagues from across our campuses and the Health Sciences Center to learn, share ideas, and build data skills together. Topics for this semester include Accessibility and Data (October), ERP and Data Warehouse updates (November), and discussions around data access at UNM (December).

We're also introducing a Metric of the Month in each session, which will cover common data terms and how we define them. We hope you'll join us this year, at one or all of our monthly Data Community sessions, to connect around the tools, practices, and questions that shape our work with data. You can join the listserv to learn more about these monthly sessions by following the steps here or emailing oia@unm.edu.

And looking ahead, save the date for **December 16 for our next Art & Science of Data event**! We'll bring together members of the UNM community to explore the many ways we turn data into insight, understanding, and action. More details and registration information are below.

As always, OIA is here to help the UNM community find, understand, and use institutional data. We're excited about what's ahead and look forward to connecting with you this semester!

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WHAT'S NEW WITHIN THE UNM DATA COMMUNITY

Art & Science of Data Event

BY CHARLA OROZCO

Save the Date!
Wednesday, December 16, 2026!

The Office of Assessment/APR and the Office of Institutional Analytics will host The Art & Science of Data: From Numbers to Narratives on Wednesday, December 16, 2026! This year's event with be one day only, and will be offered virtually. This FREE event is designed to empower faculty, staff and students with training and insights on leveraging institutional data to better understand their units and tell impactful stories. Interested? Register for the event here to get all the details sent your way as they become available.

Retention Project

BY AMEER SLIM & YURY BOSIN

Using 25 years of UNM student data, we completed a retention analysis leveraging statistical algorithms to identify factors associated with third semester (one-year) retention. The analysis highlighted several important factors, including academic performance, scholarship support, student population/entry type, and demographic characteristics. One of the strongest indicators of third-semester retention was Spring semester academic performance, with students' course credit pass rates during the Spring semester showing a particularly strong association with returning the following Fall.

OIA presented the Retention Metrics Project at the UNM Undergraduate Student Success Roundtable on September 11, 2026. Ameer Slim and Yury Bosin shared findings from the retention analysis and engaged faculty and staff in a discussion about how retention metrics and department-level practices can support student success across UNM.

Findings from this project provide valuable insights into patterns associated with student retention and will help inform further research and institutional decision making.

OIA ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BY YURY BOSIN

Jing Feng traveled to Los Angeles to attend Jeopardy! Masters taping in the live audience, cheering for a friend who was competing on stage. She enjoyed meeting friends from the online trivia community in person and seeing how the show was produced behind the scenes.

Zacharia Kibuta has completed the dashboard for the School of Engineering (SOE), which focuses on undergraduate engineering students. The dashboard highlights undergraduate enrollment, course performance indicators, graduation, and retention rates across various programs, providing a clear view of student demographics, academic performance, and engagement within the SOE.

Ameer Slim presented a research paper at the ASEE Illinois-Indiana Section Conference in March 2026. The title of the paper is "Identifying Toxic Course Pairs: Evidence from Covariate-Adjusted Enrollment Data."

Charla Orozco graduated from the Harvard Center for Education Policy Research Strategic Data Project, publishing a practical guide about her project that is available here. She also spent time with her family this summer in Rhode Island, and had the opportunity to watch the sunset over the water. Photo enclosed.



Photo of the sun setting over the water and trees at Gorton's Pond in Rhode Island

Farewell: Dr. Monte-Angel Richardson

BY ABIGALE FRANCO

It is with great pride that we announce the graduation of Dr. Monte-Angel Richardson from the University of Toronto with a PhD in Social Work and Public Health Policy. At the end of August, Monte-Angel transitioned into an assistant professor position at Arizona State University with the BRIDGS Initiative (Bringing Research and Innovation Into the Debate on Guns in Society).

While we are saddened by the departure of Monte-Angel from our team, we are simultaneously thrilled to continue cheering on her hard work and research from within our Lobo community.

To stay in touch with Monte-Angel, feel free to connect her on LinkedIn or via email: mrich147@asu.edu.

Introducing New Staff in OIA

BY ZACHARIA KIBUTA

Alicia Dominguez joined the Office of Institutional Analytics team in June 2026 and holds a dual appointment with the Center for Teaching and Learning. She earned bachelor's degrees in applied mathematics and statistics from the University of New Mexico in 2017 and a master's degree in biostatistics from the University of Michigan (UM) in 2020.

She is currently pursuing a PhD in biostatistics at UM and plans to defend her dissertation this academic year. With a background rooted in quantitative research and applied statistical analysis, Alicia is excited to contribute to institutional analytics, explore questions related to teaching and learning, and support student success initiatives.

Outside of work, she enjoys trying new coffee shops and restaurants, playing board games, watching reality TV with her husband and their cat Grim, and spending time with her family and friends.





Nayyer Rimi holds a Master of Science in Project Management and a Bachelor's degree in Management Information Systems, both from the University of New Mexico.

As a Professional Support member of the Institutional Analytics team, she contributes to data analysis, reporting, and data-driven initiatives across the university, working with SQL, R, SAS, Tableau, and Power BI.

Nayyer is passionate about using data to support better decision-making and drive organizational improvement. Originally from Dhaka, Bangladesh, she enjoys traveling, cooking, and learning about different cultures, and speaks Bengali, Hindi, Urdu, and English

Graeme Nicholl joined the Office of Institutional Analytics as an Institutional Researcher in August 2026.
He joins OIA after nine years working for the UNM Division of Student Affairs, where he created an emergency fund that supports students facing basic needs insecurities and contributed to UNM's first university-wide assessment of student well-being.
Graeme earned a bachelor's degree in anthropology and communication from UNM in 2019. In his free time, he is often reading or watching science-fiction, working on a new quilt, or searching for mid-century modern furniture to add to his collection.





Shuyin Liu joined the Office of Institutional Analytics team in September 2026.
She holds abachelor's degree in Sociology from Sun Yat-sen University and a master's degree in Sociology from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.
She is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Sociology at UMass Amherst. As a woman of color, she is passionate about using data to better understand and address barriers to student access, equity, and success.
In her free time, she enjoys building Legos and miniature houses, cooking, and trying new restaurants and cuisine.