
Advisement at UNM

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2009 Higher Learning Commission Review

*“Academic advising has historically been **underfunded** and **indifferently managed** at UNM...resulting in **unsatisfactory student-advisor ratios.**” - HLC Assurance Report, 2009*

Challenges identified in 2009:

- *Extremely high ratios (770:1 compared to 350:1 standard)*
- *Insufficient resources for professional development and insufficient office space for private advisement sessions*
- *Inadequate communication across advising units*

Response to HLC Feedback

Improvements:

- Advisement restructured and distributed across campus
- Establishment of the Office of Advising Strategies
- Funds allocated for hiring additional advisors
- Reduced student-advisor ratio from 770:1 to 325:1

Continued challenges:

- Misalignment between job classifications
- Salaries fall below the going market rate
- Loss of talent both internally between departments and externally

Advisement Study Underway

To further support the 2019 HLC Accreditation review, the Provost has engaged the Division of Human Resources to evaluate advisement classifications and employee compensation.

Anticipated outcomes:

- Align and simplify the classification structure
- Clearly demonstrate relationship between different sources of advisement
- Accurately represent advisement activities at UNM
- Retain and recognize advisors, acknowledging the vital role they play in UNM's retention and graduation goals