UNM Researchers,

To enhance the quality of undergraduate STEM education at Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs), the National Science Foundation (NSF) established the Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI Program), in response to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L. 115-31) and the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (P.L. 114-329). The HSI Program seeks to increase the retention and graduation rates of students pursuing associate or baccalaureate degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

The HSI Program supports standard and continuing grants that will:

- Develop, implement, and test models for the retention of students advancing from lower-division courses to upper-division STEM coursework, including those transferring from a two-year to a four-year institution.
- Create evidence-based and evidence-generating approaches that increase the graduation rates of students pursuing STEM associate or baccalaureate degrees at HSIs.
- Enhance research that improves understanding of how to build faculty capacity and student opportunities to conduct STEM research or STEM educational research at HSIs through partnerships with other HSIs and organizations (e.g., federal laboratories, research centers, industrial or business organizations, non-profit entities, etc.).
- Increase knowledge about evidence-based approaches to engaged student learning and how to broaden the participation of undergraduate students majoring in STEM disciplines at HSIs.

UNM is eligible to submit to the Track 1 proposal type: Building Capacity. The track 1 funds projects from $500K to $1.5M for up to 5 years and is open to all eligible institutions and has three priority areas: Critical Transitions; Innovative Cross-Sector Partnerships; and Research on Broadening Participation in STEM. Complete program details can be found at: https://nsf.gov/ehr/HSIProgramPlan.jsp. Proposals are due to the NSF on March 6, 2018.

This is a limited competition for the Track 1 proposal type “Building Capacity” and is limited to one proposal per institution. If you are interested in submitting a proposal, send a statement of interest with a tentative project title, names of the key personnel, which of the three priority areas your project will focus on, and brief description of your project (up to 200 words) by noon, December 21, 2017 via e-mail to limited@unm.edu with the subject line: NSF IUSE HSI – your name. Based on the e-mail responses received, the Limited Competitions Management Team may announce a call for preproposals.

Please distribute this notice to departments and individuals whom you believe would be interested.

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact Corey Ford (CFord@salud.unm.edu) or Cassandra Misenar (CMisenar@salud.unm.edu) for more information.