



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# UNM Foundation Board of Trustees Elects Officers

The UNM Foundation Board of Trustees has recently elected the following officers: **Gary Gordon**, treasurer of the Albuquerque Academy, will serve as chair of the UNMF Board of Trustees. The position of vice-chair/chair elect will be held by **Carl Alongi, CPA**, a senior consultant with REDW, The Rogoff Firm. **Stephanie Bennett-Smith, Ph.D.**, of Brielle, New Jersey, is president Emerita of Centenary College and has been elected national vice-chair. **Ray Ziler, CPA** a principal in the REDW LLC public accounting firm, will serve as assistant treasurer. **Peter Johnstone, Esq.** practices law in Albuquerque and has been elected secretary.

- **Gary Gordon**, a fourth generation New Mexican, graduated from UNM *summa cum laude* in general honors, earning his degree in business management with distinction. He was recognized as a Distinguished Presidential Scholar, and also received the Clauve Award as the university's outstanding senior. He was elected to membership in both Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi. Mr. Gordon continued his formal education at the school of law and practiced law with Miller Stratvert, P.A. for 23 years. He then retired from law practice when the trustees of Albuquerque Academy named him Treasurer in 2009.
- **Carl Alongi, CPA/ABV**, is currently a senior consultant with REDW, The Rogoff Firm. His area of expertise is in business valuation, litigation support and asset management. He joined REDW in the summer of 2009 after a 40-year career at Albuquerque-based accounting firm Pulakos & Alongi, Ltd., CPAs, during which time he served as co-founder and managing shareholder. In 2001, Mr. Alongi stepped down as managing shareholder of the firm to become a financial advisor for an affiliated entity, CPA Wealth Advisors, LLC, which merged with REDW Stanley in 2009. Mr. Alongi received his bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of New Mexico in 1965. He is a member of Anderson School of Management Hall of Fame and a former Alumni Association Board member.
- **Stephanie Bennett-Smith, Ph.D.** has a bachelor's degree in English and history, and a master's degree in English, both from UNM. She also holds a doctorate in American Civilization from the University of Iowa. She is President Emerita of Centenary College in New Jersey, a position she has held for 17 years. Her previous positions include Dean of Westhampton College, University of Richmond, Virginia and Assistant Professor of English and Director of the American Studies Program at Albion College, Michigan. Dr. Bennett-Smith is a trustee of American University in Washington, D.C. and Wheelock College in Boston. She is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Blair Academy, The United Methodist Higher Education Foundation and is chair of the Board of the Indian River Land Trust, Florida. She serves in an advisory capacity on the Board of the Harwood Museum of UNM in Taos.
- **Peter Johnstone, Esq.** graduated from the UNM School of Law in 1974 and became a member of the State Bar of New Mexico. He has served as President of the Albuquerque Bar Association. In 1991, he was the recipient of the Outstanding Lawyer Award presented by the Albuquerque Bar Association. He continues the practice of law in Albuquerque. He has two children, Michael and Meredith, both of whom are University of New Mexico graduates.
- **Ray Ziler, CPA** is a principal in the REDW LLC public accounting firm, the largest New Mexico based accounting firm and heads up the firm's audit and consulting department. Prior to joining REDW, Mr. Ziler was managing partner of the Albuquerque office of Arthur Andersen, LLP. As a member of UNM Foundation's board of trustees, he has chaired its audit committee and gift acceptance committee. He also holds volunteer leadership roles with several community organizations, including ACCION NM, ACCION USA and Albuquerque Economic Development. Mr. Ziler is past chair of the Anderson Schools Foundation Board and former interim director of UNM Foundation's Office of Development. He and his wife, Catherine, are charter members of the UNM President's Club.

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*Changing Worlds: The Campaign for UNM will raise \$675 million over eight years (2006-2014). Donor support is needed in four areas: Student Success and Opportunity; Faculty Support and Research; Campus Programs; and Capital Projects and Facilities. [fromhereworldschange.org](http://fromhereworldschange.org)*