**UNM BUSINESS STUDENTS HELP NEW MEXICO RECOVER FROM COVID CHALLENGE**

(Albuquerque, NM) The UNM Anderson School and its **Innovation Group** is helping New Mexico respond to the management challenges of the new Covid-19 low-touch economy. We are now providing our enrolled students with Internet-based paid internships in business consulting projects, supplementing our ongoing programs in experiential learning and faculty mentoring – and we are expanding opportunities for these Internet-based internships in our classes for the Fall 2020 semester. We are also providing New Mexico businesses with the assistance of these business consulting projects, as we have done for two decades, with a special focus on firms owned by traditionally disadvantaged groups, on manufacturing firms, and on small- and medium-sized high-tech firms.

We would like to hear from New Mexico businesses -- both high-tech and non-technology-intensive -- interested in obtaining the benefit of our student-led business consulting projects. These projects typically include:

* **Technology management plans for firm and economic development**
* **Financial plans for a variety of efforts**
* **Commercial Development Programs**
* **Special projects efforts for technology commercialization**
* **Writing or revising business plans**
* **Project management planning for individualized firm needs**
* **Sales Promotion Campaigns for the development**

We would like to hear from both people who are interested in enrolling as students in our programs. We have arranged our course offerings to include both graduate and undergraduate students from the Anderson School of Management and our joint programs with the UNM School of Engineering. These Internet-based paid internships are available beginning in Fall 2020. We have attracted funding for students so firms in many cases will not have to fund our students directly. We are offering many forms of assistance to meet these challenges.

Student projects from the Anderson schools’ **Innovation Group** have helped create hundreds of new jobs and careers for New Mexicans over the life of these programs. They have helped firms attract venture funding, helped firms scale up, and helped create increased personal income for New Mexicans.

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*For more information, please contact Steven Walsh, spokesperson for the Innovation Group, at 505 681-4835* [*walsh@unm.edu*](about:blank)*; or Stacy Sacco, director of the UNM Small Business Institute* [*sasacco@unm.edu*](about:blank) *or call 505-489-2311. Apply online at:* [*https://sbi.mgt.unm.edu/*](https://sbi.mgt.unm.edu/) *by Friday, August 14, 2020.*

*The Innovation Group is housed in the Finance, International and Innovation (FII) department at the Anderson School of Management. The Innovation group includes the Management of Technology program, the Small Business Institute (SBI), Technology Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurship group, the MS-ETM joint program with the UNM Engineering school, the Project Management effort and portions of our Finance group. We have an exceptional history with the business and economic development community in New Mexico. Every year the innovation group provides nearly 70 student teams to work on projects put forward to us by the New Mexico business community. Our students and professors have improved the state of both firms and the economy in New Mexico over the decades we have served them. In the process, students and faculty have been recognized many times. They have earned New Mexico Small Business Program case of the year honors many times, regional and national recognition from the SBI and International recognition from organizations like MANCEF while serving the firms of New Mexico and growing the economic footprint of those firms and the State of New Mexico. In this process we have allied ourselves to programs in New Mexico such as: The New Mexico Small Business assistance program where we work as a subcontractor to the Las Alamos National Laboratories and Sandia national Laboratories; New Mexico Manufacturing Extension Program; E3; The Albuquerque community foundation; Wells Fargo, Bank of America, the Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce; We connect New Mexico; New Mexico Economic Development and many others. We in the Anderson school of Management’s innovation group learn from these groups and add value to the community by faculty-mentored student community-based research efforts for more than 20 years.*

**PHOTOS, INTERVIEWS, AND FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON REQUEST**