



Office of the Chancellor

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DATE: June, 12, 2020

TO: NMSU employees

FROM: Dan E. Arvizu, Chancellor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Dan E. Arvizu'.

SUBJECT: New PSL Director

Jim Chavez, director of NMSU's Physical Science Laboratory (PSL), will step down, effective June 16 but will continue to support the university on several key strategic initiatives. Jim first worked at PSL as a student in 1977 and, after a 36-year career at Sandia National Laboratories, he returned last July as the director of PSL.

In his short tenure as the PSL Director, Jim has made significant changes in the organization that have positioned PSL for a positive path forward. I thank Jim for his numerous contributions and wish him well in his future endeavors. A job well done!

Brigadier General (ret) Eric L. Sanchez, currently serving as the PSL Deputy Director, will be appointed to the director position. Eric is an outstanding leader who already heads many of the efforts at PSL, understands the mission and programs, has been prepared and is postured for a seamless transition. He is a 1987 graduate of NMSU and retired in 2018, after 32 years of active duty service to our nation. In his last assignment, Eric served as the Commanding General, White Sands Missile Range. He has the background, experience, and vision to keep PSL moving in the right direction.

Please join me in welcoming Eric into his new role.