



Vice Chancellor's Office

Strategic System Services
MSC 3Z
Hadley Hall
2850 Weddell Dr.
Las Cruces, NM 88003
575-646-2305, fax: 575-646-6334

Date: May 20, 2021
To: NMSU Employees
From: Ruth Johnston, Vice Chancellor and Strategic Financial Officer
Subject: Selection of Interim Chief Information Officer (CIO)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ruth Johnston".

The ICT Futures team and its nine tiger teams have been making great progress over the past two months, creating an assessment of current services and planning for the future of Information and Communication Technology operations across the NMSU System.

In our most recent action, Chris Kielt has been selected as interim chief information officer to begin next month to dovetail his work with current CIO Norma Grijalva before she retires at the end of June.

Over the past decade Chris has served as vice chancellor for information technology and CIO at both Washington University in St. Louis and University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. He has served as the CIO at Stony Brook University in New York and deputy CIO at Yale University's Information Technology Services.

Chris is an experienced administrator who can ably assist NMSU during this transition period. He has managed large enterprise technology organizations with as many as 400 staff at two large public research institutions.

ICT Futures team members have met with groups of faculty, staff, and students since March to get critical feedback about strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats surrounding our current ICT systems to help us plan for our future technology needs.

We will be working with Chris and members of the NMSU ICT team over the coming months to create a business plan by the end of August which will help us to launch a search for a permanent CIO in late summer or early fall.

Please visit <https://leads2025.nmsu.edu/goal-4/ict-futures/#communications> for updates and information from the ICT Futures team.

Please send your ideas and questions to sss@nmsu.edu.