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# NEWS SYMPOSIUM

December 20 & 21, 2017



**\* NM Educated Workforce in STEM (NEWS) Symposium**

UNM, December 19-21, 2017

**\* Bringing Business, Government, Education, and young, NM Professionals together**



## What can *you* do to reverse the New Mexico Brain Drain?

**Brain drain** is the process in which a state, such as New Mexico, loses its most educated and talented workforce to other states through migration for the lack of apparent opportunities. For New Mexico, this is a problem because the most highly skilled and competent individuals, such as STEM professionals, leave and contribute their expertise to other state economies. Brain drain is particularly distressing when the skilled workforce truly wants to stay in New Mexico, but cannot due to the perceived lack of opportunities for the highly skilled STEM workforce.

Currently, this is the case in New Mexico, which is seeing the economic effects and negative repercussions of brain drain, which include:

- Loss of tax revenue
- Loss of future entrepreneurs
- A shortage of important, highly skilled workers
- Lack of confidence in the economy
- Loss of innovative ideas

## The NM Educated Workforce in STEM (NEWS) Symposium

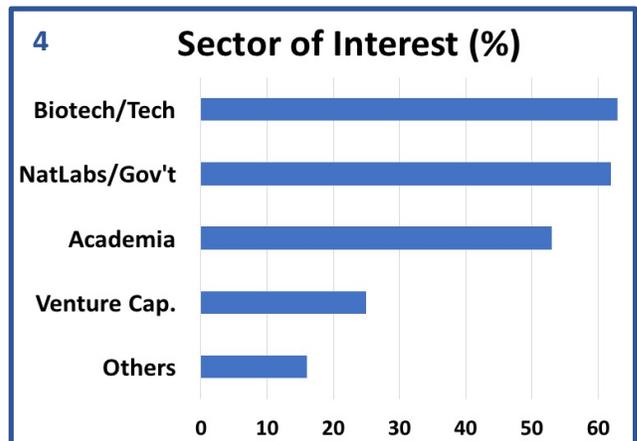
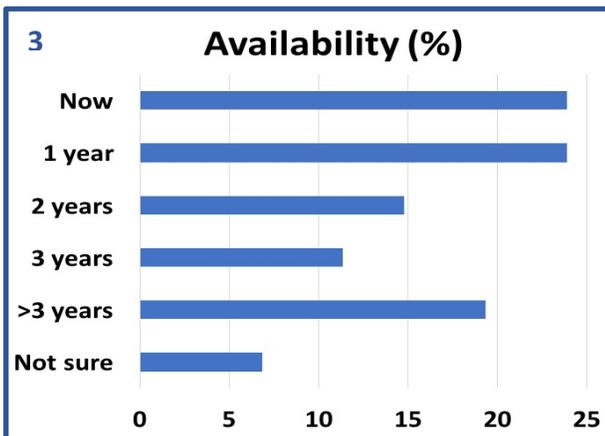
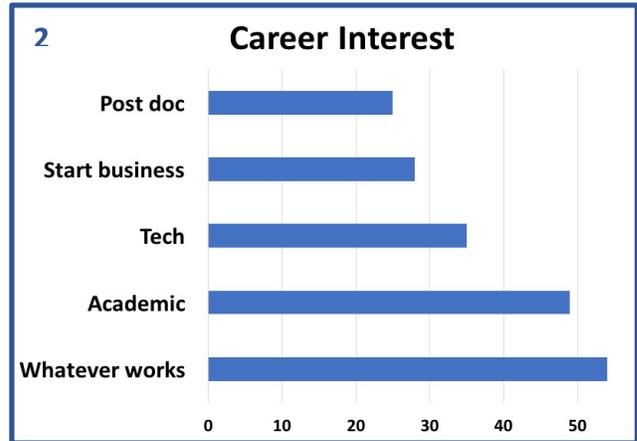
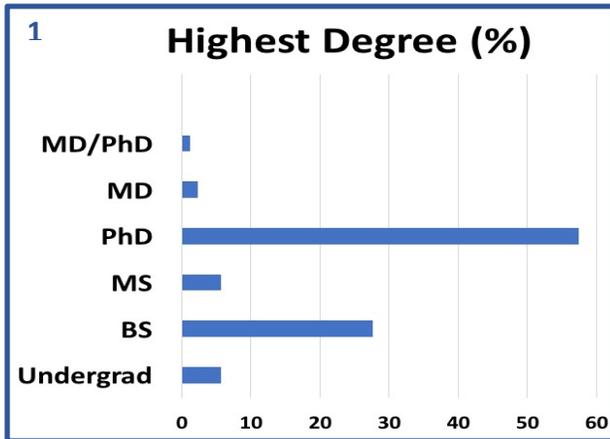
The goal of the NEWS Symposium is to re-introduce highly educated STEM professionals to the New Mexico high tech economy. Through the NEWS Symposium, we can now show these young STEM professionals that there is a vibrant, creative economy in New Mexico. At the NEWS Symposium, we will introduce these highly skilled STEM professionals to economic, government, biotech/tech and business leaders from across the state for the purpose of job matching, sharing ideas and redeveloping a connection to the local and state economy. These STEM professionals are unique in that many of them have advanced degrees, strong personal and professional networks, and want to return to New Mexico. It is our intention to introduce business leaders to the STEM workforce to further aid these efforts. Through these interactions, companies will find good matches for their various unfilled positions, benefitting their organizations while providing an avenue for repatriation to the STEM workforce seeking to do so.

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## DATA ABOUT OUR STEM PROFESSIONALS



**Figure 1: Education level of the NEWS survey respondents** – Over 90% of all respondents (n = 111) indicated that they hold one or more of the following STEM degrees: BS, MS, or PhD. **Figure 2: Career interests** – Respondents (n = 112) were asked to choose all interests that apply to them. The majority indicated an interest in academia and technology/biotechnology, followed by starting their own business and post-doctoral opportunities. Over 50 respondents are so interested in returning to New Mexico that they would consider ‘whatever works’ and would make use of their STEM education and skill set. **Figure 3: Timing of availability** – Almost 50% of all respondents (n = 107) are ready to make the move to New Mexico now or within the next year. About 25% of all respondents indicated that they would be available to return to New Mexico within the next 2- 3 years. **Figure 4: Sector of interest** – When asked to check all that apply, the majority of respondents indicated (in percent, n = 105) that they were interested in employment opportunities in biotech/tech, national labs/government, and academia. An additional 20% were interested in speaking with venture capitalists because they have one or more viable idea(s) for a startup company.

For more information about the NEWS Symposium call or write:

Email - [NEWS.NM2017@gmail.com](mailto:NEWS.NM2017@gmail.com);

Phone - 505.277.3609.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NEWSSymposium/>

**NEWS Symposium**  
**New Mexico Educated Workforce in STEM**  
**Agenda**

Dec. 19 – 21, 2017

Welcome to the First Annual NEWS Symposium. The goal of the symposium is to introduce the highly educated STEM workforce from New Mexico to the economic, government, biotech/tech, and business leaders in the state for the purpose of job matching. The structure of the professional workforce in NM is unique, with many talented and skilled professionals, getting advanced degrees and temporarily living out of state. Our goal is to catalyze new businesses, opportunities and networks to facilitate the economic growth of the state based on homegrown New Mexican talent. For more information write to [NEWS.NM2017@gmail.com](mailto:NEWS.NM2017@gmail.com) or call 505-277-3609.

Welcome Reception, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017		
07:00 PM	UNM Lobo Rainforest	UNM STC and Economic Development
HOUR	Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017	Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017
09:00 AM	Welcome	Welcome
09:30 AM	UNM Officials and Faculty	Local, State & National Government
10:00 AM	Goals of the Symposium	New Mexico
10:30 AM	Many Paths Home	National Laboratory Opportunities
11:00 AM	Home	Opportunities
11:30 AM	Preparing for Interviews	Coffee Break/Exhibitors
12:00 PM	Our Narratives	Working the Network
12:30 PM	(Lunch)	(Lunch)
01:00 PM	New Mexico	New Mexico
01:30 PM	Economic Development	Biotechnology & Startups Panel
02:00 PM	(Innovation, Accelerators, etc.)	Coffee Break/Networking
02:30 PM	Academic Opportunities in New Mexico	Startup Information Panel:
03:00 PM	Coffee Break/Networking	Panel:
03:30 PM	Exhibit Hall	Venture Capital, Law & Accounting
04:00 PM	and	Closing Remarks
04:30 PM	Academic Breakout Sessions	
05:00 PM		
05:30 PM		
06:00 PM	Reception Hodgin Hall (Sponsor – UNM Alumni Association)	Reception Lavu (Sponsor – Lavu Point of Sale Systems)

\*Registration begins 30 min prior to events

Update 22 Nov. 2017