



Office of the Provost

MSC 3445
New Mexico State University
P. O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
575-646-2594, fax: 575-646-6334
provost@nmsu.edu

Date: August 23, 2022

To: NMSU faculty, staff and students

From: Dorothy Campbell, Interim Provost and Chief Academic Officer *D. Campbell*

Subject: New senior associate provost

I am pleased to announce that Dr. R.T. James McAteer has been selected as our first senior associate provost at New Mexico State University effective immediately.

Dr. McAteer holds a Ph.D. in solar astrophysics from Queens University in Belfast, and has held fellowships at NASA and Trinity College Dublin in Ireland before joining the NMSU astronomy department in 2010. He has served on multiple Faculty Senate committees and as department heads, among other positions at NMSU. He also leads efforts in process improvement, budget realignment, a department student success committee, statewide course learning objectives, best practices in teaching assistant mentoring, and hiring and retention of new faculty and staff, including those from underrepresented groups in astronomy.

As a solar physicist, Dr. McAteer is director of the Sunspot Solar Observatory and institutional primary investigator for funding for Apache Point Observatory. His research focuses on coronal heating and space weather.

Each of the faculty candidates for the position had excellent experiences. Dr. McAteer's positive involvement with faculty and students and his leadership style will be helpful to operations in the Provost's Office, and as the provost's position transitions to the office of a future permanent provost. Dr. McAteer wants to be a "conduit of communication" for students, faculty and academic staff.

I would like to thank the search committee, all candidates, and all of those who participated and gave feedback for the position.