F I S C A L   I M P A C T   R E P O R T

	ORIGINAL DATE	2/16/2007		
SPONSOR Rehm	**LAST UPDATED**		**HB**	1194

SHORT TITLE RESEARCH SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM   **SB**

ANALYST Moser

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	**FY08**		
	$250.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION
LFC Files

Responses Received From
NM Department of Higher Education

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 1194 requests $250,000 to be appropriated from the General Fund in FY08 to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) to create the Research Service Learning Program (RSLP).

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of $250,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY08 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HED indicates that in September 2006, the UNM Research Service Learning Program (RSLP) was officially launched. According to information on the UNM website, the RSLP was designed to guide academic cohorts of undergraduate students in the development of community relationships in Central Albuquerque. Working with community partners, students are given

opportunities to engage in sustained, real-world experiences and apply course-based knowledge. In this way, learned theories and experiential practices are combined to enhance student skills and the lives of community residents. Each RSLP course provides the guidance and instruction for students to research problems as a group, identify solutions as a group, and work together with the designated community toward immediate implementation or continued planned support activities over time. RSLP student learning opportunities are designed, planned and guided cooperatively by UNM faculty, community faculty, graduate students, community organizations and the academic course cohort of students.

According to the program director, a number of successful partnerships and projects have been developed and completed (for example, with the Santa Barbara/Martineztown Neighborhood Association, Barelas Neighborhood Association, and Mesa Verde Community Center). Per the director, this academic program provides students with an innovative, different path to a degree one that shows a direct relevance and connectedness between education and the community. The program also helps UNM in its outreach efforts to give back to the community. According to the program director, HB1194 funding will be used for:

- Salaries for the faculty involved in teaching the RSLP courses
- Special instruction in service learning for the faculty teaching RSLP courses
- Designing new RSLP courses for students

This request was not submitted to the New Mexico Higher Education Department by UNM, and was not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY08.

GM/mt