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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Powdrell-Culbert ORIGINAL DATE 2/18/2007
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 1220
UNM AFRICAN AMERICAN & AFRICANA
SHORT TITLE STUDIES SB _____
ANALYST Moser

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$190.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to: SB385; SB709; HB1170
Companion to HB1105; HB1171; HB1172; HB1173

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

NM Department of Higher Education (HED)
Office of African American Affairs

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 1220 appropriates \$190,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for expenditure in FY08 and subsequent years to build a core faculty in the African American Studies Program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$190,000 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.

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

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The African American Studies Program at UNM focuses on Africa, the Caribbean, South America, Latin America, Europe, and North America and offers a variety of courses that illuminate the literature, history, and culture of the African or Black Diaspora. The program offers an interdisciplinary baccalaureate degree, a specialized minor, and a general minor in African American Studies. The program offers a variety of innovative community projects such as hosting traveling historical exhibits and a speaker series.

Currently, the program employs four full-time faculty members, one emeritus faculty, and one person serving the role of both director and faculty. The program offers more than 24 courses per semester with each faculty having a course load of five or more courses.

This appropriation will be used to hire faculty and expand the African Studies Department. The core faculty will be expert scholars on the Black and Caribbean Diaspora, and they will develop and deliver courses including distance learning coursework, conduct research, and support undergraduate and graduate students in the African American Studies Program.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Companion bills are:

HB1105 appropriates \$190,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for expenditure in FY08 for the Charlie Morrissey Research Hall to repair and maintain existing archival facilities, display space, and provide base resources for faculty led student research focusing on the Black Diasporas at the national and international levels.

HB1171 appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for expenditure in FY08 for a Visiting Scholars in Residence at the Charlie Morrissey Research Hall in the African-American Studies Program.

HB1172 appropriates \$125,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for expenditure in FY08 and subsequent years for a Senior Scholar at the Charlie Morrissey Research Hall in the African-American Studies Program.

HB1173 appropriates \$300,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for expenditure in FY08 and subsequent years to build a core faculty in the African American Studies Program. This request is to hire 3-4 FTE who will be Junior and Senior Faculty

Relationship bills are:

SB385 appropriates \$25,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for expenditure in FY08 to support the African-American Studies Program.

SB709 is a related bill that appropriates \$75,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for expenditure in FY08 for the African-American Student Services Program and operations.

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HB1170 appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for expenditure in FY08 to bridge the achievement gap for African American high school and first year students to prepare them for university course work and provide fellowships and assistantships and a distinguished lecture series in the African American Studies Program.

GM/nt