

To the MSU community,

I want to thank you for the reception I received on my recent visit to Montana State University. I was convinced to accept this extraordinary opportunity by the warmth, energy and talent of the people I met during my visit---the students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members. MSU is, indeed, a remarkable institution, and I can't wait to be part of it.

I came to New Mexico State University from the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez. You have probably heard me say that I left the "Island of Enchantment" for the "Land of Enchantment." This week, I feel humbled and honored with the invitation extended by the Montana Board of Regents to join the wonderful people from "the last best place." These three land-grant institutions share a model that has inspired and enhanced the quality of life of thousands of individuals around the world.

President Gamble has led the university to an unparalleled level of support for student success, advancement of research, commitment to shared governance and significant outreach to the state. I know that, with all of us working together, the best days of this great institution are ahead of us. I look forward to working with all of you in continuing this record of accomplishment.

With warm regards,

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