Student/ Staff Health

- Overall, the Master Plan is a very nice piece of work. However, in the Master Plan, suggestions for meeting the needs of the Millennial student includes offering mental health counseling and support. I see student life and student success as a theme in the Master Plan, but I see no mention of plans for improvement of facilities for medical or mental health services for students. I see increasing faculty and staff access to healthcare as a goal in the plan, but nothing about student healthcare. Student Health and Counseling has 35,000 outpatient visits per year plus a Pharmacy in the building. Nearly 40% of the individual students enrolled see us at least once during the year. We deliver these medical and mental health services with a staff of about 50 employees, out of a building constructed in the 1960’s. My bias is that we should at least be mentioned as a part of the plan for the mesa vista complex development/ renovation. – Beverly Kloeppel, UNM Staff; 9/9/2009

- A broad component of the conceptual framework (p. 7) is "Healthy Communities" with bullets including: Urban/Rural Health; Education and Training; Research, Outreach and Intervention; and Health Policy. There are no other mentions of "health policy" throughout the master plan document and so I wonder how this is defined and implemented throughout the plan? I recommend that consideration is given to the process of Health Impact Assessment (HIA) as one method of analyzing the human health impacts of project and policy decision making. HIA is “a multidisciplinary process within which a range of evidence about the health effects of a proposal is considered in a structured framework, ...based on a broad model of health which proposes that economic, political, social, psychological, and environmental factors determine population health” (Northern and York Public Health Observatory, 2004).

http://www.ph.ucla.edu/hs/hiaclic/index.htm There is a significant amount of web-based information on HIA and I would be glad to provide more information upon request. – Emily Piltch, UNM Staff; 9/11/2009