

This year...

This is an invitation to participate in New Mexico Higher Education Assessment Association's Summer Retreat at the MCM Eleganté Lodge & Suites (formerly The Lodge at Sierra Blanca) and The Ruidoso Convention Center, in beautiful Ruidoso, New Mexico, June 25-28, 2017. The Retreat will be open to teams (four members). Should your college accept this opportunity and challenge both Institutional teams and individuals will focus on defined and assessable projects; each can expect to return to campus with clear approaches and preliminary action plans.

One member of each team must be designated as the team leader. The leader will be responsible for staying in contact with the Retreat director, completing the Retreat application form, initiating the processing of the attached invoices (which should be started ASAP), coordinating the post retreat work presentations, and submitting all post retreat documents.

The Retreat's facilitators will be Pierre Laroche and Dr. Susan Wood; each is a longstanding participant and organizer of the NMHEAA's annual conference and the NMHEAA Retreat. Accomplished institutional and regional assessment leaders, Laroche & Wood have strong and diverse backgrounds spanning accreditation, classroom and program assessment, qualitative and quantitative assessment measures, and institutional leadership. The total cost of the Retreat for a team will be \$2,750—\$ 750 for additional participants—which does not include travel expenses for your team members. The NMHEAA will pay the balance of the costs. Some choose to arrive early or stay a bit later; additional overnight arrangements at the bargain retreat price can be made with the MCM Eleganté Lodge & Suites, the traditional hotel for the retreat <<http://www.thelodgeatsierrablanca.com/>>.

The Retreat will begin with an introductory social on Sunday evening, June 26th; this will be a chance to meet other team members, exchange ideas and institutional gifts, and appreciate the cooler climes of Ruidoso. An integral part of the Retreat experience, Sunday's festivities build on our tradition: supporting learning and educational services at your institution in a relaxed setting that encourages community and divergent thinking. The Retreat will be appropriate for institutional teams that need the time and change of location to think clearly and deliberately about the next appropriate step in assessment at their respective institutions.

As usual, we encourage projects on subjects as wide-ranging as general education, freshmen seminar, learning communities, faculty development, standardized assessment and placement instruments, student services, and technology; if your institutional team plans to work on a concern that diverges greatly from these make sure that we know ahead of time so we can better support your experience.

Teams and individuals will be asked to develop a concrete initiative to begin in the fall of 2016; it will be the subject of a poster presentation at the 2018 NMHEAR Conference. Any time you spend organizing a project prior to the Retreat will be time well spent. We do not expect the end of this Retreat to be the end of your project. The Retreat will be a way for your institution to create a plan for measuring some outcomes you value highly. However, it will only be a start...a way to honestly work through a problem and plan a solution that will show results over time. This retreat is an opportunity to work with colleagues on tricky problems, to work with assessment leaders, and to assert your college and yourself as regional leaders.

This is intended to be a relaxed, informal, collegial Retreat...a time for thoughtfully addressing assessment issues outside the pressures of everyday institutional life. Although you may begin the planning of projects that will require hard work and persistence in their completion, the idea is to avoid the pressure of deadlines and budget crunches at the Retreat itself. Participants are encouraged to wear relaxing clothes, remove the furrows from their brows, begin smiling, and enjoy the cool, clean air of south central New Mexico's mountains. The schedule provides time for individual activities before, during and after the Retreat. After a decade of success, the Retreat staff is certain that the thinking and planning in this atmosphere will be worth the investment your institution and the NMHEAA is making in your efforts.



NMHEAA summer retreat

**Tentative
Schedule**

Sunday, June 25

7:00 p.m. Welcome and introductions
7:30 p.m. Retreat social

Monday, June 26

8:00 a.m. Breakfast; Retreat staff and facilitators final planning meeting
9:00 a.m. Laroche & Wood mini workshop begins
10:00 a.m. Participants begin to define project plan
12:00 p.m. Working lunch provided, Laroche & Wood and retreat staff circulate
3:30 p.m. Participants report to whole group on nature of project and beginning of plan
5:00 p.m. Individual relaxation in beautiful Ruidoso
6:00 p.m. Networking in the Lodge Lounge
7:00 p.m. Depart for small group dinner (participants pay for this one)

Tuesday, June 27

8:00 a.m. Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Laroche & Wood mini workshop begins
11:00 a.m. Participants work with Laroche & Wood and retreat staff on drafting an action plan
12:00 p.m. Working lunch provided, Laroche & Wood and retreat staff circulate
2:00 p.m. Group as a whole makes plans for 2017 NMHEAR conference
2:30 p.m. Individual relaxation in beautiful Ruidoso
6:00 p.m. Networking in the Lounge
7:00 p.m. Dinner, provided by the NMHEAA

Wednesday, June 28

8:00 a.m. Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Participants finalize plan and presentation
10:00 a.m. Participants offer brief presentations of progress
11:15 a.m. Observations and closing remarks
11:45 a.m. Retreat concludes



summer retreat

invoice

For registration at NMHEEA Summer Retreat Sunday, June 25, through Wednesday noon, June 28, 2017, (including registration fee, hotel expenses for Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights and five meals) for three attendees and a team leader (4): **\$2,650.00**
 Additional team members: **\$750.00** each

Retreat planning requires that institutional arrangements be guaranteed no later than April 7TH.
 Registration after April 7TH: **\$2,850.00**
 Registration after May 12th: **\$3,050.00**

Institution: _____
 Individual or Team Members: _____

Indicate with an asterisk () the team member who will serve as team leader*

Team leader's phone: _____ email: _____
 Principal supervisor's phone: _____ email: _____

Registration may be paid by check, purchase order, or credit card.

Credit Cardholder's name: _____
 Credit Card number: _____
 Expiration date: _____

If paying by Purchase Order, please provide PO number: _____

Make checks payable to the NMHEEA, Inc. **No refunds will be made after May 12, 2017.**

Return registration form and fees to: Eastern New Mexico University
 Planning Services, Station 2,
 Attn: Cristine Watson
 Portales, NM 88130
 (575) 562-2315; FAX (575) 562-2244