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# LOUIS CALDERA

### **18th University President**

Served 2003 - 2006 Born El Paso, Texas April 1, 1956



Louis Caldera began his tenure as the 18th president of the University of New Mexico in August 2003. Under his leadership, the university's priorities included new initiatives to strengthen undergraduate recruitment and education, increased research activity, and a commitment to high impact public service.

### Education

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1978 from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, then served on active duty from 1978 to 1983, mostly at Fort Dix, New Jersey. He went on to enroll at Harvard University and in 1987 earned both a master's degree in business education and a Juris Doctor degree. Caldera practiced law from 1987 to 1990 at the firm of O'Melveny & Myers, then

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#### worked as a Deputy Counsel for Los Angeles County.

(source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis\_Caldera)

#### Career

Prior to his arrival at UNM, Caldera served as Vice Chancellor for University Advancement of the California State University System, the largest four-year university system in the country, with headquarters in Long Beach and 23 campuses across the state. His portfolio included system-wide fundraising and development programs, legislative affairs, community relations, alumni affairs, public affairs and communications.

Caldera held two appointed posts in the Clinton administration. As Secretary of the Army from 1998 to 2001, Caldera, together with the Army's Chief of Staff, General Eric K. Shinseki, announced and set into motion a new vision for a more versatile and highly deployable force. During his tenure, Caldera also successfully led a reversal of recruiting shortfalls and initiated a range of highly popular educational programs for soldiers and potential recruits. As Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service from 1997 to 1998, Caldera ran the federal grant-making agency that supports the volunteer service programs Ameri-Corps, the National Senior Service Corps and Learn and Serve America.

Elected to three terms in the California State Assembly, Caldera represented the 46th District, located in and around downtown Los Angeles, from 1992 to 1997. During his tenure, Caldera chaired several business and finance committees, and was an active proponent of measures to improve the lives of children, particularly in the areas of education, foster care, and health and safety. Prior to his election to the Assembly,

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he worked as a Deputy County Counsel for the County of Los Angeles and as an attorney in private practice, including at the law firm of O'Melveny & Myers.

Caldera has served on numerous boards and commissions, including the National Commission on the Senior Year in High School, the Ad Council's Community Affairs Advisory Committee and the Panama Canal Commission.

His was also affiliated with the Council of Foreign Relations, and the boards of Claremont McKenna College, Albuquerque Economic Development Corporation, and the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce, among others.

Excerpt from William E. Davis' <u>Miracle on the Mesa</u>. University of New Mexico, © 2006