Cándido Arturo Archuleta, Jr. the Director of the New Mexico Land Grant Council and the Land Grant-Merced Institute at the University of New Mexico. He has worked for the Council since it was created by the New Mexico Legislature in 2009. Prior to that he was the Director of Planning at the North Central New Mexico Economic Development District/Council of Government, where he also oversaw 3 small business revolving loan funds. His service to land grant-merced communities began in 2003 and he has over 20 years of experience in policy development and advocacy at the state and federal levels. He is a licensed attorney in the State of New Mexico and his education includes a Juris Doctor from the University of New Mexico School of Law, a Master's in Community and Regional Planning from University of New Mexico School of Architecture and Planning and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Spanish from Eastern New Mexico University. He is a native New Mexican born and raised in Albuquerque with roots in rural communities of Tierra Amarilla in Northern New Mexico and Manzano in Central New Mexico. He is married to Dr. Leticia Archuleta, who is the Executive Director of charter high school in Albuquerque. Together they have two sons, ages 20 and 17.