

August 14, 2017



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon.

You will notice a change in campus over the next week, with students moving in to residence halls and the university starting to buzz with activity. As we begin the academic year, please join me in giving our students a warm welcome, to show them how excited we are to have them back on campus.

While we are gearing up for the upcoming semester, my mind weighs heavy after the ugly display of events that unfolded in Charlottesville over the weekend. Hate groups and discredited ideologies exploit our differences, while risking the lives of innocent participants. Our hearts and thoughts go out to this community, and to the family of Heather Hyer. May her sacrifice bring this nation together around our cherished values and common humanity.

While we believe that free speech is one of our most cherished rights as Americans, I also want to remind everyone there is no place for hatred or violence on this campus. Opposing sides are allowed to use our university as a place to have constructive and challenging dialogue, but we will be vigilant against acts of discrimination, hatred and violence. Our campus welcomes those who are willing to speak their mind in a peaceful, constructive manner. Those who cross the line however, from speech into violence, will not be tolerated.

As the academic year progresses, I will say more on this topic and will encourage others to continue this conversation.

Operation Lobo Move-In

[Residence Life & Student Housing](#) is looking for volunteers to help with Operation Lobo Move-In. Join us in assisting residents to unload and carry their belongings to their new homes. It's a great opportunity for your student group or community service organization, or just a great way to greet new and returning students. Operation Lobo Move-In is Tuesday, Aug.15 through Sunday, Aug. 20, with flexible time slots available throughout that period. All volunteers receive a free Operation Lobo Move-In T-shirt and water will be provided. Sign up now.

2017 Freshman Family Day

Freshman Family Day is an event to welcome incoming students and their families to the university community on Sunday, Aug. 20, at 4 p.m. in Popejoy Hall. It begins with a convocation ceremony, followed by a reception and classroom tours. We expect to welcome approximately 3,300 freshmen and their parents to campus this year, with many of them attending [Freshman Family Day](#).
Until next time.

Chaouki Abdallah
Interim President
Follow me on Twitter [@chaoukita](#)

There is so much more that happens on the UNM campus than can be conveyed in a weekly message. To find out about the latest stories and events, please visit the [UNM Newsroom](#), the central source of news and information for the UNM community.