Good afternoon.

As the semester winds down and we start the week that will culminate with Commencement on Friday, I wanted to take a moment to wish everyone a great finals week. The next few days will require continued hard work, long hours and dedication on the part of our students, faculty and staff. It’s been a long semester and you have all worked hard to get here. Come Friday, I hope you are able to look back on this semester with great satisfaction, for a job well done.

For those of you who are graduating on Friday, I look forward to seeing you take an enormous step toward your future as you join the ranks of the many Lobo alumni–Lobos for Life. We, at the University, are so proud of your accomplishments and look forward to watching you do great things as you continue on your journey. We hope you look back at your time on this campus with great fondness and, at some point, choose to give back to your alma mater, to those who come after you. Congratulations class of 2017!

Women’s Basketball
Congratulations to the Lobo women’s basketball team, who extended their winning record to 11-0, the longest overall winning streak in UNM program history. This is certainly an exciting time to watch UNM women’s basketball. I want to commend Coach Bradbury and his team for their dedication to excellence. Thank you to the almost 7,000 fans who turned out for the game. I know there were long lines and many were not able to get in until halftime. I am delighted at the community’s support and commitment but I apologize for the inconvenience–we are working to resolve this issue for future games.

UNM Gives
Thank you to everyone who generously made a pledge to the United Way or the UNM Foundation during the UNM Gives Campaign. We are still accepting paper pledge forms through Thursday, Dec. 21. Chancellor Roth and I plan to each make a personal pizza delivery, if one department reaches a noticeable level of monetary donations, both on Main Campus and at the HSC. Paper pledge forms and instructions can be found at unmgives.unm.edu. If each of us make a small donation, we can collectively have an enormous impact on our community.

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.