Good afternoon.

Last week, incoming President Garnett S. Stokes, HSC Chancellor Paul Roth and I had the pleasure of delivering pizzas to two departments with the most noticeable rates of giving for the 2017 UNM Gives campaign, which benefits the United Way of Central New Mexico and the UNM Foundation. The UNM Physical Plant Department (PPD) held its annual barbecue and raised $1,400, with 54 percent of their employees making a pledge to the campaign. The UNM Department of Pathology raised over $24,500, with six percent of their employees pledging. Both departments received a pizza lunch generously donated by Saggios. Together, faculty and staff raised more than $725,000 to give back to our community. Thank you to PPD, Pathology, Saggios and everyone who pledged!

Alternative Spring Break
Every year since 2011, Lobos have traveled to New Orleans, La. for the Alternative Spring Break (ASB) Program. UNM Alternative Spring Break (ASB), sponsored by the Dean of Students Office, is a service-learning opportunity for UNM students in New Orleans, to participate in community engagement projects – some of which are in areas still feeling the effect of Hurricane Katrina over 10 years later. During the trip, students will develop and use skills in the areas of home-building, teamwork and leadership, and have opportunities to visit historical sites, learn about the culture, and eat great food. For more information, please visit: DOS.UNM.EDU. The deadline to apply is Monday, Jan. 29. Please contact Anna Trillo at atrillo@unm.edu with any questions.

2018 Legislative Session
The New Mexico State Legislature is ongoing through Wednesday, Feb. 15. UNM Day at the Legislature is Monday, Jan. 29. The Office of Government and Community Relations has many opportunities for you to stay informed. The Government Relations’ website has legislative updates, a legislative bill tracker, the legislative calendar, and a link to sign up for the listserv, to receive updates directly to your inbox.

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.