

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon.

[“We were made for these times.”](#) I recently came across this article by Clarissa Pinkola Estes, author of *Women Who Run With the Wolves*. Despite being written more than a decade ago, I believe it perfectly captures many of our country's current challenges.

LoboCard Reflects Preferred/Affirmed Name Initiative

I am pleased to announce that UNM faculty, staff and students can now have their preferred name printed on their LoboCard. Those that have a nickname or name they choose to go by, other than their legal one, may now have it displayed on their UNM ID. This is also an effort to recognize the University's support of diversity in gender expression. I welcome and support our transgender and gender non-conforming Lobos. Like all members of our community, they must be able to work, learn, and thrive here without fear of harassment or discrimination. I want to extend my appreciation to the Registrar, Human Resources, Division for Equity & Inclusion (DEI), Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO), LoboCard Office, Dining and Food Services and Information Technology (IT), who worked together to make this happen.

Black History Month Events

This Thursday, Feb. 1, marks the beginning of Black History month, an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time to recognize their central role in U.S. history. UNM's Africana Studies Program and African American Student Services worked diligently to put together a number of engaging events on campus throughout February, including lectures, panels, job fairs and a fashion show. Go to the [African American Student Services website](#) for event details.

Emergency Notification System Test Tomorrow, 1/30

There will be a test of our emergency notification systems on Tuesday, Jan. 30, at 11:02 a.m. The test will include all parts of the University's warning systems, including sirens, e-mail, text messaging, social media updates and UNM website notifications. This is a good opportunity to log into the [LoboAlerts System](#), using your UNM NetID and password, to verify your contact information and preferences. The test, which is a “shelter in place” exercise, means when you hear the sirens sound, immediately get inside the nearest building, proceed to an interior room or hallway, stay away from glass doors and windows, monitor text message alerts, campus e-mail or the UNM webpage for further information, remain calm and stay put unless there is an immediate need to leave (i.e. a visible fire or life-threatening situation). For more information, visit [UNM to test emergency notification systems](#).

2018 Legislative Session

Today is UNM Day at the legislature. Thank you to everyone who traveled to Santa Fe, to support the interests of our University. The New Mexico State Legislature is ongoing, through Feb. 15. 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.