



President's Weekly Perspective

Good morning.

Success defines a university on many levels. Whether it is academic or athletic, professional or personal, individual or collective, we all seek to arrive at milestones or receive acknowledgement for performance excellence. The University of New Mexico is an institution that values those who strive to take on challenges in order to achieve that success. After all, the correlation between people who challenge themselves and remarkable success is well-documented throughout history. Recognizing and encouraging success is also critical if innovation is to thrive. At UNM, we must continue our commitment to building an environment where our people are encouraged to explore innovative approaches to their studies, work and community engagement.

Competition Challenges Students to Challenge Themselves

Competition and recognition are important to successful innovation efforts. Through challenging ourselves, we get to fine-tune our skills and broaden our knowledge. Participating in the annual [UNM Business Plan](#) Competition gives our students the valuable experience of taking a novel idea or innovative technology and presenting it to business leaders. Dr. Sul Kassiech, Distinguished Professor and Anderson's Endowed Chair in Economic Development, established the competition eight years ago and opened it to interdisciplinary student teams from all UNM schools. Theories learned in the classroom are put to practice in an environment that encourages UNM students and alumni to contribute to New Mexico's economic development by engaging and succeeding in entrepreneurial ventures. Local businesses and professional organizations support this competition, increasing the applicability and relevance of problems to be solved and enhancing exposure to today's students who will become tomorrow's innovators.

Love Red. Live Green.

In recognition of our ongoing effort to institutionalize sustainability into the culture of how we all work and live on campus, UNM received a ["sustainable business" award](#) at the second Sustainable Business Summit hosted by Albuquerque Business First and the New Mexico Green Chamber of Commerce. Nominees were evaluated on their commitment to sustainability and the impact of their efforts. In addition to the collective campus effort, I want to also recognize Mary Clark and Earl Shank in the [UNM Office of Sustainability](#) for their individual contributions to making us a greener campus, and their efforts to inspire our students, staff and faculty to continue developing creative ways to advance UNM's environmental goals.

Nomination for Sarah Belle Brown Community Service Award

Serving New Mexico is central to the University's mission. All of our endeavors here at UNM - education, research, patient care, and public service - advance the interests of New Mexico. To support and promote the University's commitment to public service and to recognize those individuals engaging in our community, former Regent and current Anderson School Dean Doug Brown established this award in honor of his wife, Sarah Belle Brown. My office is currently accepting nominations for the

prestigious [Sarah Belle Brown award](#) that recognizes a student, member of the faculty, and a staff member with a \$1,500 award.

Many people across our university are performing outstanding service and going above and beyond in their commitment to our community. Please consider recognizing their efforts and nominate a deserving colleague or student for this award by the Sept. 30 deadline.

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob