# **UNN** Office of the President

# **President's Weekly Perspective**

#### Good morning.

Philanthropy has a rich tradition in American history, one that has benefitted all of us. From the Smithsonian Institution to the Carnegie Libraries, many of the cherished institutions in our country have been funded by private donations. The generosity of private individuals and their donations constitute the financial underpinnings for many universities and much of their research, including here at The University of New Mexico. However, one does not have to be an Andrew Carnegie to make a difference. Every hour of volunteering or a few dollars given makes an impact. With November being designated as National Philanthropy Month, we at UNM can be proud of being an important part of this tradition. The philanthropic spirit, and what it makes possible, is essential to the work we do every day.

### In Recognition of Exceptional Community Service

Many people across our university are performing outstanding service and going above and beyond in their commitment to our community. In recognition of extraordinary dedication to volunteer service work done by members of the UNM community for the greater societal good, I am pleased to announce the recipients of the 2013 Sarah Belle Brown Community Service Awards. The faculty award recipient is Jennifer Nez Denetdale, whose community service work is multi-dimensional, yet emphasizes the creation of a more just world for Navajo and Native peoples. Our staff recipient is Dr. Lawrence Roybal, who has been a remarkable model of UNM's commitment to student success and engagement, especially to the Latino community. Our student awardee is Hien Tran, who is pursuing a graduate degree in nursing, is a mentor to middle-school children and uses her personal experiences to help them address some of the same challenges she has faced on the road to academic success. It is apparent from this year's nominees that UNM is fortunate to have individuals who exemplify our mission of community service and who serve as an inspiration to us all, including Doug and Sarah Brown, who generously endow these awards.

#### UNM United Way Campaign is Now Underway

Our United Way campaign continues to be one of the most efficient and effective ways to help our community. I find it very gratifying to be told almost daily of the many ways in which our faculty, staff and students help make our community a better place to live. Our United Way workplace campaign, which launches today and runs through Dec. 13, is a meaningful way for us to provide support to our neighbors, friends and co-workers. Last year UNM's campaign raised more than \$1 million, with every penny going to the selected aid organization. This year's goal is to increase participation. All donations, no matter the amount, make a difference. UNM employees can contribute by making a pledge by visiting the <u>UNM United Way website</u>. Many thanks to those of you who support the United Way - if you don't, please consider helping our community. Your gifts help programs that are vitally important and are proven to have a positive impact.

## UNM Honors College Receives "Pulitzer of Student Journalism"

I just finished reviewing Scribendi 2013, an elegant collection of undergraduate student creative work produced and published by the UNM Honors College. This regional journal of written, visual and

#### President's Weekly Perspective

even musical narrative was announced last week by the Associated Collegiate Press as a winner of the most coveted of national college media awards, the <u>Pacemaker</u>. This nationwide competition recognizes higher education's outstanding journalism and literary accomplishments, and is considered by many to be the "Pulitzer of student journalism." Congratulations to the 2012-13 <u>Scribendi</u> staff and the dedicated faculty who support them.

#### Jim Crane Asks, "Should I?"

I would like to remind everyone again that Jim Crane, executive director of standards and practices for CNN and an award-winning producer, will be giving us an inside look at ethics, bias and passion in network news and today's media. The presentation, titled <u>"Should I?,"</u> is open to the public and will be held at the Student Union Building (SUB) Theater at noon on Nov. 6.

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob