



## President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon.

The unfortunate [helicopter crash that occurred on the roof of UNMH](#) on Wednesday luckily resulted in no severe injuries. The coordinated response from UNM and UNMH, working with local and federal agencies, was an impressive result of the training that has gone into managing emergencies such as this campus-wide event. I would like to thank the many people who were called upon to respond to the Emergency Operations Centers at both UNMH and main campus, and who put in dozens of hours from the time of the crash through the wreckage removal operation on Saturday. They demonstrated that we are using the most comprehensive incident management procedures, and ensured that we met our priorities of patient safety and access and minimal disruption to city traffic and critical campus operations. It is important for our students, faculty and staff to know that [UNM has developed programs and plans](#) to safeguard our community when it is impacted by a major emergency or event, and is well prepared to respond. Our Emergency Management plan is designed to protect life and property, and safeguard our campus and the surrounding community in the event of a disaster.

### Health Benefits Conversation Continued

As I stated in a [memo sent out on Friday](#) to the campus community, I am grateful for the input and stories that have been shared by our faculty and staff as we grapple with the challenges we face in adjusting our employee health care benefits to meet national pressures, while buffering the impact to those employees who are most vulnerable. We are still contemplating possible options, and will continue to communicate to the campus community as information becomes available over the next week.

### UNM Students at National Mock Trial Competition

I am pleased to announce that over the weekend the UNM Undergraduate Mock Trial team won sixth place at the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA) 2014 National Championship Tournament. The UNM team was one of 549 teams to make it to nationals where 48 teams competed. This is especially impressive because the team is entirely student led and it was their first time at nationals. By engaging in trial simulations in competition with teams from other institutions, our students are able to hone their critical thinking, debate, analytic and public speaking skills, as well as develop their knowledge of legal practices and procedures. [New Mexico Congressman Ben Ray Luján recognized their talent on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives](#), stating “while many of the teams it competes against have a faculty or professional attorney coaching them, the UNM team has taken upon themselves to manage, train and govern their own team. Founded four years ago, the students have worked diligently over that time, as they have improved their skills and turned their vision into a successful and accomplished team.” I would like to echo Congressman Luján’s pride in our team and congratulate them on their great success.

### Springing Into Action

More than 900 people volunteered at 23 locations including the UNM Children’s Campus, Joy Junction and Zia Family Focus Center for the 2014 UNM Spring Storm on Saturday. The annual event, which was organized by ASUNM Community Experience, exemplifies the institutional commitment

to community service as represented by so many of our students. In a recent letter to UNM alumni, I wrote about a few acts of generosity performed by Lobos because activities such as these demonstrate that part of being a Lobo is helping those around us – looking out for the pack. To everyone who participated in the event, thank you for giving your time and effort this weekend and representing your University in such a generous way.

### **Survey Results**

*No matter how good you get, you can always get better, and that's the exciting part.* - Tiger Woods

My thanks to everyone who participated in the recent President's Weekly Perspective survey. I will be making some changes to the messages, based on this feedback, to better my campus-wide communication efforts and keep the UNM community more informed. You may have noticed that this email came later in the day than usual. Many people stated that they enjoy starting their week with these emails, so they will continue to be delivered on Monday, but by sending it in the afternoon I can include information or topics that came to my attention over the weekend. The results and comments received have been very helpful to me, and I hope I will continue to hear your suggestions. I will be examining additional ways to optimize these communications over the coming weeks, and am looking forward to new opportunities for improvement.

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob