



UNM

Office of the President

President's Weekly Perspective

"An organization has integrity — is healthy — when it is whole, consistent, and complete, that is, when its management, operations, strategy, and culture fit together and make sense." - Patrick Lencioni

Good afternoon.

I hope summer is off to a good start for all of you. Janet and I were fortunate enough to take a recent trip to Chaco Canyon with some friends from out of town. It was breathtaking, even though it rained! The trip reminded me that New Mexico has so much to offer in terms of natural history, beauty and culture. It also reminded me that UNM has been a part of ongoing field research dedicated to developing a better understanding of civilization that has existed in the Canyon. This relationship is just one example of the many ways UNM, through our faculty and staff, makes New Mexico better and why UNM is a destination university.

Clarity Improves Process

The Advantage: Why Organizational Health Trumps Everything Else in Business by Patrick Lencioni frames the importance of clarity regarding everything an organization undertakes. At our President's Senior Leadership Retreat, we focused on how to bring clarity to our budget planning process. I was extremely heartened to see the high degree of unanimity and positive engagement among the University's leadership as we examined the tasks we have in front of us. It is becoming increasingly clear in New Mexico, and in most states, we will have minimum tuition increases and limited increases in state support. We must be a smarter more efficient research university if we are to achieve the success we aspire to. The budget planning process requires more conversations; to achieve this, we must begin earlier, and improve how we engage the key campus communities. The model we developed at our retreat is a good start to facilitating this goal.

Research Explores the Criminal Mind

Research is a key tenet to our mission, and it is inspiring to see our UNM faculty referenced in the context of recent national events for work that may improve the safety of our community. UNM Psychology Professor Dr. Kent Kiehl's study of brain patterns of juvenile inmates indicates that adolescents who commit murder sometimes lack decision-making and self-control portions of their brain. This research, conducted at the Mind Research Network, has grabbed national attention because it could help lessen the tragic events like the Sandy Hook shooting. Of course, this is a very simplified explanation of his findings, so I encourage you to [learn more about his work](#). Kiehl recently released a new book, Psychopath Whisperer: The Science of Those Without Conscience, and is a principle investigator with The Mind Research Network. Kiehl is also leading the initiative of the Brian Safe project, which might help us to understand and minimize the effects of brain injuries. Thank you to Dr. Kiehl, and all of our researchers, who continue to discover ways to keep us safe and healthy.

Project Heart Start

UNM will host the third statewide [Project Heart Start Day](#) on Saturday at Johnson Gym. This event, where volunteers will teach compression-only CPR, has been so successful and can be credited for

19,000 New Mexicans learning the life-saving technique. UNM is the perfect place to hold the event, which complements three pillars of our mission, education, health care and community commitment.

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob