



President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon.

I anticipate a lot of change in the coming year, and I am confident that as a University we will continue to do better and operate more effectively and efficiently. For example, the new student cabinet, which really should be called the student roundtable, will advance our efforts to create an additional place for student dialog and input. Our core stakeholders including students, staff and faculty must have a direct connection to University leadership in order for us to make decisions in the best interest of everyone on campus. The major channels for the voices of these constituents are the Associated Students of the University of New Mexico (ASUNM), the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA), the Faculty Senate and the Staff Council.

This week I sat down with some of the incoming leadership for these groups and discussed their plans to tackle issues impacting communities they represent. I am excited to know that Rachel Williams (ASUNM), Texanna Martin (GPSA) and Renee Delgado-Riley (Staff Council) have already hit the ground running with big plans for the 2014-15 academic year, and I am truly looking forward to working with all of these elected officials. I also look forward to working with Pamela Pyle, who will take over as President of Faculty Senate next month, and hearing about her ideas and priorities for this year's term.

I also want to thank the outgoing constituent leadership. Isaac Romero (ASUNM), Priscila Poliana (GPSA), Gene Henley (Staff Council) and Richard Holder (Faculty Senate) have worked diligently to represent all of our staff, faculty and students. They have made great progress on major issues including Lottery Scholarship solvency, campus safety and improvements and equitable faculty and staff compensation, to name a few. I deeply appreciate the many contributions of these leaders and the staff and committees who have supported them.

The UNM Alumni Association, governed by the Alumni Association Board of Directors, also plays an integral role in the advancement of the University. I would like to welcome the [new board members](#) and Brian Colón as the board President. To our new and current alumni, if you are not already involved with our Alumni Association, I urge you to become an active member. All of our graduates are automatically members of the association, but I would love to see more of my fellow alums taking advantage of the resources offered, supporting each other and our current students, and promoting Lobo life worldwide.

Our constituent leadership is a crucial component of our institution, and we are fortunate to have students, staff, faculty and alumni who represent the diverse voices of our campus community and are committed to the success of their peers. These governing bodies, along with our other constituent representation, the Parent Association, the UNM Foundation Board of Trustees, and the Retiree Association, continue to provide perspectives that inform an inclusive decision making process. This support is necessary in order for us to remain a competitive research institution that offers a world-class education and is one of the greatest values in the nation.

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob