



President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon.

Closer partnerships with other institutions of higher education create key opportunities for UNM to provide its students and faculty with the ability to study and collaborate with scholars and researchers from around the world. While we have been developing such partnerships successfully for a number of years, we are continuing to cultivate them for depth as well as reach.

Visit to Turkish Institutions Highlights Interest in Study Abroad

I recently returned from Turkey, where I was able to visit several universities, such as Yildiz Teknik Üniversitesi in Istanbul, and meet with their faculty and administrators. We already have existing successful partnerships with Turkish universities and I hope we are able to further capitalize on their enthusiasm to send their students to the U.S. by creating more distinctive partnerships with UNM, as well as providing opportunities for our students to attend their institutions. One of our UNM2020 goals is to provide an international experience to all UNM students. Enhancing our partnerships and expanding our international reach is an important step toward our students being able to integrate an appreciation for a diversity of ideas and people, different cultural perspectives, and new learning styles into their academic and social portfolio.

Visiting Faculty Enhances Exchange Program

International exchange is an incredibly enriching experience on a number of levels, not only for students, but for faculty as well. Last fall, UNM entered into an agreement with Eszterházy Károly College (EKC) in Eger, Hungary, which was designed to establish specific educational relations and cooperation, such as collaborative research, between our two institutions. Students enrolled in one university can take courses at the host institution for credit that apply toward a degree at their home institution. This summer, we are pleased to be hosting Dr. Kálmán Liptai, the Rector and President of EKC through the Department of Mathematics. I had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Liptai and his wife at a reception last month. These opportunities allow participating faculty to understand how other universities operate, the role the faculty play, and increase research collaborations. Faculty exchange programs foster cross-cultural ties, which we anticipate will create long-lasting and close relationships with other universities.

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob