



President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon!

Alumni Association Collaboration

We make every effort to engage students in the life of the University to improve their satisfaction and encourage their graduation. After graduation, similar efforts are made by the Alumni Association and the UNM Foundation to engage graduates as "Lobos for Life." One year ago, at my request, volunteer board members from both groups conducted a series of meetings resulting in many recommendations to benefit UNM.

Since then, the Alumni Association/UNM Foundation Collaborative has been making great things happen, like collaborative communication, joint events and shared calendars. The Alumni/Foundation database is becoming a highly effective way to enhance that collaboration, thanks to help from UNM's Office of Enrollment Management and other UNM organizations.

This collaboration supports our [UNM2020 aspirations](#), and helps us assure the University's future. Last year, the UNM Foundation raised \$87.6 million, and 34 percent of that amount was contributed by alumni and friends. I support the [recommendations of this group](#). They will continue to reach out to peer groups and university departments to help push this institution toward ever increasing greatness. If they contact your department or organization for assistance, I hope you will work with the collaborative group to advance their important work.

New Graduates' Job Prospects Improving

Earlier this month, the [College Employment Research Institute of Michigan State University released a study](#) that showed a significant growth in [job prospects for recent college graduates](#). This is great news for our students, and it is an optimistic indicator of economic trends to come.

UNM has high achieving students, and we're gratified to know that companies are becoming more eager to recruit them. UNM offers many opportunities for alumni and students to explore career opportunities, through career resources at the departmental, college/school, and campus-wide levels. The [Office of Career Services](#) continues to do an extraordinary job in career advisement, workshops and events. I'd like to thank all the faculty and staff who help to connect ambitious and educated students with the employers who need their skills.

Healthy Campus Community

There have been many health concerns in our community lately, so I want to reiterate that UNM is fully committed to the health and safety of our students and employees. An email went out last week to address some of the concerns about the Ebola virus and the measures we are taking to stay ready if a situation arises. The UNM Hospital is well prepared for emergency or disaster situations, including the possibility of infectious disease in our area. For more information, please visit: [UNMH emergency preparedness](#).

In addition to our hospital's readiness for an emergency situation, several departments on campus organize events and programs to improve the well-being of our students, staff and faculty. Departments like Human Resources, Employee Health Promotion division and UNM Student Health & Counseling (SHAC) provide services that help individuals and the community as a whole.

Tomorrow and Wednesday SHAC will be giving free flu shots to anyone 18 years old or older. They are holding this event at one of the most popular locations on campus, the SUB Atrium. I encourage you to take advantage of this event, and take every precaution to protect yourself and those around you from the flu, colds and other health problems.

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob