



President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon.

I hope that those of you who are off for spring break are relaxing and enjoying the week. Students, whether you are traveling or staying in town, I would like to remind you to make great choices, and to be safe and responsible.

The [LoboRESPECT](#) initiative started last year as a comprehensive approach to prevent, respond to and provide education about sexual violence. Since the campaign was announced, it has grown to encourage respect in other ways. LoboRESPECT is now working to address other campus community issues like hazing, hate bias, and alcohol and substance abuse. I want you all to remember to respect each other and take care of yourselves; remember that you are Lobos both on and off campus.

UNM Hosts Future Scientists & Engineers

UNM hosts a variety of events for students from elementary through high school, which connects many of our faculty experts with curious and ambitious young minds. Bringing these students to campus also gives them a glimpse of college life and the opportunities that come with higher education.

The [55th annual Central New Mexico Science & Engineering Research Challenge](#) will bring nearly 500 middle and high school students from all over the Albuquerque Metro Region to Johnson Center this Thursday through Saturday. I would like to thank our wonderful faculty, staff and students who make this event possible, and by doing so encourage the students' passion for exploration and innovation.

I would also like to thank all of you who work hard to make UNM a welcoming campus and create a positive impression for our visitors. Many of these visitors may be future Lobos. Let's show them and their families that UNM is an extraordinary place UNM to learn, live and grow.

Scholarship Finalists

Congratulations to several UNM students who were recently named as finalists for very prestigious scholarships.

The [Truman Scholarship](#), founded in memory of President Harry S. Truman, supports "young Americans who are making a difference and become part of the future of public services leadership." The award goes to students in their junior year, and provides up to \$30,000 for graduate study.

[Jessica Platero](#), a junior majoring in Criminology and Psychology, will interview for the scholarship later this month. She plans to earn a MA in Criminal Justice and to pursue a career in law enforcement.

Also, UNM has five finalists for Fulbright Scholarships. The scholarship, which was established by Senator William Fulbright in 1946, "is the largest U.S. exchange program offering opportunities for students and young professionals to undertake international graduate study, advanced research, university teaching, and primary and secondary school teaching worldwide."

The following students are candidates to receive grants and teaching assistantships that will give them international experiences:

- **Anna Adam**, German Studies major, applied for Fulbright English teaching assistantship in Germany.
- **Michael Grooms**, Archeology Ph.D. program, applied for Fulbright research grant in Canada
- **Katherine Kelton**, Psychology & English major, applied for Fulbright English teaching assistantship in South Korea
- **Caroline Muraida**, Economics and Languages major, applied for Fulbright English teaching assistantship in Malaysia
- **William Taylor**, Archeology major, applied for Fulbright research grant in Mongolia

Law School Impressions

I would like to recognize two professors at the School of Law who continue to make a significant impact on our legal system and its effect on Indian Law.

The United States Sentencing Commission has [appointed Professor Barbara Creel as a voting member to the Tribal Issues Advisory Group](#) (TIAG). This is an outstanding honor and an opportunity for Professor Creel to use her expertise in criminal law and federal Indian law to make recommendations to the Commission regarding “consultation with tribes and tribal communities on sentencing issues and policy.”

[Emerita Professor Gloria Valencia-Weber was appointed to the Legal Services Corporation \(LSC\) Board of Directors](#) in 2010 by President Barack Obama, and was confirmed in 2014 to continue the task until 2017. In this role, she is able to contribute her extensive knowledge of Native American law and communities to educate the Board.

Both of these scholars are bettering the legal services and processes that greatly affect the Native American community.

Another School of Law Professor Emerita, [Margaret Montoya](#), will be honored in the Harvard Law School 2nd Annual International Women's Day Portrait Exhibit, which highlights women who have made a distinct impact in the fields of law and policy. Congratulations to Professor Montoya on this notable accomplishment.

Legislative Courtesies

Many faculty and staff are involved in issues that bring them in contact with the Legislature. When speaking with the Legislature, it is very important to clearly distinguish between personal views and those that represent the formal position of The University of New Mexico. When discussing your views you need to clearly state that what you say does not represent the official view of The University New Mexico. Unless you were explicitly asked to represent the University, you should add that disclaimer when speaking in Santa Fe.

We Are New Mexico

I want to wish the best of luck to the Lobo men's and women's basketball teams playing in the Mountain West Conference Championship this week. Our student-athletes have played a great season,

landing the women's team in the No. 2 seed for the tournament and the men in the No. 8 seed. I look forward to [watching the games](#), alongside devoted Lobo fans.

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob