



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon.

Graduate Student Institutional Assessment

Opportunities to “show what we know” are important to educators and learners alike, so the UNM Office of Assessment staff works hard to ensure that we collect good data about our students’ performance. That office has just announced the UNM Graduate Student Institutional Assessment for Spring 2016. The online assessment measures workforce-readiness skills associated with literacy, numeracy, reading and problem solving in technology-rich environments.

This is a great chance for us to demonstrate UNM’s impact on students’ educational attainment and workforce-readiness. The assessment will be administered to a sample of enrolled graduate students who received their undergraduate degree at UNM as well as to a sample of alumni who received both their undergraduate and graduate degrees at UNM.

The assessment can be completed online anytime, on-campus or off-campus, in about 90 minutes. There are some great incentives and prizes for participants, but there are only 400 access codes available for more than 3,500 eligible graduate students and alumni. If you are interested, please [preregister](#) by March 18.

To inquire about participating in future [institutional assessment activities](#), please contact Dr. Neke Mitchell, Director of Assessment and Academic Program Review, at (505) 277-4130 or assess@unm.edu.

Lobos In Japan

If you follow my [twitter](#), you might have seen several posts about Professor Plamen Atanassov’s work on fuel cell catalysts and the Innovate ABQ Rainforest model in Japan. For the last week, I have had the pleasure of accompanying a small group of UNM faculty and administrators in Japan, taking UNM research around the globe.

While there, I signed a General Cooperation Agreement with the Osaka Prefecture University, renewed our agreement with Kyota Koka Women’s University and signed a cooperative agreement with Kwansei Gakuin University, which I hope will encourage more international collaboration.

Looking for Mentors

Big Brothers Big Sisters is looking for volunteers for the [Mentor 2.0 program](#) that matches high school students with mentors to help them reach successful futures. The program, which launched only a few years

ago, is a perfect fit for UNM faculty and staff, who have so much to offer these young students. I hope you will consider participating in this great volunteer organization, to share your experience and encourage future Lobos.

Finally, I'd like to wish our men's and women's basketball teams the best as they play in the Mountain West Conference Championship this week. Our teams have played a great season so far, and our [men are the No. 4 seed](#), set to play first on Thursday, March 10 at 3:30 p.m. MST, while our [women are the No. 5 seed](#) set to play tomorrow, March 8 at 3:30 p.m. MST. Let's support our student-athletes as they go into this tournament.

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob