Good afternoon.

Preventing Discrimination and Harassment

As you know, we are working hard to make rapid progress in confronting sexual misconduct, one of the most serious challenges facing universities across the country. Everyone at UNM contributes to making our campus as safe and welcoming as possible. We are providing a new online course to faculty and staff as a key part of this effort.

This required course, “Intersections: Preventing Discrimination and Harassment,” is designed to raise awareness about workplace harassment including sexual harassment, various types of discrimination, Title IX, and Campus SaVE Act information. It includes the role of an employee in reducing or preventing incidents of sexual harassment, UNM’s policies prohibiting sexual harassment, and available resources for those who have experienced sexual harassment. It also includes information on how to report incidents of sexual misconduct as required by university policy. The training session takes about an hour and is available through Learning Central.

All faculty, staff and student employees must complete this training by the end of December. I hope that you will have it done long before then. We have already begun reviewing who has completed the training and the reviews will escalate in late-November. If you haven’t completed this requirement yet, please take the training now. I’ve heard from many faculty and staff who are very impressed by the quality of the presentation and the importance of what they learned. Please remember, this training is required of all UNM employees, regardless of where you are working.

Sarah Belle Brown Awards

Congratulations to this year’s Sarah Belle Brown Community Service Award winners. The awards, which are given to a student, staff and faculty member each year, recognize a dedication to volunteerism and improving the UNM and greater New Mexican community. Selecting only three winners can be a daunting task within such a compassionate and giving Lobo community, but these three individuals stood out this year. Thank you to everyone who took the time to submit a nomination.

• Javier B. Garcia, student winner: Civil liberties and constitutional literacy are at the core of Javier’s service to children and families, particularly immigrants. His work with the American Civil Liberties Union, Southwest Indian Law Clinic, and Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project—a project that educates high school students on constitutional rights, are just a few examples of his dedication to legal protection of those in need.
• Janet “Jaye” Francis, staff winner: Janet’s dedication to community service multiplies her own capabilities. She inspires and leads her students at UNM Anderson School of Management to help numerous charitable organizations. She has been involved with the American Indian Business Association at Anderson since its inception in 1994, and makes an impact on countless lives with her compassion and expertise. Her nominator points out “Jaye believes that volunteering isn’t just a one person activity, but something that should be shared with others whether it be her students, co-workers, or her family.”

• Frances Vitali, faculty winner: One of Dr. Vitali’s service contributions “brought Civil Rights issues home” to more than 250 students in Farmington through an oral history performance. Many service projects were described in her nomination, and her recent performance was noted as an excellent example of experiential education. “As Dr. Vitali continues to share her research through the Farmington African American Oral History Project she brings to light a whole sector of our community which had lived in the shadows, almost forgotten.”

A Winning Weekend
Congratulations to our student-athletes who had a triumphant weekend in several sports. The Lobo football team played a stellar game on Saturday against Hawaii and now has three consecutive wins. Our women’s cross country team took first place, winning their ninth straight Mountain West Title, and the men’s team took fifth place. Men’s and Women’s soccer were victorious on Friday. And our women’s teams beat down the competition in volleyball and in swimming and diving.

There is a lot to be proud of when it comes to all of our athletic teams. I hope you will take advantage of the many UNM sporting events over the next week. Our football team has the opportunity to move its record into bowl competition on Saturday when we play Nevada at 8:15 p.m. at University Stadium. Please be there to cheer on the Lobos!

Have a great week, and Go Lobos!

Bob