Dear Lobo family,

As many of you may know, Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham issued new executive and public health orders this afternoon that will have an impact on some of the currently limited operations we have at UNM, effective Monday, Nov. 16 through Nov. 30. Our state has seen a very concerning rise in COVID-19 cases and I can’t state strongly enough how important it is that we all continue to exercise every means possible to help slow the spread of the virus in our community. What each of us does to protect the pack makes a difference for all of us.

Our University remains committed to our original principles to protect the health of our faculty, staff, students, and all New Mexicans; continue our critical core missions of education, discovery, creation, and service; and protect our University for the long-term.

To that end, we are prepared to pivot our operations to ensure we align with the state in keeping our community safe. The week of Nov. 16 will serve as a transition week, where instructors will be encouraged to offer classes remotely where possible and to complete all face-to-face classes by Nov. 21 at 5 p.m. Starting Nov. 22, all classes will be conducted remotely.

We have also posted updated plans for the end of Fall 2020 and the beginning of Spring 2021 semesters and concurrent plans that apply to UNM Health Sciences. Some staff may be deemed critical and will be required to continue working onsite to support faculty and students during the transition and through the end of the semester.

Over the next two days, the Office of Academic Affairs and Human Resources will be providing students, faculty and staff with further details and guidance regarding how instruction, research, employment, amenities and support programs will be affected. Please look for these important communications in your inbox, as well as on the Bringing Back the Pack web site.

I want to again take the opportunity to thank all of you for your sustained resilience and commitment to protecting our University community and for looking out for one another.

Have a safe weekend.

Garnett S. Stokes
President