



## President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon and welcome back!

I can already tell that this will be an excellent spring semester.

### Staff Engagement Survey next steps

In November the University launched the Staff Engagement Survey, which closed in December. Human Resources and the Office of Research have begun the analysis of the survey, which will lead us to a well-rounded plan to improve UNM as a workplace. I want to thank our staff for taking the time to provide this feedback. Research shows that this kind of organizational survey typical gets up to 20 percent participation. Our survey reached 50 percent participation, which is a testament to how engaged our staff already are and how determined we all are to make UNM an even better place to work.

### Alumni Award Winners

UNM alumni are doing great things, and we take every opportunity to share their accomplishments with the community. The UNM Alumni Association recently announced the [winners of four prestigious awards](#) that recognize excellence in service and achievement. Congratulations to these exceptional recipients.

- **John Mateczun** ('73 BUS, '78 MD) – James F. Zimmerman Award presented to this retired U.S. Navy Vice Admiral for his leadership in merging facilities to establish the nation's largest military medical center and rehabilitation facility and continued dedication to public health as the President of UnitedHealthcare Military & Veterans.
- **Garrett Sheldon** ('77 BA) – Bernard S. Rodey Award presented for significant contribution to academia in the fields of political theory and theology.
- **Michelle Coons** ('83 BBA) – Erna S. Fergusson Award presented for volunteerism and leadership in the New Mexico community, including the development of the University through the UNM Foundation and Anderson School of Management Foundation.
- **Steven McLaughlin** – Faculty Teaching Award presented for his successes as Professor and Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine and national recognition as an expert in simulation based education.

### Avelina Martinez Serving Our Students

I received an email from UNM student Robert Fulton applauding the efforts of Avelina Martinez, one of our outstanding advisors at UNM Taos. He wrote about how she went out of her way in advising him and bridging the gap between student and professor. Because of her diligence, Robert succeeded when he thought he could not. He noted that she works hard to make sure that his fellow students succeed as well. Thank you Avelina for doing right by our students.

This is also a reminder to all students that UNM has many resources available to help you do your best, and our advisors are trained to help. If you have questions about your degree path, classes, or the University, please reach out to an advisor.

## **Pilgrim Press Conference**

The past year saw increased attention across the nation on the subject of sexual violence on college campuses. While we here at UNM have long been committed to efforts to prevent sexual violence on our campus, enhancing prevention will always be a critical component in ensuring that UNM is a safe and supportive environment. The launch of [LoboRespect](#) last year was our most recent effort to create a comprehensive approach to preventing and responding to sexual violence.

Last August, UNM invited Pilgrim & Associates, national experts in the evaluation of sexual violence and misconduct issues, to examine our climate regarding sexual violence. We also asked them to recommend ways we can continue to reduce the likelihood of incidents of sexual violence on campus, streamline our policies and procedures, and improve our educational outreach.

On Thursday, Jan. 22, Jill Pilgrim and her team will come back to UNM to present their findings and join me, Dean of Students Tomás Aguirre, and our student leaders to discuss where we may go from here. This forum will be held in the Student Union Building (SUB) Atrium from 10 a.m. to noon. Discussion will center on prevention, education and support of our campus community as well as policies and procedures that allow for fair and due process for all parties. This University is committed to continuous improvement in ensuring that we work together toward the goal of eliminating sexual violence on our campus and in our community.

Have a great week and go Lobos!

Bob