



President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon.

LoboAlert

Some of you receiving this might have heard the emergency siren across campus this morning. To anyone who did not receive a LoboAlerts text or email regarding the siren test, please update your [contact information in the LoboAlerts system](#). This is one of many steps that the University takes to protect our community in an emergency situation, and to keep you informed of immediate issues affecting the campus.

Policy Process

This year, the UNM Policy Office celebrates 25 years of service to the campus community. This office oversees the Regents' Policy Manual and the University Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual, which cover an incredible range of topics. I'm sure that many of us only focus on the policies that affect us in our day-to-day work. That said, I want everyone to remember what critical resource policies can be, and how important it is to craft them carefully.

Administrative policies are developed and revised with opportunities for input from all members of the campus community through a process that emphasizes shared governance and transparency. When administrative policies are ready for review and comment by the campus community, they are published in the UNM News Minute and the "Recent News" section of the [Policy Office website](#), and sent through the policy listserv (subscribe [here](#) to UNM Policy_Office-L). I encourage you to be involved with the policy development process. I also want to highlight some recent policy revisions:

- [UAP 3435 \("Inclement Weather"\)](#) Classes and laboratories that are normally scheduled to be in progress when the University has a delayed start due to inclement weather now will begin at the delayed start time (instead of being cancelled) and will end at their normally scheduled time.
- [UAP 3410 \("Sick Leave"\)](#) and [UAP 3440 \("Family and Medical Leave"\)](#) Staff employees now are authorized to use sick leave for bonding with a child after childbirth, adoption, or a foster care placement. Previously, only annual leave could be used for bonding with a child.

Pamina Deutsch, director of the Policy Office, and her associate, Bonnie Leigh Reifsteck, have responsibility for overseeing the ongoing creation, review, and implementation of our policies and procedures. They deserve tremendous thanks for the work of the Policy Office.

2015 Legislative Session

The New Mexico Legislature has been in session for almost two weeks, and there are many issues being discussed that will affect the entire University. The Office of Government and Community Relations (OGCR) works diligently at the capitol to represent the best interests of the UNM community, and keep all of us informed on the bills and other activities that will affect our students, staff, faculty, retirees and patients.

I encourage you to read about the University's primary [2015 legislative priorities](#), and sign up for the [Government Relations listserv](#) to stay up to date on the Roundhouse.

Next Monday, Feb. 9, is UNM Day at the Capitol, which is our opportunity to promote many of the University's contributions to the community. Every year we have one day, reserved solely for UNM tables and exhibits to showcase our schools, campuses and programs. This year all of our branch campuses will attend, demonstrating the University's statewide commitment to education. Thank you to all of the students, staff and faculty who will represent UNM, and show New Mexico's citizens the far reaching impact we have all over the state.

Bleed Cherry

This morning, the 2nd Annual [Battle of I-25 Rivalry Blood Drive](#) kicked off in the SUB as Lobos from across campus donated blood. Last year, UNM won the challenge set by NMSU to donate the most units, but everyone was a winner in this friendly competition because more blood donated translates to more lives saved. If you are healthy and able to donate, please consider giving in this free and meaningful way.

Have a great week and go Lobos!

Bob