



President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon.

Welcome to [two regents announced](#) by Gov. Martinez last Friday afternoon. Regent Jamie Koch, who has long served on the board of regents, has been reappointed. Regent Koch's experience working as a fierce advocate for the University will be invaluable as we continue to face budget and other University challenges. He has demonstrated his passion for this institution and our students for many years. We are fortunate to have Regent Koch return and grateful to the Gov. Martinez for recognizing his critical knowledge of and history with UNM.

The board will also be joined by Regent Marron Lee, an attorney whose family ties to the University go back four generations. Starting in 1931, Regent Lee's great-grandmother served as one of the first female regents on the board. It is no surprise that a dedication to UNM has been instilled in her. I know that she will be a great addition to our institution's governance.

[Spring Storm & Fiestas 2015](#)

There are several events of note going on this week, including the University's largest student-driven community service project, Spring Storm. The annual event, organized by the ASUNM Community Experience, starts at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 11, at University Stadium, where participants will check in before spreading out across Albuquerque to give back to the community through dozens of service projects. Student groups and individuals can still [sign up to volunteer](#) in the event.

It is appropriate that the largest student volunteer event is followed by one of the largest student celebrations of the year, [Fiestas 2015](#)! The free concert festival, put on by ASUNM Student Special Events, starts at 1 p.m. on Johnson Field.

Thank you to our ASUNM agencies for coordinating these spectacular annual events. Experiences like these make campus life much more meaningful, and bring students together in many ways.

[Concrete Canoes and Indestructible Bridges](#)

As a university in the desert, it is rare that a canoe event comes to the UNM campus. This weekend, the UNM Student Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) hosts something more rare – a concrete canoe competition. This is one of the events in the 44th annual Rocky Mountain Regional Conference, which will bring 13 teams from other universities to our campus.

I would like to wish the best of luck to our ASCE student chapter team as they compete in the conference events. Thank you to the students and their faculty advisor for coordinating this conference and for welcoming these peer institutions to our campus.

Student Government Elections

The University's student government is a critical component of University operations. The elected officials are the voice of the UNM student body, representing the ideas, opinions and concerns of more than 25,000 people in our community.

The general election of the Associated Students of the University of New Mexico (ASUNM) takes place Wednesday, April 8. Undergraduate students can vote on the 2015-16 representation at numerous locations including the SUB, Zimmerman Library and Dane Smith Hall between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Additional [polling locations and times](#) are available online.

The [graduate elections](#) for the Graduate and Professional Student Associations opened today and run through Wednesday, April 8. GPSA voting will be online, and all graduate and professional students should check their email for the voting link.

Udall & Goldwater Scholars

Congratulations to the recipients of two prestigious scholarships. [Bridget Llanes, a junior majoring in Environmental Planning, was one of 50 students selected to receive the Udall Scholarship](#), which is awarded to sophomores and juniors who demonstrate leadership in the areas of Tribal Policy, Native Health Care and Environmental issues. [Gregory Ottino, a sophomore majoring in Physics & Mathematics, received the Goldwater Scholarship](#), which supports students who intend to pursue careers in science, mathematics and engineering. Gregory is the first UNM student to receive the Goldwater Scholarship since 2009.

These are just two of the many outstanding awards that Lobos have received this year to date. I am always proud to hear about our students receiving national academic recognition and scholarly funding to further pursue their career goals.

PWP Survey Reminder

Two weeks ago I asked for feedback on my weekly messages through a short online survey. Again this year, I have received valuable information that I will use to improve my communications. Thank you for taking the time to answer my questions. I hope to receive more responses before the [survey closes tomorrow at 5 p.m.](#)

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob