



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon.

Student Safety and Justice

The safety and well-being of our students is paramount to our community. We must create an environment in which our students, staff, and faculty can thrive, both academically and socially. By extending support and compassion to those who have been affected by sexual assault is critical, and continues to be a top priority. As individuals and as an institution it is important that we look out for each other and [protect the pack](#).

In alignment with this priority, the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) has implemented new plans that [streamline investigations](#), and ensure fairness and justice in matters overseen by OEO. Thank you to Francie Cordova, Heather Cowan and the rest of our OEO staff who have updated our protocols to mirror those of the U.S. Department of Education.

Educational Freedom

“Without freedom of thought there can be no such thing as wisdom; and no such thing as public liberty, without freedom of speech.”

— Benjamin Franklin

Education and freedom are intrinsically tied. In our country, education is based on the values of freedom. It is based on unrestrained thirst for knowledge and ability to explore ideas. And freedom depends on education. It requires being informed and open to new thought.

This weekend, as you celebrate our nation's Independence Day, I hope you take a moment to appreciate and reflect on the opportunities we have as students, as educators, as academics, and of course as Americans. I wish you wonderful and safe holiday.

Summer is a good time for many Lobo employees to take some time to relax and recharge. It is a slower period for many offices on campus, and often an ideal opportunity to reset before the next academic year. I hope that you get to enjoy a bit of leisure time, even if you are spending most of the season in the classroom, lab or office.

I will not be sending my weekly messages for the next month, but look forward to connecting with you again later this summer.

Have a great July, and Go Lobos!

Bob