

August 22, 2016



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon, and welcome back!

I am very excited to see the Fall 2016 semester kicking off with so much energy and enthusiasm. Campus is alive again, and everyone seems to be ready for the new academic year.

At Freshman Convocation yesterday, I had the opportunity to welcome students who are beginning their college career. Freshman Family Day was a tremendous success, and for that I want to thank the Office of the University Secretary, the Dean of Students Office, Student Activities Center, and all the volunteers who made the event possible.

I challenged our incoming freshman yesterday to do three things during their time here at UNM, and I would like to encourage all of our returning students to achieve these same goals as well.

First, get to know at least five faculty members. They are dedicated to students and have a deep interest in your education and success. They are your teachers and can be wonderful mentors.

Second, take part in an internship. By gaining real world, hands-on experience, you can focus your interests, establish valuable relationships, and expand your portfolio or resume. Some of you have interned before or are an intern now. I hope that you would also attest that your internship has been an invaluable part of your educational experience.

Finally, engage in at least one extra-curricular activity. UNM has countless opportunities to get involved, including more than 425 clubs and organizations. Coming to UNM isn't just about being here and attending classes. While that's certainly important, it's not enough on its own. By getting involved—whether in student government, or athletics, or in political, academic, religious, hobby or other clubs—you will meet new friends and create support systems that will guide and inspire you.

[Welcome Back Days](#) is the perfect time to find the group or club that will enrich your experience at UNM. So, even if the Duck Pond is not on your typical route to class, I hope you will take the time to visit several booths and take in as much information as you can along the way.

There is a lot going on. I am sure many of you are just hoping to start your classes strong, but I want you to think about and act on these three challenges throughout the semester and year.

Have a great first week of class, and Go Lobos!

Bob