



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon

I hope you had a nice holiday weekend, and are refreshed and ready to finish the year.

Hanging of the Greens

The University's oldest student tradition, the [Hanging of the Greens](#), is set for this Friday, Dec. 2. Student groups will work throughout the day on Friday to decorate the campus with thousands of luminarias, which will light the way that evening for the crowd of carolers through campus. The festivities begin at 5:45 p.m. at the UNM Bookstore on main campus, where the crowd can warm up with hot chocolate and biscochitos. From there, walk to University House and sing along the way. After the students present the official wreath to hang on the University House entrance arch, my wife, Janet, and I will join the group and carol to Hodgkin Hall for the holiday lighting of the "U." We'll conclude with a reception at Hodgkin Hall from 6:30 until 8 p.m.

Reception attendees are encouraged to bring an unwrapped children's book to place under the tree at Hodgkin Hall to be donated to the UNM Children's Hospital. The Mortar Board also invites you to take luminarias home on Saturday. The luminarias will remain out until noon when the Physical Plant Department begins collecting them.

Thank you to the Mortar Board Honor Society for organizing this iconic Lobo tradition.

Popejoy@50

Art isn't just important to us at UNM; it's a part of what defines us. Our galleries, theaters and museums attract thousands of people every year. This year we celebrate the 50th anniversary of [Popejoy Hall](#), five decades marked by prolific performances at New Mexico's largest performance venue.

[Popejoy@50](#) premiered last week in the theater. The documentary is the third in a series of UNM films the showcase the University's roots, following other major anniversary inspired videos, UNM@125 and Zimmerman@75. Thank you to Arcie Chapa and the Center for Regional Studies for creating this wonderful production.

South Lot Lighting Upgrade

Those of you who park in South Lot in the evening or early morning for classes, and or athletic events, may have noticed the lot is now brighter. [New lighting installations](#) in the parking lot has increased nighttime

visibility and energy efficiency. This upgrade supports continued safety improvement measures, as well as our sustainability goals. The project, led by Physical Plant Department Engineering & Energy Services, will reduce energy consumption by about 50 percent.

Thank you to students in ASUNM, who took the capital outlay project to the New Mexico legislature to request financial support for this critical endeavor to make our campus safer and greener.

Johnson Center Survey

The [UNM Johnson Center Expansion and Renewal capital project](#) is underway, beginning with a master planning effort that kicks off this month.

As a part of the master plan effort, UNM is seeking input from the campus community on the new facility, including desired features and amenities and anticipated demand and usage. The Johnson planning effort is moving quickly, so individuals are asked to [provide their input](#) by Thursday, Dec. 1.

Judge Halts New FSLA Overtime Rule

Last week a federal judge halted implementation of new rules put forth by the Obama Administration raising the salary that workers qualify for overtime pay from \$23,660 to \$47,476. The proposed new rules would have impacted about a 1,000 UNM employees. We are reviewing the situation created by the injunction, and will issue specific directions later in the week.

Have a great week, and Go Lobos!

Bob