

May 8, 2017



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon.

As finals come to a close this week and we prepare for [Commencement](#), I would like to congratulate the more than 3,900 University of New Mexico students who have earned their degrees, and more than 1,400 of those students will walk in the commencement ceremony this weekend at the Pit. Commencement ceremonies will also be held at each branch campus. Many will also be attending college, school and department recognition events in the upcoming days.

This is an exciting time for all our graduates, as well as the friends and families who have supported them along the way. Thank you for choosing UNM. Your time here as scholars, researchers, artists, athletes, and leaders has contributed to making UNM a place where each of us truly defines all of us. This is a time to salute academic excellence and personal achievement, and I have no doubt that this year's ceremony will be an inspirational springboard for our soon-to-be alumni. [Class of 2017](#), on behalf of the entire University of New Mexico community, please accept my sincere congratulations on your impending graduation.

For the first time ever, UNM will live-stream its commencement ceremony on the [UNM Facebook page](#) beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 13. This will afford those who are not able to attend a window to watch live, or go back later and view the event.

To our faculty and staff, thank you for making our campus a place of where our students can freely explore their passions and pursuits, and where discourse and debate are valued. The need to support our students has never been more critical, so our Dean of Students and [Office of Equity and Inclusion](#) have been working hard to make sure that we are providing resources for members of our community in challenging and uncertain times. For those of you who will be here this summer, I look forward to seeing you on campus. I am wishing you all a wonderful week!

Until next week,

Chaouki T. Abdallah

Acting President

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There is so much more that happens on the UNM campus than can be conveyed in a weekly message. To find out about the latest stories and events, please visit the [UNM Newsroom](#), the central source of news and information for the UNM community.