



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon.

Budget Summit

As you may know, the Governor has called for a special session of the New Mexico State Legislature on May 24, 2017. The news reports are anticipating an agreement between the executive and the legislative branches so that the special session will last a day or two. Shortly thereafter (a couple of days) we expect the Governor to act on the budget and we will then have definite numbers on our state appropriations. Since this takes us to the end of May, and since the New Mexico Higher Education Department has instructed us to have our university budget finalized by June 1, the regents have called for a [budget summit](#) on the afternoon of May 24, 2017. If all goes according to plan, we hope to have our budget completed and submitted to Santa Fe by June 1, 2017, as requested. I will continue to keep the campus community informed as decisions are made.

My Summer Reading Top 10

Like many of you, the summer semester is my time to catch up with my research and to engage in my favorite pass time of reading. Here are some of the books that I will be (re)reading over the next few months (in no particular order):

1. The Situation is Hopeless but not Serious (the Pursuit of Unhappiness), by Paul Watzlawick
2. The Golden Ticket: P, NP, and the Search for the Impossible, by Lance Fortnow
3. Humans are Underrated: What High Achievers Know That Brilliant Machines Never Will, by Geoff Colvin
4. On Dialogue, by David Bohm
5. Scale: The Universal Laws of Growth, Innovation, Sustainability, and the Pace of Life in Organisms, Cities, Economies, and Companies, by Geoffrey West
6. The Hakawati, by Rabih Alameddine
7. The Death of Expertise: The Campaign Against Established Knowledge and Why it Matters, by Thomas M. Nichols
8. Reengineering the University: How to Be Mission Centered, Market Smart, and Margin Conscious, by William F. Massy
9. Designing the New American University, by Michael M. Crow and William B. Dabars
10. Everything Is Obvious: *Once You Know the Answer, by Duncan J. Watts

UNM Identity

Our institutional branding work has been successful in communicating the essence of UNM: our mission, our values, our people, the beauty of our campus, the way we communicate, and our visual identity. Several weeks ago, I had written about UNM's [Visual Identity Committee](#) soliciting feedback on the updated UNM primary logo. Since then, the [proposed new logo](#) has been presented to the campus community at various events. University Communication & Marketing, which has led the logistical aspects of the logo development and introduction process, continues to gather [feedback](#) from the community regarding the potential change.

The reaction to the mark, which has been mostly positive so far, shows our true passion for the university and its representation. If you have not had an opportunity to [learn more](#) and weigh in on this aspect of our visual identity, please take the next week to do so.

Opportunities for Campus Climate Engagement

At The University of New Mexico, we strive to make our campus a place where our students are free to explore their passions and pursuits, and where discourse and debate are valued. Recent events here and nationwide show that we need to find more ways to support all our students, staff and faculty. The Division for Equity and Inclusion ([link to diverse.unm.edu](http://diverse.unm.edu)) is sponsoring two important webinars designed to address issues of campus climate this week. The first, [*Hate Crimes on Campus - How to Educate, React and Respond to Safeguard Justice*](#), will be Tuesday, May 23 from 12 -1:30 p.m. in CTLB 110, and the second on [*Controversial Speakers: Manage Events to Minimize Risk & Protect Your Institution's Academic Integrity*](#) will be held Thursday, May 25 from 12 -1:30 p.m. in CTLB 110. I encourage those of you who are here on campus to please register and attend.

Until next week,

Chaouki T. Abdallah

Acting President

Follow me on Twitter [@chaoukita](#)

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.