



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good Afternoon.

The Role of Research in Economic Development

A recent article describes the increasing challenges of [funding research at \(Midwestern\) public research universities](#). The article makes clear the direct (and intricate) link of university research activities to regional and national economic vitality. "Universities perform more than half of all basic research in America, and public research universities in particular account for two-thirds of the \$63.7 billion allocated annually by the federal government for research. That spending, in turn, produces more than 2,600 patents and 400 companies a year, according to the Association of University Technology Managers." UNM is one of 81 [public highest research activity universities](#), and is facing the same challenges described in the article, due to the reduction in federal funding.

Sarah Belle Brown Community Service Award

I would like to remind everyone that my office is still accepting nominations for the prestigious [Sarah Belle Brown award](#) that recognizes a student, faculty member and staff member with a \$1,500 award for their commitment to community service. The deadline has been extended to 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 23. If you know someone who selflessly gives to those in need, this is an excellent way to recognize their kindness with a nomination. Please take the time to nominate a friend, colleague or co-worker who has gone above and beyond in serving our community. For information and nominating instructions, go to the [Sarah Belle Brown Community Service Award](#).

UNM Gives Campaign

The annual [UNM Gives Campaign](#) is ongoing—through our partnership with the United Way of Central New Mexico and the UNM Foundation—where faculty, staff and employees contribute time and money to charitable organizations, in an effort to change lives and circumstances. The campaign runs through Friday, Nov. 17, and allows our Lobo community to direct their support, whether it be a financial donation or a pledge of volunteered time and talent, to programs and nonprofits of their choosing. If each of us make a small donation, we can collectively have an enormous impact in our community. Please consider making a monetary donation at unmgives.unm.edu.

2017 Mandatory Training

Reminder: 2017 Mandatory Training is now open, with a new deadline of Friday, Dec. 1. All UNM employees, including regular faculty and staff, temporary faculty and staff, on-call staff, and student employees (including graduate students) are required to complete the three designated university-wide mandatory training courses. For more information, please visit [Mandatory Training](#). To see who has and has not completed the 2017 Mandatory Trainings in your area, go to Learning Central for direct reports and HR Reports for your department and organization. Until next time.

Chaouki Abdallah
Interim 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.