Good afternoon.

The ability to share UNM’s story is one of the most important privileges and responsibilities I have. Whether it’s speaking to members of our campus, community leaders or generous friends and donors, learning those stories and being able to amplify them is a fundamental part of being a successful president.

Alumni giving is transformational
Even during my short time here, I can tell that sense of community runs deep in New Mexico. People here are proud of their roots and connections. That sense of connectivity is even more evident in the generous contributions we receive from alumni donors. Some of you might have read about the $3 million gift from the estate of Dana C. Wood, recently given to the School of Engineering. This donation will have long-lasting impacts on both students and staff. I’m eager to connect with more alumni, like Wood, who enable UNM to continue investing in young lives and preserving community pride through upgraded facilities and more competitive programs.

McBEE climate survey on sexual misconduct
Once again this year, UNM is partnering with the University of Kentucky to conduct the McBEE climate survey on sexual misconduct. Main campus students, aged 18-24, will be sent a link to the climate survey beginning Monday, March 26. We encourage all eligible students to take the survey to inform UNM of their experiences. Results of past surveys have been highly informative and have influenced the development of bystander programs at UNM. We can’t make a better campus without your input! Students who take the survey will also be entered into a drawing to receive one of nearly 50 gift cards to Amazon or Lobo Merchandise.

New center to revolutionize research at UNM
In the wake of physicist Stephen Hawking’s death, many are looking to the stars to remember the necessity of research. As New Mexico’s flagship university and premiere research center, it’s only fitting our students have the most state-of-the-art facilities to further their own exploration of the cosmos. Tuesday, we officially break ground on the new Physics & Astronomy and Interdisciplinary Science building, known as PAÍS. I am honored to join Dean Mark Peceny and other dignitaries, as we launch a new era of science research and discovery at UNM, through the new 137,000 square foot facility.
Ask a Lobo

In an effort to get to know a little more about UNM, New Mexico and all of you, I’d like each week to ask a question or get your recommendations on things I should try, places I should visit or people I should meet. Because I enjoy the outdoors, this week, I would love to know your favorite hiking trails throughout the state. Please feel free to respond via email or on Twitter @PresidentStokes #AskALobo. I really look forward to learning about New Mexico from you!

Go Lobos!

Garnett S. Stokes
President

Feel free to reach out to me at presidentstokes@unm.edu.
Follow me on twitter @PresidentStokes