



# PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



*September 17, 2018*

Good afternoon.

As the state's flagship university, we bear the standard of higher learning in New Mexico. With that comes a responsibility to extend partnerships and opportunities not just to our students, but to our colleagues in higher education across the state.

## **Celebrating The University for New Mexico**

We are a university constantly in motion. This week, however, is a great time to pause and reflect on all of the amazing and meaningful ways in which we succeed in our mission. Many thanks to all of you who were able to attend my State of the University address, either in person or [virtually via Facebook](#), where it remains posted. Our faculty do much more than teach, and our students do much more than attend classes. One of our greatest achievements and services to society is preparing our graduates with the skills and experience necessary to make a difference in our communities and succeed in their chosen career paths. Throughout this week, in continued celebration of scholarship, research and the creative spark, [several events and symposia](#) are being offered to showcase the Lobo experience. The events are open to the public and will celebrate the students, faculty and staff. I am grateful to Faculty Senate President and Associate Professor of Music, Pamela Pyle, for leading the organization of this diverse and inspired expression of our university.

## **Homecoming 2018: Wolfstock**

As I mentioned in the State of the University address earlier today, our alumni are a reflection of the University's reputation through their success, mentorship and love of UNM. Next week, we will welcome Lobo alumni from around the world to return to their alma mater for homecoming. It's a time to come together and celebrate all that UNM and its alumni have to offer, as well as reignite the Lobo spirit in each of us. This year, the homecoming theme is [Wolfstock: Peace, Love, and Lobos](#). Festivities run from Monday, Sept. 24 through Saturday Sept. 29 and include activities for alumni, students, faculty and staff. With [more than 50 events over the six days](#), it is something I hope our whole campus will join together in celebrating.

## **Rio Grande Rivalry**

Although UNM and NMSU have long held a friendly rivalry, there is more that unites us than divides us. While in Las Cruces this past weekend, I had the privilege of seeing student-athletes from both schools face off in the annual Rio Grande Rivalry. Our Lobos had trained hard, and it showed! With two wins now in the books, the season is shaping up to be a good one. The passion both teams brought to the field clearly demonstrated that each student-athlete was there to play his best – win or lose. That's what friendly rivalries can bring: a motivation to do one's best, a challenge to raise the bar, and a respect for fellow competitors. Attending the game was yet another chance to continue the dialogue with NMSU leaders,

including Chancellor Dan Arvizu, President John Floros and Regent Jerean Hutchinson, on opportunities for collaboration. We are fortunate to have the partnerships we do with other state institutions to create unparalleled experiences for our students and progress for New Mexico.

Have a great week and let's go Lobos!

Garnett S. Stokes

President

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