



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



October 29, 2018

Good afternoon.

I take pride in being a part of a university where ‘each of us defines all of us,’ and where diversity and respect for the viewpoints of others are valued. I also share in the anxiety that many have that acts of violence, oppression and intolerance are so commonplace. I want to reaffirm that UNM strives to be a welcoming campus to everyone, a place where each person is recognized and valued for who they are. I challenge each of us to define all of us by acting respectfully in all our interactions, listening to others with an open mind, and supporting and celebrating our differences. We are strengthened by what we learn from the experiences and perspectives of others.

Community Engaged Research Lecture Award

I have spoken often about the many ways in which public research universities such as ours work with our communities to solve some of the complex societal issues we face by leveraging our academic expertise in partnership with the people we serve. The Office of the Vice President for Research recognizes the value of this very important scholarship through its distinguished annual [Community Engaged Research Lecture](#) award. [Dr. David Gutzler, a renowned scholar in the field of climate science in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences](#), has been selected for this honor, and will be giving his lecture, “[The Science and Politics of Climate Change: Tales of a Turbulent System](#),” on Nov. 15. Dr. Gutzler has been at the forefront of his discipline for many years, impacting not only the communities with which he has worked, but also the students whose experiences he is helping to shape.

Leadership Search Updates

I would like to extend a personal thank you to everyone who took part in the listening sessions last week regarding the current searches for a new [Provost and EVP for Academic Affairs](#) and new [Vice President for Equity and Inclusion](#). The search firm, Isaacson, Miller, will soon be sending out surveys to follow-up on the conversations started during these sessions. Your voice matters, so I hope you will take the time to share your opinion of what attributes and characteristics are most important in our future leaders.

I am also excited to announce the formal launch of a [national search for UNM’s next leader to oversee Finance and Administration](#). A diverse and representative group of search committee members has been appointed to lead the search process, and Julie Coonrod, dean of Graduate Studies, will be chairing the committee. UNM has contracted with [Wheless Partners](#), an executive search firm that will assist UNM with the search process for this critical leadership role. I am committed to a transparent process and ensuring opportunities for broad campus involvement. I will continue to update the campus community on significant milestones in the search process and the [executive search site](#) will be updated as the searches progress.

2018 Mandatory Training Reminder - Dec. 1 Deadline Approaching

Please keep in mind that mandatory training is not just something we do every year; the intent is to ensure we promote a safe working environment for everyone in the UNM system. A reminder to those who haven't completed their [2018 Mandatory Training](#), the Dec. 1 deadline is rapidly approaching. With a just over a month left, all 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. Both individuals and supervisors can access their own and their employees learning assignments in [Learning Central](#).

Women's Team Wins 2018 Mountain West Cross Country Championship

Congratulations to the women's cross-country team on [winning the 2018 Mountain West Cross Country Championship](#), their 11th straight Mountain West title. In addition to the team's win, Weini Kelati took the individual title and was also named Mountain West Student-Athlete of the Year; Reece Donihi was named the Mountain West Male Freshman of the Year; and head coach Joe Franklin won his 10th Women's Coach of the Year award. Their next competition will take them to the NCAA Mountain Region Championship in two weeks to make a run for a spot in the NCAA Championships.

Have a great week and let's go Lobos!

Garnett S. Stokes
President

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