



# PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



*November 22, 2021*

Good afternoon, Lobos --

During this time of gratitude and remembrance, and no matter where you may be during this week's break, I hope everyone will take a moment to find strength and support in being a part of the Lobo pack. While the last 20 months have been particularly challenging, I have continued to lean into knowing that we have been going through these tough times together, at each other's sides and having each other's backs.

The spirit of thanks and of giving here at UNM is reflected in the many ways in which we touch the lives of those around us, both through our mission as an institution and the individual contributions of our Lobos. If you are looking for ways to give back to the community this season, perhaps you will consider making [a donation to our Lobo Food Pantry](#), the [UNM Gives Campaign](#), or another organization of your choice. Volunteer if you can or get involved in other ways; sometimes, enthusiasm or a kind word can make all the difference.

My deepest gratitude to all of you, my fellow Lobos—each of you contributes to the richness and value of our campus and community.

This is a short week for many of us—and to those who may be away, I wish you a safe and peaceful break. And a special thank you to those dedicated clinical and essential University employees who continue to work over the long weekend.

## **UNM Professor Camille Carey Named Dean of School of Law**

I am delighted to welcome Camille Carey as our [new dean of the School of Law](#). After a nationwide search, it is particularly rewarding to find a terrific candidate from among our current colleagues, as Professor Carey currently serves as the vice dean and associate dean for Academic Affairs at the UNM School of Law. She has been a member of our faculty since 2009 and currently holds the prestigious Karelitz Chair in Evidence and Procedure. Carey will assume her new role as dean on July 1, 2022. Professor Sergio Pareja, who has served as dean of the School of Law for more than six years, will be returning to the faculty. My thanks to Dean Pareja for his leadership at our School of Law, and congratulations to Professor Carey as she takes on this exciting new position.

## **UNM Alum Makes Generous Donation to Sustainability Studies Program**

Here's a wonderful story to take with you into the holidays: Lobo alumni Laurence Cotter has made an incredibly generous gift to the UNM Sustainability Studies program [to establish an endowed fund](#) in the name of his beloved late wife, Rosalind O. Womack. Mr. Cotter's \$2 million gift will be used to establish the Rosalind O. Womack Fund in Sustainability Studies at UNM to address our society's most pressing challenges, including climate change, alternative energy, and sustainable agriculture. An emphasis will also be placed on involving students in work with cross-campus and community partners engaged in these areas of focus. I am so grateful to Mr. Cotter for his generosity; we are proud to carry out this critical work as we honor the memory of his wife.

Please remember The University of New Mexico presently requires all students, faculty, staff, and visitors to wear masks at all times inside UNM buildings--including The Pit--unless they are eating, drinking, or in an office alone. Please help us continue good public health practices (handwashing; staying home when ill; physical distancing, when possible; mask-wearing, etc.) so we all stay safe and healthy.

While booster shots are not required to satisfy the vaccine mandate for fall or winter semester this year, they are available and are recommended for anyone who is fully vaccinated and meets the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) criteria. Please visit the [New Mexico Department of Health Vaccine Registration System](#) to check your eligibility and find a location for getting the booster. The flu season is also underway, so please get your flu vaccine, if you haven't already. To better track our vaccination status, the [UNM Vaccine Verification Program site](#) has been updated for students, faculty and staff to upload documentation of receiving a COVID-19 booster shot. We encourage you to do so, as representative data helps greatly in analyzing trends and informing future decisions.

As always, I appreciate your continued care and diligence to your health and safety, and that of our pack. Our community education and vaccination efforts have made it possible to return to many of the events and traditions that we were not able to enjoy last year, but as the pandemic continues, it is more important than ever to continue to follow necessary safety measures.

Have a good (and short!) week, and let's go, Lobos!

Regards,

Garnett S. Stokes  
President