

## ALL UNIVERSITY MESSAGE

Dear Members of the UNM Community,

I would like to begin by thanking you all again for your continued commitment to UNM and your support for – and quick adaptation to – the many changes we have had to make in response to the immediate challenges of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Our personal and professional lives have been turned upside down – and, quite honestly, we don't know how long this is going to last. While we answered many questions posed at Friday's town hall, I recognize that many more remain. These are tenuous times – both our present and our future – and, understandably, such uncertainty may cause considerable stress and anxiety.

After our initial transition to limited operations, I have taken great care to provide updates that are honest and reflect what I know to be accurate at the time they are made. Many of you have been asking how long the period of limited operations will last; in consultation with UNM leadership, ***I have decided to extend this period to April 30.*** Only [Tier 1 UNM personnel](#) should continue to report to work on campus, with all others working remotely as they have been doing. Human Resources will be communicating immediately with both supervisors and employees regarding additional guidance during this period. As conditions continue to evolve, please check with your supervisor to verify information.

We have had to make a number of difficult, yet responsible, decisions over the past weeks that quickly pivoted us from what we know and expect of the University experience. It is now more vital than ever for us to thoughtfully consider what our immediate and long-term circumstances may look like as we enter the FY21 budget year. Factors such as enrollment, state appropriations and our current fiscal and operational models will need to be carefully assessed to align with and effectively support our mission – all the while taking into account the impact on our students, employees and broader University community.

### **Student Q&A: COVID-19 Measures for Student Academic Success**

It is critical that our students are well-informed regarding decisions they are making that will affect their grades and coursework. In response to the UNM Faculty Senate's resolution [COVID-19 Measures for Student Academic Success](#), our Office of Advising Strategies has developed a [COVID-19 Advisor Resources web page](#) and recently added a [Q & A for students regarding the options they have to elect credit or no credit](#) for their grades.



April 2, 2020

## Summer/Fall Registration Remains on Schedule

We are moving ahead with plans for both [Summer and Fall 2020 course registration](#). Only online and remote courses will be offered during the regular and first half summer session that begins June 1; for the second session, students should periodically check online or with advisors for the latest information regarding the possibility of in-person courses being available. Registration begins on April 13 for the approximately 4,337 course sections available this summer – including thesis and dissertation credits – across all campuses. As of now, the Fall 2020 semester will proceed as originally planned. We will continue to monitor conditions and modify the Fall schedule as necessary. We will keep you informed as these important decisions are made.

## Mental Wellness

Please continue to look out for yourselves and each other. Again, physical distancing does not mean social isolation – please look for ways to stay mentally and emotionally healthy during this trying time. If you require additional counseling services, or just need someone to talk with, students may contact [Student Health and Counseling Services](#) (SHAC), while faculty and staff may consult with our [Counseling, Assistance & Referral Services](#) (CARS).

I continue to be inspired by the collaborative ability of the entire Lobo community to adapt so quickly to this public health crisis. I would like to offer a special thanks to our health care providers and support staff at the UNM Health Sciences Center and all of its clinical components, who are working tirelessly to provide exceptional and compassionate care to our patients and their families; to our researchers, who are studying ways to combat COVID-19; and to our faculty across campus who are collaborating to provide essential health care equipment - you are true New Mexico heroes.

Please continue to check the [UNM COVID-19 website](#) for updates and information about our response to COVID-19.

Sincerely,

Garnett S. Stokes  
President

