



President's Weekly Perspective

Good morning.

The exchange of words, ideas and information fuels the critical thinking and debate institutions such as ours hold in such high esteem and, to that end, the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge are central to our mission. I have frequently addressed the “diversity of ideas” at UNM as one of our greatest strengths and opportunities as an institution; it is here where we differentiate ourselves. We are not only learners and creators of knowledge, but disseminators of knowledge. By spreading our ideas, we empower and innovate to a global audience. The foundation of this pursuit is made possible only by the distinct collection of students, faculty, and staff that converge at UNM, and it is through this mutual exchange of ideas, experiences and perspectives that we sustain and broaden the depth of our learning.

UNM Hosting Legislative Finance Committee this Week

One of the most important ways that we can share our knowledge at UNM is to show the value that it brings to our state and its people. The New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee (LFC), which is responsible for recommending funding and compensation for UNM, has selected our university to host its central New Mexico meeting this week, July 17 – 19 at the Student Union Building. I am pleased to welcome the committee members to our campus and am looking forward to this important opportunity that we have to showcase our outstanding students, faculty and staff, and their efforts and commitment.

UNM will be represented in presenting on several significant [agenda items](#). Provost Abdallah and I will take part in addressing student success under the new funding formula; faculty at the College of Education, who have worked in conjunction with the School of Public Administration and Anderson School of Business, will participate in discussing New Mexico’s leadership capacity; and UNM Science & Technology Corporation (STC) CEO Lisa Kuuttila will contribute her expertise regarding venture capital and technology transfer. The visit will culminate in a tour of our proposed 2014 GO Bond priorities, which include almost \$100 million toward engineering, physics and health education facilities.

TEDxABQ Coming to UNM

I have always found the TED mission of “ideas worth spreading” to be so relevant to inspired thought, and am an enthusiast of the community organized TEDx events that are created in that spirit and designed to give communities such as ours the opportunity to stimulate conversation at a local level. It seems only fitting that the next [TEDxABQ event will be held on the UNM campus at Popejoy Hall](#). I hope you will join me in the sharing of some of New Mexico’s most exciting biggest ideas on Sept. 7, 2013.

A Legacy of Knowledge

Just as it is important to spread knowledge and ideas, it is just as important to preserve and reflect upon knowledge that informs our society. Last week I was honored to attend a ceremony commemorating the archiving of congressional papers of former [New Mexico Senator Jeff Bingaman at the UNM Libraries Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections](#). Sen. Bingaman served the people of

New Mexico for over 30 years; I was actually a fellow in his office as a student. Having these historic documents in our repository is not only a great distinction for the furthering of scholarly research, but as an expression of a chapter in our nation's political history.

Have a great week and go Lobos!

Bob