



## President's Weekly Perspective

Good morning.

Scholarly productivity is one of the most important tenets of a research institution such as UNM, as the generation of new knowledge adds to the sum of human knowledge. UNM scholars have a high level of productivity and their contributions to a wide variety of professional publications demonstrate both an individual and a collective commitment to expanding and testing their fields of inquiry continually. It is important to recognize our researchers and scholars whose works have made an important impact on their professional fields, as well as bringing exposure and notoriety to the University. As an engaged university, much of our scholarly activity is what John Saltmarsh calls “inclusive, collaborative, and problem-oriented work in which academics share knowledge generating tasks with the public and involve community partners as participants in public problem-solving” in his [Democratic Engagement White Paper](#).

### The Influence of Scholarly Research

The impact of research is not always immediate. Evaluating and sharing knowledge supports further exploration and discovery. The Journal of the Optical Society of America A (JOSA A) has recently recognized a paper on the application of imaging technology written by UNM Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Majeed Hayat and his former student Sergio N. Torres as one of the [15 most cited papers in the past decade of the publication](#). This work represents how university-generated knowledge has created a platform for new research projects, as researchers throughout the world have explored the possibilities suggested in the paper, published over decade ago. The influence of this work is demonstrated in ways that researchers have been continuing to build upon it to solve critical modern societal problems. In fact, Dr. Sanjay Krishna, director of the UNM Center for High Technology Materials, is developing a start-up that uses infrared imaging technology to diagnose skin cancer without invasive biopsy procedures. True influence results in these types of public benefits, which in turn underscore our mission.

### Engaged Scholarship for the 21st Century

Our next generation of scholars is engaged, exploring innovative approaches to the ways that research is designed, conducted, and disseminated. Upon discovering a shared interest in using published research about how teachers work with learning disabled students to aid doctors in working more effectively with learning disabled patients, UNM student Lisa Rossignol and Dr. Paasche-Orlow at Boston University collaborated on an article titled, “Empowering Patients Who Have Specific Learning Disabilities,” which will be published in the [October issue of The Journal of the American Medical Association](#) (JAMA). Lisa is the lead author, at Dr. Paasche-Orlow’s insistence, which is an amazing opportunity for a graduate student; Lisa just started her doctoral program in Sociology this fall. Their goal is to educate physicians by providing connections to research in the literature to increase inclusive practices for patient learners. Sociology, like many disciplines, is inherently public; scholars such as these draw on the lives and experiences of people for their scholarship. The benefit of these symbiotic relationships does not flow in one direction, but up and out of the communities being studied. Public scholarship gives us the opportunity to give that scholarship back to the larger community.

**Sarah Belle Brown Award**

I would like to remind the UNM community that my office is currently accepting nominations for the prestigious Sarah Belle Brown award that recognizes a student, member of the faculty, and a staff member with a \$1,500 award for their commitment to our community. I have extended the deadline to tomorrow at 5 p.m.; please consider recognizing the efforts of a deserving colleague or student.

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob