



President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon and welcome to the UNM Fall 2014 semester!

I first saw UNM many years ago as a prospective student--- I remember the pool, mountains, and a campus of many dirt lots. Now, many years later, we have a campus of exquisite beauty. UNM has never looked as beautiful as it does now. I cannot thank our physical plant department staff enough for maintaining and improving what so many have called the city within the city. Campus is buzzing again and it is always exciting for all of us to see hundreds of students energized and ready to jump into their Lobo experience.

Welcome Lobo Faculty!

Welcome to all of our new Lobos, both students and faculty. Last week I had the pleasure of meeting many of our new UNM professors at the new faculty orientation reception. I enjoyed chatting with people from a wide range of disciplines, from sociologists to surgeons to educators and journalists. This is a talented group of scholars who are joining an already impressive team in pursuit of academic excellence. Thank you to Yemane Asmerom, Virginia Scharff, Aeron Haynei and Monica Pena for organizing this great welcoming event for our new faculty. Thanks also to Vice-Chancellor Leslie Morrison for coordinating with the HSC.

Welcome Back Days

This year started strong yesterday with Freshman Family Day, where we welcomed an enthusiastic new cohort. It was a great honor to speak to the class of 2018, and more so to meet some of our new Lobos and their families after the convocation ceremony. To all of our students, new and returning, make the most of this eventful week. Take advantage of the food and entertainment brought to the Duck Pond by the Student Activities Center, but more importantly take as much information as you can from every table and booth you see along our paths and plazas this week.

In my address to our incoming class I spoke about finding a "PLUS" on campus...that thing that adds to who one is beyond the label of student. That extra point of engagement with the University, be it athletics, band, Greek Life, or student government, is the way for each of our students to join the University. We want our students to be able to say, "I am a student...PLUS... I am..."... what? What is your PLUS? We know from studies that engaged students, those who have one... two... or three PLUSes are far more likely to have a better college experience. And they are much more likely to graduate with the knowledge and skills that will launch them into their chosen career.

This week is organized to help everyone find that PLUS. Between classes, stop and chat with some of our ASUNM student government leaders or learn more about our many academic societies. Find out what our resource centers can offer you. Look for a job during Campus Employment and Community Service Day.

I can already tell that this is going to be another outstanding semester and an impactful year for every Lobo.

Have a great week and Go Lobos!

Bob