



President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon.

“Coming Home”

Homecoming has been an institutional tradition in the U.S. for more than a century and, although there is some debate over the origin of the spirit building celebration, there is no doubt that the annual event unifies a University in many ways. While football is often the focal point, homecoming is an opportunity for entire institutional communities to come together and celebrate the achievements of both the university and all of its former students.

Homecoming week is always one of the most exciting weeks of the year for The University of New Mexico because it is a campus-wide celebration of all Lobos from Albuquerque to Ankara. It is a call to the Lobo family to come back to [New Mexico and celebrate our history – 125 years of it –](#) and the future of the University in every facet, from our exceptional advancements in health care to our world-renowned engineering contributions. It is an opportunity for Lobo graduates to connect with each other as well as with our current students to inspire each other.

There is a lot happening on and off campus this week. The Center for Regional Studies will premiere the movie [UNM@125](#) tomorrow at the National Hispanic Cultural Center. On Friday, the Health Sciences Center will have an open house and celebrate the [50th Anniversary of the School of Medicine](#). Our homecoming football game will even be broadcast on ESPN2, which brings a part of the homecoming celebration to those who cannot literally “come home” to UNM. These are just a few of the events scheduled. Thank you to our [Alumni Association for your hard work in making Homecoming](#) a success.

In a letter to our Lobo alumni I wrote about the importance of homecoming and connecting with the entire UNM family. Whether you are alum, a current student, or an employee of the University, you are a Lobo and we want you to [Howl@UNM](#), because every communication from one proud Lobo to another is a testament to the opportunities that UNM can offer.

Homecoming is also a great time to recognize the value of our faculty. Before I was selected to be president at UNM, I was on the faculty at pretty good schools—the University of Missouri, the University of Florida and most recently Kent State. While all university faculty work hard, UNM faculty's productivity and creativity is truly impressive.

Have a great Homecoming week and Go Lobos! And remember to thank a faculty member for helping you!

Bob