



President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon.

Saturday is an important day for the University of New Mexico, as it marks the 126th anniversary of its founding. This year, UNM will celebrate Lobo Day on Friday, Feb. 27 so that more Lobos can participate in the festivities. The celebration begins at noon in the SUB Atrium and will include the UNM birthday cake. Attendees are encouraged to wear their cherry red for the new Lobo Day photo that will hang in the SUB. This is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to reflect on the history of UNM, including our recent successes. Thank you to ASUNM Lobo Spirit for coordinating the festivities.

Representing Lobo Professionalism

I would like to congratulate the men's Lobo Baseball team on a great start to the season with five wins in the first seven games. I also want to thank them for their outstanding representation of the Lobo name, on and off the field. I received a forwarded email last week commending the team's manners and professionalism. In that message, a flight attendant who has flown with many teams, from high school to professional level in various sports, said that the Lobos were "by far the most polite, courteous, professional, neat (as in tidy) group of boys she'd ever had on board."

This is an excellent reminder to all of us that everywhere we go, from the field to the lab, classrooms to competitions, we represent what it means to be a Lobo. We should wear that badge with pride and dignity. The UNM family is made up of students, researchers, educators, business professionals and many more. It is the most respectful, generous and ambitious community I have known. Thank you to everyone who demonstrates this daily.

Sending a Lobo to the Red Planet

I am very excited to share that UNM alumnus and graduate student, [Zachary Gallegos, has advanced to the third round in the Mars One astronaut selection process.](#) The fact that this Lobo, who has an "unmatched passion for exploring the universe," is now one of 100 candidates selected from more than 200,000 applicants worldwide is extraordinary. I will be rooting for him as he moves into the next stage, through which only 24 individuals will be selected for rigorous training before traveling to establish a permanent human colony on Mars.

Robert DelCampo Leading Innovation Academy

The Innovation Academy, UNM's entrepreneurial learning center that will be part of the Innovate ABQ project, will be led by [newly appointed director Robert DelCampo.](#) Professor DelCampo brings years of business and academic experience to the table, including his most recent work as the associate dean of the Anderson School of Management. I look forward to working with my fellow UNM alumnus – who also graduated from Las Cruces High School, where my dad taught, and I know that he will develop a very successful entrepreneurial program. Thank you to Carol Parker and the search committee for dedicated efforts that have led to this well-qualified director.

Have a great week and go Lobos!

Bob