



President's Weekly Perspective

Good afternoon.

Fundraising Success

Congratulations are in order to all of you, as UNM surpassed its fundraising goal for the last fiscal year by more than \$10 million, reaching a total of more than \$90 million – the best fundraising year in the history of The University of New Mexico. Please join me in thanking the many generous friends and alumni who came forward to support UNM this year with more than 32,000 gifts.

Our donors have expressed their love for UNM through their philanthropy. These gifts support students and faculty, and help us provide groundbreaking research, cutting edge education, vital patient care, competitive athletics, top quality museums and cultural programs, and so much more. We could not exist without their generosity.

Every year, there is a great deal of work that goes into achieving our fundraising goal and this year's outstanding result is a testament to that effort. It is with extreme pleasure that I congratulate the University leadership, deans, faculty, board members, directors, doctors, coaches, staff, volunteers, development officers, grant writers and many others who helped achieve this monumental result. Thank you for the work you do every day to ensure the University's programs are supported! Your hard work and dedication made this achievement possible.

Donor generosity is at the heart of this success and we appreciate every dollar raised each year. We can all share in the excitement of this year's outstanding accomplishment.

Sandia National Labs MOU

Last week UNM and Sandia National Labs signed a [new Memorandum of Understanding](#) (MOU). UNM has enjoyed a long and strong relationship with the lab, with extensive and productive collaborations in research and academics. This new commitment enhances the power of our relationship, and will benefit all our researchers and our students. Thank you to Provost Abdallah, Vice Provost for Research Michael Dougher, Dean Joseph Cecchi of the School of Engineering and everyone else who has helped to make this partnership possible.

Law Degree Outlook

The UNM School of Law continues to garner attention as [one of the best law schools](#) for the percentage of recent graduates finding jobs. UNM is an incredible value for law students because of the exceptional faculty and hands-on learning provided through clinics and field opportunities. This means that employers view Lobo alumni as top job candidates. It also means that New Mexico has well-trained representatives to support our communities' legal needs. I'm glad that our School of Law is getting such well-deserved national acclaim.

Alumni Association Board of Directors

I'd like to give a big Lobo welcome to the [new members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors](#), and to current member and new President Ann Rhoades. This year is going to be a critical one in the advancement of our alumni association, and I look forward to seeing how the 2015-16 Board of Directors moves our dedicated group forward to promote Lobo pride and increase engagement for our alumni.

An email went out last week to all UNM employees announcing the [search for a new Vice President of Alumni Relations](#) and Executive Director of the Alumni Association. As I mentioned then, this is an incredible opportunity for an innovative and entrepreneurial leader who can build on the momentum created by Karen Abraham, who is retiring after dedicating 30 years to her fellow alumni. Thank you to the search committee and to everyone who is engaged in finding the right candidate for this vital role.

Have a great week and go Lobos!

Bob