



STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY 2023



WE ARE NEW MEXICO THE LAND OF ACHIEVEMENT

President Garnett S. Stokes | March 1, 2023

Good afternoon, Lobos, and thank you all for joining me for this look back—and look forward—at all that we've aspired to and achieved at The University of New Mexico over the past year. It is an appropriate time for us to do so, as we celebrate the beginning of our 134th year as a university—from our modest beginnings as a single building on a lone mesa to our current position as the state's premier Research 1 institution with campuses around the state.

Today is also very special to me in that it marks the beginning of my sixth year serving as your president. I am delighted, humbled, and excited as I begin my next term here at UNM, and I appreciate your ongoing energy and contributions as we continue our work together to make the home of the Lobos a home for all New Mexicans—truly the University for New Mexico.

INTRODUCTION

Like the state we call home, UNM is a place like nowhere else. UNM is notable among flagship Research 1 institutions due to our status as a Hispanic-Serving and Minority-Serving institution. Add to that the distinction of being home to New Mexico's only academic medical center, law school and school of architecture; a thriving artistic community; a state with a rich cultural heritage; and a highly diverse population, and you've got a one-of-a-kind institution serving a one-of-a-kind citizenry.

As president of UNM, it is important to me that The University of New Mexico remain a symbol of pride and optimism in our state, reflecting the hopes and potential not just of Lobos, but of all New Mexicans.

We know that a successful UNM means a smarter, more successful, more prosperous, and happier State of New Mexico.

THE POWER OF PLACE, PRIDE AND PASSION

Life-long residents, visitors and those in between have been captivated and inspired by the culture, breathtaking scenery, caring communities—and of course the food—of New Mexico for generations. There is only one New Mexico. And while we certainly

live up to being the Land of Enchantment, the way we harness our collective drive to create opportunities for every citizen makes it fitting to also think of ourselves as the Land of Achievement. UNM, as the state's flagship and premier institution of higher learning, not only serves our state, but seeks to understand it, to improve its health, and make it richer intellectually, economically and socially.

ADVANCE NEW MEXICO

We believe so strongly in contributing to the success of our state and our citizens that we not only put it in writing, but we also put it first among our UNM 2040 goals. It's a directive as clear as three words can be, our own version of the Hippocratic Oath: "Advance New Mexico."

We know New Mexico is a special place, with a distinctive culture, a unique population, and one-of-a-kind opportunities that you won't find anywhere else. As an institution, it is our obligation to meet the challenges facing our state head on to contribute to the growth, prosperity, and advancement of New Mexico. We do so willingly, and we do so proudly.

Compassionate Health Care

We do so, for example, by providing a health care system that is comprehensive and compassionate, designed to meet differing needs of diverse populations. If these last three have taught us anything, it's that the health and well-being of our state, and our country, are directly linked to the health and well-being of our citizens.

We know that a healthy New Mexico is a prosperous New Mexico—and as we continue our work together delivering more to our citizens the services they need and deserve, we are committed to giving our health professionals with the resources they need to do more and do good, not just locally—which means getting them into rural and under-resourced communities where we're needed the most—but globally.

- To that end, we recently introduced a new program at our College of Nursing that will allow registered nurses who already hold a bachelor's degree to become advanced professional nurses/nursing leaders in less than three years.
- We're also very proud of our combined BA/MD program, which is targeted at addressing the physician shortage in New Mexico and meeting those needs with home-grown students who we identify as early as high school. We provide them with the training and opportunities they need to stay in our state, and practice medicine in any of our rural communities in need of physicians.
- Last Spring, our Office of International Health at The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center was redesignated by the World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization as a collaborating center.
- We also broke ground on a new College of Nursing and Public Health Excellence Building, with 94,000 square feet of workspace serving our UNM health care professionals and patients.
- Progress also continues on our seven-level, 96-bed critical care tower, which will help UNMH further its mission of caring for more New Mexicans when it formally opens next year. Now, UNMH is taking construction on the tower to new heights, moving forward with a vertical expansion that will add two additional floors and even more hospital beds to the tower.
- UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center received a grant from the American Cancer Society that it will use to help cover the costs of travel and lodging for patients, serving nearly 300 patients in its first year, and ensuring families have easier access to our center's compassionate, quality care.
- And, as usual, Project ECHO continued its outreach to rural and underserved communities, working to increase vaccine awareness in some of our hardest to reach communities while helping front-line health workers gain essential skills in listening techniques, motivational interviewing and effective messaging.

As we continue our work together to deliver to our citizens the services they need and deserve, we will always ensure we provide our health professionals with the resources they need to do more—and do good.

Innovation that Supports Our Economy

We also know that to truly Advance New Mexico we need to constantly advance and grow our economy. UNM 2040 helps us stay focused on all these goals, even as we continue to grow and expand to meet the needs of students, our community, our state, and the planet.

So how do we put those principles into practice? Frankly, it's in everything we do, from utilizing our Bureau of Business & Economic Research to identify and understand the unique economies across our state, to constantly updating our course offerings to grow with, and adapt to, those economies.

- At our Anderson School of Management, for instance, we've recently added a 30-hour Master of Science in Project Management program, at the direct request of our colleagues at the national laboratories who identified project management as a critical need.
- We're also preparing our students for jobs in one of the fastest growing industries in our state: the film and TV industry, which drives more than \$600 million in New Mexico alone. We do this by investing in programs and facilities to meet the needs of students who want to ensure they have the skills necessary to enter and succeed in these exciting and constantly evolving industries.
 - Anderson School of Management, for example, has partnered with the UNM Film & Digital Arts Department to provide a new MBA track focused on film and digital arts.
- And, of course, UNM Rainforest Innovations is always ahead of the curve when it comes to creative new ways to encourage entrepreneurship and stimulate our local, regional, and national economies.
 - One of our new and ambitious collaboratives is called Right to Start, which is jointly financed by UNM Rainforest Innovations and the City of Albuquerque Economic Development Department.
 - Lobo Rainforest Innovations is also a foundational part of Innovate ABQ, a 7-acre Innovation District Core in downtown Albuquerque.
 - Last fall, I had the pleasure of being at the unveiling of the next phase of Innovate ABQ—a space we're calling The Jungle. We're working with the co-founder of Meow Wolf to transform the former First Baptist Church sanctuary into a high-tech creative space to inspire unconventional thinking, bringing in filmmakers, musicians, video game designers, robot builders, web designers, and builders of immersive technologies.
 - As you can tell, we are thinking differently about how we carry out the business of New Mexico's business—and The Jungle is yet another resource we have to spark innovation, improve the lives of New Mexicans . . . and advance New Mexico.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION

As an institution—and especially as a Research 1 institution with the state's only academic health center—we take very seriously our role as New Mexico's premiere research hub and our proud obligation to look out for the health and well-being of all New Mexicans. But we also never forget that, as a university, it all starts with our students. Without them, there is no University of New Mexico.

That's why as part of UNM 2040, we've articulated just how much our students mean to us. We've promised that we will constantly strive to create supportive, intellectually challenging, exciting, diverse, joyful learning environments both inside and outside of the classroom to ensure the lifelong success, upward social mobility, and engagement of all learners.

Student Enrollment—and Student Diversity—is Up

The numbers show that this student-centric approach is paying dividends.

- Our total enrollment is up 1.6 percent compared with last year—the first increase in total enrollment since 2012, reversing several years of declines.
- More significantly, the fall freshman class grew by 14 percent for Fall 2022, increasing for the third straight year and bringing the total increase since 2020 to 25.8 percent.
- And, just as encouraging, our freshman class is one of the most diverse ever, with major increases in our American Indian, African American, and Hispanic student populations.
- This isn't just a main campus phenomenon, either. Each of the UNM Branch Campuses—Gallup, Los Alamos, Taos, and Valencia—also grew their enrollment.

I am delighted that so many new students are choosing to come to The University of New Mexico. I'm particularly proud that UNM is leading in removing barriers to a world-class education, while continuing to attract talented and diverse students who also reflect the vibrant culture and history of our university, New Mexico and the region.

Exciting New Campus Improvements

Like any thriving community, our campus is always a work in progress, being refined and reimagined as we continue to improve and upgrade our facilities to meet the growing needs of our students and community.

I've already talked about some of our new additions to our Health Sciences corridor—but here I'd like to mention two very exciting projects that will enrich not only UNM, but our community at large.

- For these projects, we are very grateful to New Mexico voters, who generously approved two GO Bonds that will help bring two really incredible projects from proposal to reality.
 - The first is a desperately needed psychiatry hospital for children and adolescents, to replace the current 50-year-old facility. As you can imagine, the last two years have seen a marked increase in behavioral health-related challenges—and this new facility can actually meet these needs.
 - The second project is a new facility for our College of Fine Arts—a college that still works, creates, and inspires out of a building constructed in 1963. We envision this new facility as the stronghold of an Albuquerque arts district, serving the entire state of New Mexico and enriching what is already a billion-dollar industry in our state.
 - We believe these two projects go hand in hand. To paraphrase Harris Smith, our Dean of the College of Fine Arts: Doctors save lives, and artists make life worth living. We are grateful for the generous support of New Mexicans across the state who are helping us make The University of New Mexico an enriching, thriving campus community.

By The Numbers

We know UNM is a great place for our students to attain a first-rate education—but don't just take our word for it. Across our programs, and across our campuses, UNM's academic excellence, work ethic, and commitment to our community has earned us national recognition from some eminent and diverse organizations. For example:

- Our School of Law was ranked by preLaw at Number 1 for “Best School for Native Americans,” earning an A+ rating across all ranking criteria. UNM Law was also ranked at Number 2 on the “Best School for Hispanics” list, also with A+ ratings across ranking criteria.

- UNM has again been rated as a Gold Level “Military Friendly” university, recognizing our commitment to veterans and their families. I’m so proud that UNM ranks 8th among all R1 institutions.
- The University of New Mexico was designated a First-generation Forward Institution by the Center for First-gen Student Success. As a first-generation student myself, I really like hearing that.
- More than forty of our graduate programs ranked in the Top 100 nationally by U.S. News and World Report, with several in the Top 20 programs.
- Our Department of Neurology earned full accreditation for a fellowship in neurocritical care by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education—one of only five institutions in the nation to attain such a major milestone.

A Supportive Environment is a Safe Environment

We know that creating a supportive and joyful learning environment is about more than just ensuring we have a beautiful campus, state-of-the-art facilities, and first-rate academic programs. It’s also about investing in a safe campus environment—and as was made clear earlier this year, the safety of our campus, especially an open, urban campus like ours, requires constant vigilance and attention.

- Given our open campus, we work hard to control access to our buildings, keeping our Lobo students, faculty, and staff safe by requiring them to access buildings with a key card at nearly 1,200 points across our main campus.
- We also try to keep an eye on nearly every corner of our campus, with around 1,200 cameras monitoring our campuses at all times. Right now, we’re also working with Albuquerque Police Department to test license plate readers to see how useful it might be in determining who is on our campus.
- Last year, we received state funding from the state to develop an advanced comprehensive safety plan that will include Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) applications. The plan will be completed by June.
- In the meantime, some of our future security measures include gunshot detection technology, which is already in place on our Valencia campus.
- We’ve also submitted an emergency funding request to the state legislature to cover the costs of new cameras in key locations.
- And just last month, we were pleased to see the Albuquerque Police Department create a new University Area Command, expanding its resources to focus more closely on the University community by assigning us our own dedicated area command.

Working together, we can create a safer campus environment for everyone. When it comes to campus safety, I take it personally; after all, I live in University House on campus with my husband. UNM isn’t just my workplace; it’s also my home.

An Eye on Mental Health

We know that stress and anxiety are a natural part of the student experience. At The University of New Mexico, we’re proud to make a wide range of mental health services available to our students, faculty and staff who may need it—but we also know that looking out for the continued mental health and well-being of our pack means that we constantly gauge the success of the services we provide and improve and expand our them where we can.

- We will be investing in more staff and providing additional resources needed to increase the capacity of our support system, ramp up provider access, and better coordinate services across our academic and health systems.
- This new investment will mean shorter wait times at SHAC, greater assistance for students with substance use issues,

new resources to assist with mental health crises that occur after traditional business hours, and improved support for populations more at-risk for suicide.

- Just as important, it will be a system that will be quicker and more responsive to the very real needs of our students.

I am grateful to Dr. Assata Zerai and Dr. Stephanie McIver for their insightful work on this new initiative and thankful for the support of and guidance from our Board of Regents. This is a major investment in the mental health and well-being of our Lobos, and your peace of mind is worth it.

Lobos Leading in Classroom, On the Field, In the Community

Of course, there's nothing that makes our campuses livelier and more inspiring than our Lobo students themselves. Over the last year, our Lobos have been excelling in the classroom, making their mark on the field, and serving the community with distinction—and sometimes doing all three at the same time.

A Great Year for the Lobo Nation

Let's start by looking at our amazing student-athletes—what a year it's been for Lobo athletics! As Athletic Director Eddie Nunez often says: it's all about setting a Standard of Excellence in everything we do. And boy, we did it in nearly everything.

- In the classroom, our student-athletes earned a GPA of 3.33 in the spring of 2022—a department top-5 mark—including 275 student-athletes earning a 3.0 or greater and 71 earning perfect 4.0 GPAs.
- For the tenth consecutive year, more than 100 of our student-athletes were honored as Mountain West Scholar-Athletes, the longest current streak in the league.
- Our Lobos have won twelve Mountain West titles over the past four seasons, more than any other Mountain West institution. Notably:
 - Women's cross country finished as the national runner-up and won its 15th straight Mountain West title with **Amelia Mazza-Downie** becoming only the second Lobo in school history to win back-to-back Mountain West individual championships.
 - Women's soccer won its third consecutive Mountain West championship.
 - Women's basketball won a school-record-tying 26 games, and advanced to the Sweet Sixteen of the NIT.

Lobos are Driven by Doing

As home to one of the most diverse student bodies in the nation, The University of New Mexico is proud of the deep and wide range of accomplishments of our Lobos. Here are just some of the remarkable things you've achieved or been recognized for over the last year:

- **Jessica Yeaton**, a student in UNM HSC's Division of Physical Therapy program, competed as a cross country skier for the Australian Olympic team.
- **Abrianna Morales** was selected as a 2022 Truman Scholar, the fourth consecutive year we've had a Lobo on the esteemed list of recipients. She is also a McNair Scholar, one of only 58 in the nation.
- Lobo engineering student **Christine Gleicher** was selected as a 2022-2023 Goldwater Scholar.
- Five University of New Mexico students received Fulbright Awards for 2022-2023.
- **Nicolas Estrada**, a Lobo UNM Honors College student studying political science and history, received a 2022 Undergraduate Scholarship from the Udall Foundation.

- And in a first for our Lobo physics students, UNM graduate student **Easwar Narayanan** received the prestigious Chateaubriand Fellowship.

INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

As one of the most diverse campuses in the nation, The University of New Mexico will always be a place where all are welcomed, all are valued, and all are supported, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, or gender identity.

As part of UNM 2040, we have reaffirmed our commitment to utilizing an equity and inclusion lens to expand opportunity, cultivate the potential of students, faculty and staff, create new knowledge, and provide service to all New Mexicans by leveraging our assets as a highly research-intensive university and health system.

Each of Us Defines All of Us

What does that all mean? Put simply: we embrace our diversity with pride. It's all a part of our common identity as Lobos—each of us truly defines all of us. Over the last year, our Lobo faculty, students, staff, and leadership have continued to make our campus more inclusive, more welcoming, and more diverse.

- To help cultivate a more inclusive student experience, 135 Lobo faculty across our colleges and campuses took part in the Student Experience Project, a national initiative of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities to inform the student experience and make the earning an undergraduate degree as welcoming and inclusive as possible.
- Last August, UNM welcomed colleagues from across our state, and across disciplines, to engage in critical discourse and learn from one another at a Title IX symposium, hosted on our campus by UNM's Compliance, Ethics and Equal Opportunity Office.
- We also partnered with the National Hispanic Institute to host the 2022 Lorenzo de Zavala (LDZ) Youth Legislative Session for New Mexico high school students, bringing 150 of New Mexico's best students to our campus for a weeklong leadership experience.
- And, of course, I am very delighted that this year marks the beginning of an exciting new era in the Black experience at The University of New Mexico, as we have officially elevated Africana Studies to its own department, overseen by director Kirsten Buick. Congratulations to the generations of Black leaders at UNM and in our community who helped make this possible.

Trailblazers

It is, in fact, our amazing faculty and staff—more than 10,000 of them across the state—who ensure the Lobo experience is accessible and successful for all students. You are all changing lives for the better and making the Lobo community a brighter place. Let me give you an idea of just some of the accomplishments of our faculty and staff over the last year.

- We are honored to have two Lobo professors named as American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Fellows, in a class of only 564 nationally.
- We are equally as proud to have two Fulbright Winners, who will represent UNM as they continue their studies abroad in Bulgaria and Hungary.
- Dr. Jonathan Eldredge, a professor at UNM's Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center, received one of the MLA's highest awards when he was named a Fellow of the Medical Library Association.
- And we're pleased to welcome back to campus Julie Coonrod, currently the acting Dean for Anderson School of Management, who spent the last year serving as an American Council on Education Fellow at the University of Maryland.

- Three of our professors were recently announced by the Mellon Foundation for their research proposals.
- We are also proud to have faculty winning awards from prestigious organizations across the nation and around the world, recognized for their writing, research, their public service, and, in some cases, their tuba playing.

SUSTAINABILITY

One of the most ambitious goals of UNM 2040 deals with sustainability; that is, engaging in the kind of long-term thinking, planning, and investment in the necessary resources—human, financial, and physical—to achieve our aspirations while protecting our environment.

This kind of long-term planning requires innovative thinking—and we are perhaps at our most innovative when it comes to our research. As our state’s flagship university and only Research 1 institution in New Mexico, we’re used to looking at, and engaging with, the world differently.

Ideas into Action

You might have heard me mention before that UNM is a comprehensive, Carnegie-designated Research 1 university—one of only 131 in the nation—which means we are considered to have “very high research activity.”

What this means in practice is that innovation infuses everything we do, from business to biochemistry, English to engineering. Our diverse research and creative works enable student success, engage local and global communities, foster innovation, and create new knowledge.

And we’ve got the numbers to back us up. In the last academic year, we granted 174 research doctoral awards. And our total expenditures for research last year? Over \$309 million—and that’s just in a single year. We don’t just believe in New Mexico—we’re putting our money where our mouth is, and making an investment in our state, both now and in the future.

But we’re also a very special kind of Research 1 university, in that, given the makeup of our student body, we also have the privilege of being a Hispanic Serving Institution. While there are about 570 HSIs nationally, only 20 or so are, like us, also Research 1, which is why 21 of us have joined together to found the Alliance of Hispanic Serving Research Universities. As a group, we’re committed to increasing both the number of Hispanic graduate degrees we grant, as well as the number of Hispanic educators we have teaching.

Our innovation is as limitless as our imagination, and I am excited about the work we’re doing. Let me give you just a sample of some of the incredible things our researchers are doing at The University of New Mexico.

Grand Challenges

There is perhaps no initiative that embodies our culture of inquiry and innovation quite like UNM’s Grand Challenges, which encourages our researchers—faculty, students, staff and community members alike—to work across campuses, across disciplines, and across New Mexico on some of the state’s toughest problems.

When we launched the Grand Challenges in 2019, we focused on three big issues: Sustainable Water Resources, Substance Use Disorders, and Successful Aging. Four years later, we’ve turned our initial investment of \$2.1 million into \$50 million—and now, we’re looking to expand our Grand Challenges, investing in exciting new ideas and new initiatives.

Last year, we introduced ten new Level 1 concept teams, covering research areas from child health and housing justice to STEM education and sustainable space research—and now, another year later, we’re deciding which of these ten will make it to Level 2 and be chosen to join the official roster of our Challenges.

By expanding and reimagining our Grand Challenges for the coming decades, we are encouraging and celebrating innovation at UNM, while creating exciting new opportunities for the citizens of New Mexico.

We R1

Across our colleges and across our campuses, Lobo researchers have truly embraced the R1 standard of “very high research activity,” expanding our knowledge of the world around us—and beyond.

- For instance, NASA selected UNM’s Institute for Space and Nuclear Power Studies to receive an Early Stage Innovation research award, a three-year, \$650,000 award that Lobo scientists will use to develop technology for nuclear power and propulsion systems necessary for deep space travel.
- Closer to home, our researchers are part of a consortium developing new ways to evaluate American Indian patients for Alzheimer’s and other dementias, under a five-year, \$10 million grant from by the National Institute on Aging.
- Using a four-year, \$1.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation, one Lobo research team—called Project VolCAN—made history by being the first team to develop the technology needed to collect uncontaminated gases from an active volcanic eruption.
- One of the biggest local news stories of last year was the devastating fires that raged through Ruidoso and other parts of our state. Thanks to a \$3.7 million grant from the National Insitute on Aging, UNM researchers are studying how exposure to wildfire smoke creates signs of premature aging in the brain—and are looking for ways to slow the process.
- Similar research is also underway using a three-year, \$4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to study way to improve the cognitive symptoms of traumatic brain injury in our veterans.
- And with the recent legalization of cannabis in our state, you can bet that Lobo researchers are already studying the impacts this has on our economy and the sales of pharmaceuticals. Oh, and we’ve also got researchers studying whether cannabis use can help make you a nicer, more empathetic person!

ONE UNIVERSITY

I’ve talked a lot about the way we at UNM think about the world around us—but as a foundation for achieving our UNM 2040 goals, it’s also vital that we look within. How do we view ourselves as a university? We R1 doesn’t just describe our research; it’s our state of mind as an institution. We understand that our One University is comprised of many parts, working together toward a shared mission.

A Part of The Community

It starts with our fantastic branch campuses in Gallup, Los Alamos, Valencia, and Taos. These aren’t outliers; they’re our presence in your communities, and a vital part of who we are. Each has a distinct character, with distinctive pursuits fine-tuned to the specific needs of their region, whether it’s the local economy or local agriculture.

- At the always busy UNM-Taos branch, we formally opened the new UNM-Taos STEM building, providing students in northern New Mexico with access to training for the skills they need for high-demand jobs in our rural communities.
 - I am also proud to note that our UNM-Taos nursing students attained a 100 percent passing rate on the National Nursing Licensure Exam last year—a testament to the rigorous education and training our aspiring nurses receive at our northernmost campus.
- UNM-Los Alamos continues to strive to meet the needs of its incredibly diverse area employers, working closely with local entrepreneurs, the Los Alamos Chamber of Commerce, and Los Alamos MainStreet to encourage innovative startups across the region.

- As a member of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, it was honor to see our team from UNM-Valencia present at HACU's national conference in San Diego, bringing their unique perspective on providing students with non-academic services like resource centers and food pantries.
- And I am delighted that UNM-Gallup was awarded \$2.5 million from the New Mexico Higher Education Department for Endowed Faculty in Educator Preparation, which it will use to create a tenured faculty position to grow the pipeline of trained teachers entering K-12 classrooms in the Gallup-McKinley County Schools.
- Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't mention our facility out in Rio Rancho, the UNM Sandoval Regional Medical Center, which was recently certified as a Level III trauma center. This means it is equipped to handle the needs of lower-level trauma patients whose injuries can be treated by a general surgeon or an orthopaedic surgeon, rather than transported to the Level I trauma center at UNM Hospital in Albuquerque.

A Foundation of Success

I continue to be awed and humbled by the generosity of our alumni, faculty, staff, and friends around the world who believe in us, and believe in our mission. The UNM Foundation is proud to note that 2022 was a record-breaking year in gifts and commitments.

Did we hit our fundraising goal for the year? Did we ever.

- We brought in a stunning \$126 million; that's 143 percent of our original goal, reflecting nearly 30,000 individual donations—including some very substantive gifts.
- We had an incredible gift from a graduate of the College of Engineering, who gave \$5 million to endow, and rename, the Gerald May Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering.

Our donors tell me how inspired they are by our innovative research, scholarship, and compassionate health care, and they remain firm in their conviction that a thriving UNM makes for successful New Mexico. I am constantly moved by their faith in UNM and their passion for the transformative power of a Lobo education.

The Lobo Legacy

And what a great year it was for our Lobo alumni as well, as we celebrated plenty of firsts. Where to begin?

- How about in January 2022, when **Cynthia Chavez Lamar** was named director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian—the first Native woman to be named as a Smithsonian Museum director.
- Three months later, Lobo alum **Jack Dongarra** was awarded the prestigious Turing Award for his groundbreaking work in high-performance computing and Artificial Intelligence. And what a joy it was to celebrate his accomplishment with him when he visited campus late last year.
- You can now add our first Grammy winner to our list of Lobo alums, as **Colonel Jim R. Keene**, Class of 1988, won the Grammy Award for Best Immersive Audio Album for the recording Soundtrack of the American Soldier, on which he conducted The United States Army Field Band.
- And what a thrill it was for the entire Lobo community to see musician and Lobo alum **Raven Chacon**, Class of 2001, win the 2022 Pulitzer Prize for Music. As a Dine composer, Chacon is the first Indigenous musician, as well as the first New Mexican, to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music. Wow.
- Finally, just last month, we had the thrill of seeing another Lobo, **Richelle Montoya**, elected Vice President of the Navajo Nation—the first woman elected to that position.

Transformative Leadership

As we've seen, One University is made up of a lot of moving parts. Keeping track of all those parts is hard work—and The University of New Mexico is incredibly fortunate to have a remarkable team of leaders, whose energy, expertise, and enthusiasm spark innovation, strengthen our One University and enrich our entire community.

Over the past year, we have filled a number of key positions with some outstanding new Lobo leaders:

- Dr. Samuel Dosumu is our new chancellor at UNM-Valencia.
- Dr. Sabrina Ezzell was recently named Chancellor at UNM-Gallup.
- Dr. Patricia Finn was named Dean of the UNM School of Medicine, only the fifth dean in the school's six-decade history.
- Dr. Mike Holtzclaw was named Chancellor at UNM-Los Alamos.
- Dr. Steve McLaughlin assumed the role of Chief Medical Officer at UNM Hospital.
- Dr. Donna Riley was named dean of the UNM School of Engineering.
- Eric Scott was formally named as Vice President for Student Affairs.

Finally, we also named Mike Puelle as our new Chief Government Relations Officer and put him to work almost immediately up in Santa Fe, where he has been shepherding UNM's legislative priorities through the State Legislature. In a little more than two weeks, the First Session of the 56th New Mexico State Legislature will adjourn for the year, and Mike and his team will have plenty of news to report at that time.

I am grateful, as always, to our faculty, staff, and leadership team, who make The University of New Mexico a successful and supportive place to work, learn, and live. Thank you for your care and commitment; it is a privilege to work with you.

CONCLUSION: LEADING FROM STRENGTH

It has obviously been an incredible year at The University of New Mexico; I'm delighted with where we've been and have never been more excited about where we're going. With the guiding principles of UNM 2040 serving as our compass, we move into the future from a position of strength, certainty, and—as always—pride and optimism.

In the five years that I have had the privilege of leading UNM, I have watched with awe as this amazing institution—which was already growing and evolving when I arrived—has steadily transformed into one of the most unique and pre-eminent universities in the region, if not the nation. It's not just in our commitment to great research, a terrific education, or the quality health care we provide as the state's only academic health center; the real work has been done in the details—from the quality of our leadership and faculty and staff to our transparent strategic planning process. It's in the way we've leaned on each other during the times of political and social upheaval. It's also in the way we find strength in our diversity and pride in our unity as Lobos.

As I begin my sixth year at The University of New Mexico, I have never been prouder to be your president. Our state is truly the Land of Achievement, and the University *for* New Mexico will always be here to help ensure that all New Mexicans can dream boldly, aspire fiercely, and achieve confidently.

Thank you for listening today, and let's go Lobos!