

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon.

Thank you to all the students who came to University House last Thursday for a root beer float. It was important to me to open up this historic house to students during the first couple months of my presidency. I enjoyed meeting so many Lobos and the opportunity to share a few moments with each of you. My husband, Jeff, and I were touched by the overwhelming turnout and hope to be able to do more of these events in the future.

Athletics Budget

As we approach our May 1 deadline for submitting the UNM budget to the NM Higher Education Department, I want to share some information regarding what we have to do to satisfy the requirements they have imposed. I realize there has been some heated debate on the subject of our athletics department budget over the years, but nonetheless, Lobo athletics is an important part of our culture and a part of the student experience.

At the recent budget summit, the Board of Regents charged me with proposing a solution to balance the FY19 athletics budget, while concurrently developing a detailed plan to reduce a multi-year deficit. Athletics Director Eddie Nuñez and I are in full agreement that addressing the concerns cited by both internal and external examinations is a priority, and balancing this budget will not be possible without making some tough decisions. We have been working with a team of talented financial professionals within the University to create both a plan to reduce the existing deficit and to craft a responsible budget for the future, which was presented at last week's Board of Regents Finance and Facility meeting. After receiving important feedback and providing additional information, we are prepared to present a realistic and responsible plan to the full Board tomorrow, that will allow athletics to balance its budget, be removed from enhanced fiscal watch, and build stronger relationships with our constituents across campus and within the state.

UNM Student Veteran Resource Conference

Our student veteran population offers a rich source of diversity and experience, which contributes to our intellectual community in many ways. I am excited to be a part of the [Sound-Off Conference](#) hosted by several of our student veteran organizations tomorrow, Tuesday, April 17. Please join us in exploring opportunities afforded to our brave men and women at UNM and their families, as well as recognizing staff members who have served our country.

Finalists Selected for UNMH CEO

I am privileged to be involved in the search for the next UNM Hospital CEO at the Health Sciences Center, which houses New Mexico's only teaching hospital. I am pleased to announce that [three finalists have been selected for the position of CEO](#) to head The University of New Mexico Hospitals. Each will speak at a

town hall, where members of the UNM community will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. The town halls will take place in the auditorium at UNM's Domenici Center for Health Sciences Education on the following dates:

- Herb Buchanan: Tuesday, April 17, 8 - 9:30 a.m.
- Kate Becker: Friday, April 20, 9:30 to 11 a.m.
- Deborah McGrew: Tuesday, April 24, 8 to 9:30 a.m.

National Student Employment Week

Last week, we celebrated National Student Employment Week. This was a fantastic opportunity for us to highlight the great work of our student employees and what they contribute to our university. Festivities during the weeklong celebration included a carnival, a summer job and internship fair, and culminated in a Student Employee Awards ceremony. I would like to congratulate Sophia Sombrano, who is the 2018 Student Employee of the Year, along with the other five finalists including: Maria Concepcion Anchondo, Josh Lane, Kayliss Sanchez, Josh Valenzuela and Micaiah Weiss. Thank you to all the students for their hard work and commitment to making UNM a great place to study, work, and to reach their academic and professional goals.

IT Planned Outage

EVP David Harris recently [sent out a memo](#) informing the campus of a planned power outage over the Memorial Day weekend for the building that hosts the UNM IT Data Center. Further details regarding the outage will be forthcoming. Thank you to the staff at IT for keeping us in business!

Finally, thanks so much to the many of you who have responded with suggestions for my summer reading list. I am currently reviewing your recommendations and will be sure to share what I choose in the near future. Your feedback to my 'ask a lobo' questions has been invaluable and, while I don't have a specific question for this week, I will be coming back to you in the future for your ideas and perspectives.

Have a great week and go Lobos!

Garnett S. Stokes
President

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