

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon.

It is clear to me that we have a lot to discuss on our campus. Part of what I have pledged to do is listen and reflect on the information I have before me, ask good questions and make the best decisions for this university using a consultative approach. Each one of us has a stake in the success of UNM. While I will create as many opportunities to invite conversation – whether it be opinions, advice or criticism – I hope you too make curiosity, discussion and debate a part of your Lobo experience.

Many thanks to those of you who attended my first campus-wide town hall or joined us via social media earlier today. If you missed the conversation, the town hall is available on the [UNM Facebook page](#). I will be conducting a second town hall on north campus this Thursday, May 3 from noon – 1 p.m. in the HSC Domenici Auditorium. It will also be live-streamed on the [HSC Facebook page](#).

Supporting Opportunities to be Successful at UNM

Accessibility to higher education is about more than just opening our doors to students – it's also making sure they can get through them. The [UNM Accessibility Resource Center](#) (ARC) is a key part of how we, as a Lobo community, meet our students' individual learning needs. This campus program is critical to the success of students with varying physical or mental disabilities, both visible and invisible. I am amazed at how students like [Toby Montoya, a retired U.S. Army Veteran](#), utilize the services offered by ARC to not only make classes accessible, but to also have positive experiences that lead to attainment of educational goals. UNM is a place for all learners to accomplish what can be perceived as the seemingly impossible.

Chief Legal Counsel Search

Today we are kicking off a [national search for our next chief legal counsel](#). This critical position provides comprehensive legal services to the Board of Regents and the University's senior leadership. I have assembled a search committee of individuals from within the University who bring the experience and expertise necessary to recruit the new chief legal counsel. The recruitment process will also be supported by the search firm, Academic Search. I would like to thank Regent Rob Doughty for agreeing to chair the committee. I would also like to thank Elsa Cole, who is retiring from this position in May, for her service to the University – best wishes on behalf of UNM.

Summer Reading List

The summer is always spent with my nose in a good book. This year, I plan on immersing myself in all things New Mexico by traveling this great state and reading about it as well. Thanks to your wonderful, diverse suggestions, my 2018 summer reading list includes the following:

- Bless Me, Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya
- Death Comes for the Archbishop by Willa Cather
- A Brief History of New Mexico by Myra Ellen Jenkins and Albert H. Schroeder
- The Wind Leaves No Shadows by Ruth Laughlin
- Roadside New Mexico: A Guide to Historic Markers by David Pike
- Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko

I hope that these books provide me with some insight into the state's culture and geography. If you have not done so already, please consider reading these books along with me this summer. I want to mention that many of you suggested that I read anything written by Tony Hillerman. His books are not on my summer reading list because I believe I have read every piece of fiction he wrote! Thanks so much to all of you who took the time to suggest books.

Go Lobos!

Garnett S. Stokes
President

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