

## PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon.

I am still feeling the glow of this weekend's celebrations. Like so many of our graduates, the commencement and installation ceremonies were made all the more special by having my friends and family there to share the day. I was [honored to address our graduates and the Lobo community](#), to confer more than 3,800 degrees and be inspired by the wise and heartfelt message delivered by Ian McKinnon to our newest alums. Congratulations to all our graduates!

I'm looking forward to kicking off my listening tour of New Mexico this week, by traveling to Los Alamos to spend time getting to know both the branch campus and the city. This promises to be a busy and productive summer and I will keep you all updated on what I learn. In turn, I hope you keep the suggestions and comments flowing.

### What we [Discover] Changes the World

Each month in my report at the Board of Regent's meeting, I try to share significant research accomplishments and objectives. I want to make sure these weekly messages also highlight what UNM contributes to the knowledge pool through study and innovation. A shared understanding of what we do helps all of us to better tell the UNM story.

Dr. Felisa Smith in the Department of Biology led a National Science Foundation funded collaborative research effort that showed the loss of the largest species on each continent over time is a [hallmark of human activity, both past and present](#). This study, published recently in the prestigious journal Science, demonstrates the value and impact of our research mission.

From May 18-20, the inaugural [UNM Health Hackathon](#) will be held at the Domenici Center for Health Sciences Education. This is a truly interdisciplinary effort across several University departments to stimulate innovation in health care by promoting collaborations that could result in new research prototyping that could help in treating, curing or preventing diseases.

### Getting Ahead Over the Summer

Even though we just completed the spring semester and have a short intersession period, I want to remind our current students that UNM has a [significant number of course offerings](#) for those who want to attend summer classes. [The summer session](#) is a great time to get ahead, catch up, tackle a challenging class or complete a core requirement within your individual degree plans.

Go Lobos!  
Garnett S. Stokes  
President

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