

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon.

With many of our students on break, and the summer session not yet begun, I hope you are getting a chance to catch your breath and enjoy this beautiful New Mexico weather. This was a very busy and informative week for me as I got a chance to meet with our student orientation leaders, visit a branch campus, [be a guest on KNME's New Mexico in Focus](#) and attend The UNM Foundation's board retreat.

Listening Tour Begins at Los Alamos Branch

Last Wednesday I embarked upon my official Listening Tour, which will continue throughout the summer. [I traveled north to Los Alamos](#), arriving early at the UNM branch campus. Not only were the people welcoming and informative, but I also found the rich history surrounding the campus, the city and Los Alamos National Labs absolutely fascinating. It was an honor to talk to LANL leadership about current partnerships and possible future collaborations. In addition, I was able to explore the Bradbury Museum and the New Mexico Consortium – and feel the pride of a space used by not only UNM researchers, but NMT, NMSU and LANL as well. Needless to say, one of the highlights for me was meeting with students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members; and being able to immerse myself in their perspectives and passion for engaging in higher learning. I left early today for a two-day trip to Grants, Gallup, Window Rock and Zuni. I'll be [documenting the highlights of each visit](#) on my website as well as adding my itinerary as plans are finalized. If you'd like to join me on the road, virtually, consider following my Twitter account [@PresidentStokes](#).

NM Lottery Scholarship Receives A Boost

We received exciting news last Friday from the state Higher Education Department, which released the numbers for this year's [Lottery Scholarship funding](#). UNM and other research sector institution students will receive more money for tuition than anticipated. Each student who is eligible for the Lottery Scholarship during the 2018-2019 school year will receive up to \$2,294 per semester. That's a significant increase from what we had anticipated, which is sure to help ease the financial burden of our students and their families.

What We [Give] Changes the World *

Those who give to UNM expect their contributions to have an impact, and by working with the UNM Foundation, they are able to align those expectations to the strengths, innovation and excellence of this University. Last week I had the great pleasure of attending the Foundation's board retreat. I would like to thank these outstanding community leaders and volunteers for their ongoing commitment to the success of UNM. One of the most significant highlights was the announcement that Changing Worlds 2020: The Campaign for UNM had [met its \\$1 billion goal early](#), counting both immediately ready gifts to the University as well as pledged, endowed and estate gifts. I would sincerely like to express my gratitude to our many donors, alumni, foundations and corporations who support our students, faculty and programs. The campaign continues until 2020, and I can't wait to see what we can achieve together.

Honoring Patriotism, Commitment and Valor

To paraphrase President John F. Kennedy, 'a nation reveals itself not only by the people it produces, but also by the people it remembers, the people it honors.' Memorial Day falls on May 28, a week from today. As this is a three-day weekend for many of us, I'd like to ask that we all take some time that day to give thought to the military members of our families, communities and country. We honor those who have served, those who continue to serve and those who have sacrificed in order to protect our freedoms.

I will resume my weekly message on June 4. Have a wonderful week and go Lobos!

Garnett S. Stokes
President

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