

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

Good afternoon.

Service to the communities we serve infuses and inspires how we approach supporting and teaching our students, as well as the problems we seek to solve. Our understanding of those we serve - their needs and expectations - is critical to creating pathways to successful outcomes.

Serving our Student Veterans

Part of my student veteran initiative here at UNM is to create a deeper awareness of the factors that impact our veterans in their transition to civilian and student life. Together with the Veterans Resource Center and Provost Abdallah, I would like to invite anyone who may be working with student veterans in any capacity to attend a one-day workshop on July 23, [*Serving Those Who Served: Foundations for Working with Veterans*](#). Experts will address issues such as military culture, recognizing PTSD, traumatic brain injury, potential implications for suicide prevention and community resources for veterans. This will be followed by a two-day in-depth, specialized training in Cognitive Processing Therapy, an evidence-based treatment modality for PTSD. This course is designed for qualified clinicians who anticipate delivering treatment to individuals with PTSD in the course of their work. To RSVP or to obtain more information, [please contact my office](#).

What We [Discover] Changes the World

Alzheimer's is a disease that currently impacts five million Americans. I'm sure most of us know someone in our personal circles who has been affected by the devastating cognitive deficits that are the hallmark of this disease. While there is no cure, research continues to identify the risk factors and possible ways to slow down or prevent the onset of Alzheimer's. Here at UNM, Dr. Benjamin Clark and his team are contributing to this understanding by [studying a particular group of brain cells that could be linked to the disease](#), and offering insights into its progression and possible interventions. This type of research is not only critical to addressing an impending health crisis, but also serves to highlight the value to the community of research at a public research university.

Tour Continues to Southeastern New Mexico

Today, I will be visiting Kirtland Air Force Base to learn more about our research collaborations and the career paths available to our graduates, especially in the STEM fields. The remainder of the week takes me to southeast New Mexico, beginning in Clovis tomorrow morning and extending on to Portales, Hobbs, Artesia, Carlsbad, Roswell, Ruidoso and Alamogordo. I'm looking forward to meeting with and listening to the citizens of those communities, as well as driving along the Billy the Kid Trail and visiting the famous Carlsbad Caverns. I'll continue to [share the highlights of my trips](#) or you can consider following my Twitter account [@PresidentStokes](#).

Have a great week and go Lobos!

Garnett S. Stokes
President

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