Good afternoon.

Our students are leading the way in demonstrating the transformative power that a culture of giving — in all of its forms — can have in our community. I have been so impressed with our student-run LoboTHON campaign and am grateful that I was able to be a part of it. This weekend the sixth annual LoboTHON dance marathon brought it home, keeping dancers on their feet for 13.1 hours, and reaching this year’s fundraising goal of over $100,000 to benefit the kids of UNM Children’s Hospital. Thanks to everyone who participated in, contributed to and supported giving every child a chance to be a Lobo.

Class of 1969 Golden Graduates Reunite
One of the most rewarding things about meeting our alumni is hearing their stories as they recall their time here at UNM. As part of commencement each year, we celebrate not only our newest alumni, but also those who have been part of the Lobo family for decades. Our Golden Graduates are Lobos who are celebrating the 50th anniversary of their graduation from UNM—this year, it’s the class of 1969. The Golden Graduate and Heritage Club celebration originally started out to honor those who missed graduation due to military service during World War II and the Korean Conflict. Through the years, it’s become a high point for the Lobo community to rally around during commencement season. Be sure to look for the gold-colored robes during commencement; they symbolize the dedication, commitment and steadfastness of our UNM alumni.

Legacy & Hope: Celebrating 50 Years of El Centro de la Raza
Speaking of golden anniversaries, El Centro de La Raza just celebrated its 50th year of service to The University of New Mexico. On Friday, El Centro celebrated both its history and aspirations for the future, hosting an event to honor several individuals who have demonstrated leadership, courage and advocacy, and to fundraise for the scholarship fund, building a strong foundation for scholarship recipients. Through its evolution from Chicano Student Services to Hispanic Student Services, and now to El Centro de la Raza, the center offers guidance to students entering The University of New Mexico, builds community and assists them in numerous ways to navigate higher education. ¡Feliz Aniversario!

Anderson School of Management Recognized
The Anderson School of Management is producing successful graduates on multiple levels, and it's being recognized on a national scale. Both the MBA and EMBA programs were recently ranked as Tier 1 global programs of 2019 by CEO Magazine. This is the third time ASM has made the list. Anderson also came in at no. 74 for part-time MBA programs on the U.S. News and World Report rankings. In addition to being heralded by ranking elites, ASM recently recognized its 2019 School of Management Hall of Fame and Young Alumni Honorees, Lillian Montoya, Jerry Pacheco, Alice Loy, C. Thomas Daulton, Amanda Armenta and James Trudeau each truly embody what it means to be an ASM alumnus. They each have made significant impacts on our community through their professional success and personal commitment to education—we are proud to have them in the Lobo family!
Faculty Petition for Unionization Progresses
The process for determining the outcome of the petition for faculty unionization is well underway. The University responded to the union Petition on Monday, March 18. Before an election may be held, differing opinions about appropriate bargaining units must be resolved either by the Union and University themselves, or through a hearing before The University of New Mexico Labor Management Relations Board (the Board). Further, the Board must certify that the Union has presented a sufficient showing of interest in being represented by a union by proposed bargaining unit members. This week, an initial mediated meeting between the University and the Union will take place to determine if there are areas of agreement relating to the Petition and Response and which matters may require a hearing. The current process is standard and is set forth in detail in the UNM Labor Management Relations Resolution and in the Rules and Regulations governing labor management relations at UNM. I support all of our faculty and their choices as we contemplate the various dimensions of unionization and thoroughly examine the associated complex issues.

Provost Open Forums Began this Week
Today we held the first of several public forums featuring candidates for the Provost and EVP for Academic Affairs. These forums are a chance for members of the campus and the wider community to better understand each candidate’s vision and leadership style, while also sharing thoughts and ideas about what’s working on our campus and what needs to change. If you were unable to attend today’s staff, faculty or community forum, they are available for the next 72 hours online for your review. All future forums for other candidates will also be livestreamed and recordings made available. Please note you will need to login using your NetID and password in order to view the livestreams and recordings. Thank you to those who took time out of their day to attend or watch the forums; your input is invaluable during this process. Please consider giving the UNM administration and search committee feedback on the candidates by taking part in the survey available.

Have a great week, and let’s go Lobos!

Garnett S. Stokes
President