



# PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



Good afternoon.

*July 8, 2019*

Welcome back from the holiday! Whether you remained on-campus or ventured out of state, I hope you had a safe, relaxing and enjoyable Independence Day weekend. To those who continued to support the functions of the University, thank you for your dedication to serving our students, patients and fellow New Mexicans. My husband, Jeff, and I caught up with some great friends and put a dent in our to-do list.

## **White House Invites UNM to Quantum Information Science Discussion**

Our research endeavors continue to create outcomes that build incomes – in addition to launching our country into previously undiscovered territory. We were [one of just 25](#) universities to be represented at the recent White House Academic Roundtable on Quantum Information Science in Washington, D.C. UNM is pivotal in advancing Quantum Information Science (QIS) and has played a key role since the field emerged 25 years ago. The research spearheaded by UNM's Center for [Quantum Information and Control \(CQuIC\)](#) could result in completely re-writing what we know of computing, technology and cybersecurity.

## **Keeping Vanishing Languages Alive**

As our alumni move out into the world, they continue to write our Lobo history, which starts during their studies at UNM. A great example of this is the work Shelece Esterday, who received her Ph.D. in Linguistics here in 2017, and is now doing [research on vanishing languages](#). She is examining how sound patterns are changing and what that could mean for language loss, particularly in the Pacific Northwest, the Caucasus Mountains, Northeast Asia, Patagonia and some indigenous cultures. Without research like hers, these ancient languages will continue becoming even more rare as the generations cease to pass them down. Shelece is presenting her research in Italy this fall, and we wish her all the best! This important work applies to our own tribal communities as well. Recently, UNM student and Zuni community member Arin Peywa took part in UNM Libraries' creation of [a collection of digitized books and posters published by Zuni pueblo's bilingual education department](#) in an effort to support the preservation of the Zuni language.

## **Reaching Back Out to New Mexico Communities**

Recently, I had the opportunity to travel back to Hobbs, New Mexico, which was one of the stops on last year's statewide listening and learning tour. This area of the state is facing considerable changes. As the University for New Mexico, it's important that we expand our reach into communities like Hobbs, providing an accessible and affordable four-year education for those who seek to pursue it. By meeting with community leaders like Bob Reid of the [JF Maddox Foundation](#) and President Kelvin Sharp of the [New Mexico Junior College](#), I believe we can find innovative solutions to connecting the people of Southeastern New Mexico with the outstanding resources and opportunities UNM has to offer.

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

Garnett S. Stokes  
President