



# PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



*August 12, 2019*

Good afternoon.

The best way to engage together in how we move UNM forward is to participate in the many opportunities afforded the campus community throughout the year. We had more than 120 people attend the employee town hall last week, more than 70 who watched online and several who emailed questions and comments. Thank you for taking the time to discuss your concerns and share your perspectives and ideas with me. The issues that were brought forth provided the foundation for a robust conversation on many topics, including campus safety.

One of my biggest priorities is maintaining safe surroundings for our students, faculty, staff and visitors on-campus while continuing to ensure an open environment for the off-campus community to participate in social, cultural and intellectual programs and events. Whether you are a parent, a new student, a returning Lobo or a member of our faculty or staff, know that I hear your concerns and am working closely with UNM Police Chief Kevin McCabe and other leaders to address them.

To that end, the UNM Police Department (UNMPD) recently hired six new officers, which is further enhancing security on-campus and helping to proactively deter crimes from occurring. I am also happy to report that car theft decreased on the campus in 2018. The final statistics for the year will be released on October 1, 2019, but the preliminary numbers are trending positive. I believe that this change can be attributed to the additional police officers, the strategic placement of cameras in various parking lots, our increased coordination with the City of Albuquerque Police Department, and the vigilance of our campus community.

Last week, Chief McCabe and I took part in National Night Out, meeting with members of the neighborhood associations to the west and east of campus to discuss safety concerns. The UNM Safety Council - made up of members from across the campus community - is also focusing on issues of importance and collaborating on innovative ways to address concerns while also playing a role in the planning of [UNM Safety Week](#) Sept. 3-6, 2019.

Please continue to communicate your safety concerns to me, UNMPD, the Safety Council, or other members of the UNM leadership team. I also encourage you to watch out for your fellow Lobos by reporting any suspicious behavior. I will be updating you here on important campus safety issues as the semester progresses; I believe that together we will make UNM a safer place to learn and work.

## **Welcoming Students Back on Campus!**

This week our resident Lobos will be moving into campus housing, so please be sure to give them a friendly hello, offer directions or even lend a hand. The weekend will kick off with [Friday Night Live](#) at the Student Union Building (SUB), offering students a number fun activities - and, of course, food! Sunday, August 18,

we will officially welcome members of the incoming class of 2023 and their families at [Freshman Family Day](#). The formal Freshman Convocation takes place at 4 p.m. in Popejoy Hall. Afterwards there will be an opportunity for students to go on a “campus crawl” to find their classrooms and attend a reception that includes food and a chance to meet fellow Lobos, followed by a movie on Johnson Field. For many, this is a day that students have spent years preparing for and I hope you will join me in welcoming them to UNM.

### **Arts & Sciences Junior Faculty Honored as Regents' Lecturers**

Our faculty are often the face of UNM, representing our institution not only to students, but also to our peer institutions and the public at large. In the spirit of recognizing remarkable achievements, the UNM College of Arts and Sciences has named this year's [Regents' Lecturers](#). The honorees are Luis Campos (History Department), Irene Salinas (Biology Department) and Owen Whooley (Sociology Department). The three-year appointments recognize these faculty members' dedication as teachers, researchers and scholars both on-campus and within their respective disciplines. Congratulations Drs. Campos, Salinas and Whooley, and thank you for your continued leadership and service to the University.

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

Garnett S. Stokes  
President