



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



August 19, 2019

Good afternoon.

It is my great pleasure to welcome all Lobos to the official first day of the 2019 Fall semester! I enjoyed meeting some of our new on-campus residents as they moved into the dorms Friday, and reconnecting with returning students as they got settled in before classes start this week. In addition, Sunday's [Freshman convocation](#) was a great first campus tradition for the class of 2023 and their families to participate in - many thanks to all who attended as well as to the University Secretary's Office, Student Activities Center, Dean of Students and Director of Residence Life for all of the planning, preparation and hard work that goes into this weekend.

As a resident Lobo myself, I have a few recommendations that might help you feel a part of our active campus community. All this week, [Welcome Back Days events will be taking place around campus](#) - including lots of free food and endless opportunities to learn about departments, clubs, student organizations and campus leaders. Check out [The Lobo Life](#) to see what adventures UNM students are experiencing in the Land of Enchantment. In the coming months, consider putting on your cherry and silver and going to a Lobos game - and don't forget that [students can get into regular-season games for free](#) with your UNM ID. Take advantage of our [beautiful and iconic campus libraries](#) to study or just get a cup of coffee. Also, don't forget to download the [Lobo Guardian app](#), which connects you to a network of campus safety resources. Most of all, if in doubt, never hesitate to ask - your professor, resident advisor, classmate, or any of the numerous staff here on campus...or ask me. We are here to support and encourage every Lobo to realize their dreams and their best self.

One of the best ways to keep up with the happenings around campus is by following UNM on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#), and engaging with Lobo social media. I'm also enjoying connecting with students, faculty and staff on my own [President Stokes Twitter account](#), so "follow" me if you're interested in learning more about the life of a university president. In addition to these weekly messages, I will continue holding [traveling office hours](#) across campus, and I look forward to meeting many more Lobos and hearing their thoughts, questions and concerns.

I'd also like to take a moment to remind all our new and returning students, faculty and staff about the incredible [resources we have available to you](#) on campus. We are a pack - while we are all individuals, no one is alone on this campus, and there are countless people here dedicated to helping you succeed. Whether you need help [academically](#), [personally](#) or [professionally](#), there are resources available to assist you in tackling and overcoming any challenges, great or small. And as we continue through the semester, please don't forget to take some time for yourself, both mentally and physically.

Outside our campus boundaries, there is a whole other community waiting to embrace you as well. Even if you are from Albuquerque, there is always something new to discover: endless trails in the mountains, museums, cultural events, and an entire state waiting to be your classroom, your lab and your canvas.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President