Good afternoon.

“One of the marvelous things about community is that it enables us to welcome and help people in a way we couldn’t as individuals.” – Jean Vanier

We use the word ‘community’ often when we talk about our campus. The power of community here at UNM is what drives us to push our limits to create and discover; what moves us to form meaningful social connections built around common values and diverse backgrounds; and what inspires us to not only do well, but also to do good. As we enter the second week of school, I sincerely hope all of you are embracing your UNM experience. For our students, especially, UNM offers so many opportunities to expand your view of the world and enhance your critical thinking skills. That might come in the form of participating in student government, one of the many student organizations and clubs, or campus Greek life – perhaps even creating your own intellectual, social or adventure collective. Becoming involved in volunteer efforts also enhances our relationships with the communities that surround campus. However you go about it, I hope you become more connected to and through UNM, which will enhance your university experience and build a better community for everyone.

Sarah Belle Brown Award Nominations
We can never be afforded too many opportunities to celebrate the ways in which members of our campus community improve the lives of those around them through their inspirational spirit of service. Nominations for the 2019 Sarah Belle Brown Community Service Award are being accepted by my office now through the end of September. The award was established by Doug Brown, current president of the UNM Board of Regents and former dean of Anderson School of Management, to honor his wife, Sarah, for her dedication to outreach in our community and her compassion for those in need. Each year awards are given to a faculty member, a staff member, and a student who have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to our community by volunteering their time and expertise. The recipients receive $1,500 cash or scholarship, thanks to a generous endowment by Doug and Sarah Brown. If you know a Lobo who selflessly gives to those in need, please consider recognizing their kindness with a nomination.

Protect the Pack
Next week we’ll be kicking off National Campus Safety Awareness Month with our annual UNM Campus Safety Week. In its fourth year, events will span across north and central campus, including safety walks, ‘coffee with a cop’, and safety-themed presentations and trainings. The events are focused on helping UNM students, faculty and staff better understand the resources available to them and how to respond when faced with an emergency situation. I encourage the campus community to take advantage of the programming put together by the UNM Safety Council and its partners, and to also to engage in conversations about how we can continue to make our community a safe and positive environment.
Lobo Football Season Opener

Our Lobo Football season opener is this Saturday, Aug. 31, at Dreamstyle Stadium, where our student-athletes will take on Sam Houston State University at 4 p.m. Students, don’t forget that all UNM athletic event tickets are FREE for you if you are enrolled in at least six credit hours. Eligible staff and faculty also receive discounted season tickets. We hope to see the stadium filled with fans, showing cherry and silver pride in true Lobo fashion. The UNM Bookstores are starting up their Game Day Friday sales again, which will run through March 2020. Head to one of the bookstores on Fridays to grab your spirit gear for 25 percent off, and I look forward to seeing you at the game!

Since next Monday falls on a holiday, I will be resuming my weekly messages on September 9th. Have a great week, and let’s go Lobos!

Garnett S. Stokes
President