



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



September 16, 2019

Good afternoon.

There are so many ways in which we as a campus or as individuals grow our community through volunteering, civic engagement and charitable giving. Every year, our students, faculty and staff show the strength of the Lobo community spirit through contributing to the [UNM Gives Campaign](#), benefiting the United Way of Central New Mexico and UNM Foundation. Together, we raised close to one million dollars last year through this initiative and are aiming to exceed that during the 2019 campaign. This year we are launching the [UNM Gives Campaign](#) in a fun and uniquely New Mexican way – with a salsa cook off! The Salsa Showdown is an opportunity for members of the UNM community to put their culinary skills to the test and let the campus decide whose salsa or guacamole is the best, while also bringing awareness to the giving campaign. [You must register by Oct. 1](#) to enter the competition and it is limited to the first 20 entrants. If you're not interested in cooking, consider joining me in tasting and voting for the best on Oct. 7 at 11:30 a.m. in the SUB Atrium – the tasting is free and open to everyone. The winner of the competition will receive a year of free parking, courtesy of PATS. At UNM, each of us defines all of us, and it's the moments of giving, volunteering, and lending a helping hand that will further advance a campus culture of acceptance, growth and instigating positive change.

Transformative Access for a Digital Era

Our latest collaboration is digitally empowering our students, faculty and staff to tap into their creative side and apply it within their classrooms research, projects and coursework. As many of you know, [this summer UNM became the first and only Adobe Creative Campus in New Mexico](#), and one of a select number of campuses nationwide – thanks to the diligent work of the Provost's Office and Office of the Chief Information Officer. We are now [partnered with Adobe](#) to give students and faculty on central and north campus free, full access to the Adobe Creative Cloud Suite, and significantly reduced pricing for central and north campus staff and other constituencies at UNM, including branch students, faculty and staff. This agreement provides professional grade photo, video, audio, graphic design and animation tools to explore and produce digital innovations. It is an incredible resource and my personal thanks to those who contributed to making this partnership a reality. I hope you take advantage of this opportunity to expand our individual and collective creativity.

Honorary Degrees Recognize Extraordinary Contributions

Awarding a UNM honorary degree is a valuable way we recognize those among us who exemplify our mission to advance education, innovation and collaboration in New Mexico. Each year at spring commencement, Honorary Degree recipients are recognized for the ways in which they impact the Southwest through cultural, scientific, spiritual or material means. The Honorary Degrees Committee invites you to nominate [candidates who have significantly contributed to our communities and our greater society](#). The deadline for nominations Oct. 4, 2019.

Lobo Pride and Spirit

This past Saturday, our Lobo football team played to a sold-out crowd at Notre Dame (ranked 7th in the country). Though it was a tough game and we didn't prevail this time, the strong support of fans that both traveled to Indiana or watched from home was inspiring. This weekend the Lobos are taking on the NMSU Aggies, as they meet for the 110th time here in Albuquerque. This rivalry predates our statehood, having begun in 1894, and I'd love to see Dreamstyle Stadium filled with cherry and silver on Saturday. To get students ready for the game, ASUNM Lobo Spirit is holding its annual [Red Rally Bonfire and Pep Rally](#) on Thursday at 8 p.m. on Johnson Field, featuring our football team, spirit squads, Spirit Marching Band, and of course, the traditional burning of the Aggie.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President