



# PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



October 28, 2019

Good afternoon.

I hope all of you enjoyed last week's UNM Homecoming festivities and were able to reconnect with old friends, maybe make new acquaintances and celebrate the Lobo spirit that unites us all. My thanks to the UNM Alumni Association, Homecoming Committee, and countless departments who worked to ensure it was a success. The pride of our community was on full display throughout campus, which was looking amazing thanks to our Facilities Management staff and all those who participated in [ASUNM's Fall Frenzy campus clean-up](#). One of the best things about my job is meeting Lobos – past, present and future – on campus, around the neighborhood and throughout the state. If you see me, often accompanied by my husband Jeff, please don't hesitate to say hello. I welcome any opportunity to listen to the voices of this campus and our community to understand how UNM can continue to advance our mission.

## State Recognizes UNM Leaders for Public Service

I am so proud to share that the 50th celebration of the [Governor's New Mexico Distinguished Public Service Awards](#) includes two members of the Lobo family. Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Eliseo "Cheo" Torres and Distinguished Professor of Medicine Dr. Sanjeev Arora are two of the 10 New Mexicans chosen to receive this distinction for their outstanding contributions to public service. Dr. Arora, who is internationally-renowned for his founding of Project Echo, will also be honored for Lifetime Achievement. Congratulations to both of you for this well-deserved recognition!

## UNM Faculty Part of Interdisciplinary Working Group on 'Algorithmic Justice'

Being the University for New Mexico extends to the far-reaching influence and impact that we have beyond our state, as we strive to make a difference in the world for the greater good. With all the wonderful things technology has made possible, there is also the need to assess the way it may affect people and public policy. Several members of our [UNM faculty are part of a statewide team exploring fair housing laws](#), including how the use of algorithms to drive decision-making on housing applications may be inherently biased against certain groups of people. The working group's [response](#) to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) [proposal](#) to dramatically revise the Fair Housing Act is posted on the Federal Register.

## The Spirit of Giving Continues

This month, our campus has really come together to make the [2019 UNM Gives Campaign](#) a success, and I would like to express my gratitude and offer us all a chance to celebrate together. October 31st is the final day of the campaign, and you and your families are invited to come grab some Halloween treats and toothbrushes (courtesy of UNM Dental Hygiene Program) at my office in Scholes Hall between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. And if you haven't done so yet, there is still time to pledge monetary support or volunteer hours in support of the United Way of Central New Mexico and UNM Foundation. In addition, as part of my

commitment to recognizing the hard work of our UNM employees, [I have some basketball tickets to give away to faculty and staff!](#) Sets of two tickets for games throughout the season are available on a first come, first served basis. Thanks to each of you for your dedication to UNM.

### **2019 Mandatory Training Reminder**

Please keep in mind that the intent of mandatory training is to ensure we promote a safe working environment for everyone in the UNM system; that is why it is something we do every year. A reminder to those who haven't completed their 2019 Mandatory Training – the Dec. 1 deadline is rapidly approaching. All regular faculty and staff, temporary faculty and staff, on-call staff, and student employees, including graduate students, are required to complete the three designated university-wide mandatory training courses by Dec. 1. Individuals and supervisors can access their own and their employees learning assignments in [Learning Central](#).

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

Garnett S. Stokes  
President