



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



November 11, 2019

Good afternoon.

Growing up in a military family, and now married to a retired U.S. Army Colonel, it should come as no surprise that Veterans Day holds a special place in my heart. Throughout the years, seeing my family members don the uniforms of their chosen branch would always remind me of the service, sacrifice and courage it has taken to deliver us to where we are today. This morning, we remembered those who made the ultimate sacrifice in a ceremony at the UNM Alumni Chapel, as part of a long-standing tradition to celebrate our veteran service members and their families. To our student, staff and faculty veterans – thank you for your selfless service to our country and dedication to upholding the values that make us the United States of America.

Exploring Space from Earth's Surface

Back in March, it was announced that [UNM's Institute of Meteoritics was among the teams chosen](#) to study pieces of the Moon that were gathered on the Apollo 17 mission. Last week, the sample – untouched for 50 years – was opened so our [researchers could start studying](#) it to learn more about lunar polar ice deposits. Their findings will impact humans' ability to travel in space and explore new horizons. In that same vein, today we have the opportunity to witness Mercury cross paths with the sun, weather permitting. The observatory is open for the public every Friday evening of the UNM semester, 7-9 p.m. MST and 8-10 p.m. during daylight savings hours. For more information visit the [UNM Campus Observatory](#).

Funding Sustainable Water Practices

From the surface of the moon to the riverbeds of New Mexico, our researchers are pushing the boundaries of the known. Members of the UNM Grand Challenge team on Sustainable Water Resources would like input on ways to move forward with their research. Collaborative teams will take part in a half-day workshop on Tuesday, Nov. 12 to discuss ideas for targeted funding. [Participants can RSVP](#) online for the free event and choose what trajectory they wish to discuss; coffee and lunch will be provided. You are encouraged to bring your ideas to the table to discuss with other members of your assigned team.

Rolling out the Red Carpet for Future Lobos

This weekend we welcomed over 900 potential Lobos to campus as part of the [Fall Preview Day 2019](#). High school juniors and seniors, along with their parents, families and friends, filled Cornell Mall on Saturday morning. Prospective students received a true UNM welcome, including tours of campus and opportunities to speak with program and department representatives and to fill out applications to UNM. Events like Fall Preview Day are important to growing the Lobo family, and I thank each and every person who attended, helped spread the word, and took part in the event.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President