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PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE

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November 18, 2019

Good afternoon.

With the holidays approaching and end of the semester, and 2019, in sight, I would like to take time to remind our campus community to focus on kindness – to others and to ourselves. I hope that we can all find ways to encourage one another, either through words, actions or thoughts as we make our way through both the celebrations and challenges the end of the year tends to bring. Each of us defines all of us, so let us be defined by our kindness and willingness to recognize the struggles, contributions and triumphs of our fellow Lobos.

International Education Week Celebrates Global Lobos

This week, UNM celebrates global engagement by participating in the 19th annual International Education Week (IEW). The Global Education Office (GEO) is spearheading a local celebration here at UNM with opportunities to celebrate the benefits of international education and worldwide exchange. [There are events planned for everyday this week](#) including art exhibits, film showings, lectures – each an excellent opportunity to celebrate the culture of global citizenship we've cultivated here at UNM. These events are important in developing mutual understanding and respect, building global leadership, and investing in future relations between the U.S. and people from around the world.

Seeking Outstanding Women in STEM

ADVANCE at UNM has sought to increase the representation, diversity and advancement of women and minority faculty in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Through an anonymous gift made in 2015 to support the Women in STEM awards, this transformational program is now [looking for the next group of promising researchers for the 2020 awards](#). For first time, research assistants and associate faculty are eligible to submit proposals, and nominations are open earlier than usual this year in hope that more women will apply. Last year, [four scientists were given awards](#), which ranged from \$3,000 to \$15,000, and 31 women in a variety of STEM fields have received awards since 2016. Increasing and supporting the ranks of women in academic science and engineering careers is critical to the success of a diverse and excellent faculty, and I'm looking forward to learning about projects that will benefit from this award.

Women's Cross Country to Compete in NCAA Championships

I want to congratulate our Women's Cross Country team and their coach, Joe Franklin, for securing their spot at the NCAA Championships for the 12th year in row after [finishing in second place at the NCAA Mountain Regional](#) last Friday. A special congratulations to Weini Kelati for defending her regional title by a margin of 57 seconds! The Division 1 NCAA Cross Country Championships take place this Saturday, Nov. 23, in Terre Haute, Ind.

Lobos Celebrate Our Heroes

This weekend we will salute the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces and those who serve as First Responders during the annual [Heroes Day football game](#) vs. Air Force. It's happening Saturday, Nov. 23 and kickoff is at noon (this is the game that was rescheduled earlier this month). We'd like to say 'thank you' to all active-duty military personnel, veterans and first responders by offering them [discount tickets](#). In addition, I'm partnering with the Veterans Resource and Military Center (VRMC) to host a breakfast burrito tailgate for student veterans, first responders and their families. It's from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Stadium West Parking lot, and we will have a special gift for attendees. Although the tailgate is free, we do ask you [RSVP](#). Before the game starts, there will be displays by first responders, including a helicopter, fire truck and police vehicles that children and adults can enjoy. I hope to see you there!

Final Mandatory Training Reminder

We are quickly approaching the Dec. 1 deadline for 2019 Mandatory Training. With just a few days left, it is very important that all regular faculty and staff, temporary faculty and staff, on-call staff, and student employees (including graduate students), complete the three designated university-wide mandatory training courses. If you haven't done so already, please visit [Learning Central](#) to complete your training.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President