



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



April 19, 2021

Good afternoon, Lobos –

Many lessons have been learned over the past year, not least of which is that together we are stronger, more agile, more resilient and more compassionate. What connects us, builds us up. What divides us, breaks us down. We have weathered not only a global pandemic, but recurring waves of tragedy, intolerance and racism.

The time is right to make bold and lasting changes across our organizational and cultural environments—
together.

In preparing for both UNM's return to full operations this Fall and the development of the University's longer-term 2040 vision plan, we will be creating opportunities in the upcoming weeks and months for all Lobos to participate in various formats to both inform and inspire our future. I look forward to purposeful and proactive engagement to direct our organizational efforts and resources toward a clearly defined vision and action plan for The University for New Mexico.

Lobo Junior Named Truman Scholar

Lobos everywhere send their warmest [congratulations to Emma Hotz for her selection as a prestigious Truman Scholar](#)—one of only 62 students in the nation so honored in 2021. Emma is a junior studying Political Science and Sociology, with both a Political Science Honors designation and an Honors College designation. I had the great pleasure of calling Emma to notify her of her selection by the [Truman Scholarship Foundation](#) and am so proud of her talents and desire to effect positive change in our community. Emma's passion for education and public service have led her to leadership roles in student government, the Asian Pacific American Culture Center Student Initiative, LoboThon, and UNM Trailblazers, as well as internships in state and local government offices. She represents the very best of the Lobo spirit.

UNM EX-TRA Speaks to the World

At UNM, we take pride in a campus culture rooted in multiculturalism and find strength in our unity as one university. As Lobos, we strive to celebrate our diversity—and we're not about to let differences in language get in the way of understanding each other. I'm pleased, then, to announce the creation of [the UNM Excellence-in-Translation Center](#) (UNM EX-TRA), which provides both the general public and the university community with a wide array of translation services between English and—at the moment—Arabic, French, Korean, and Spanish. Under the direction of Lois Meyer, UNM EX-TRA is a collaboration between the UNM [Global Education Office](#) and the Language, Literacy, & Sociocultural Studies program in the [College of Education and Human Sciences](#). I'm excited by this opportunity to share our language expertise and to help make information even more broadly accessible.

Earth Day 2021

April 22 is Earth Day, and as we continue to adjust to finding new ways to reimagine traditions, there are many ways we can celebrate the incredible beauty and power of our planet and the Land of Enchantment. Consider planting a healthy garden; go for a hike or bike ride; make your own 'green plan'; or volunteer locally.

Having the good fortune to live on the Albuquerque campus has given me an opportunity to discover the wonders of UNM's designation as an arboretum—a living museum of hundreds of tree species. There is an exceptional amount of work that goes into keeping our campus sustainably green and clean, and it is thanks to outstanding staff in Facilities Management, including arborists, landscapers and groundskeepers, that UNM is one of the most beautiful open spaces in Albuquerque.

HSC Launches Online Magazine

There's so much going on at UNM's Health Sciences Center (HSC) that it can sometimes be hard to keep up with it all. To make the task easier, HSC is launching [The Pulse, an all-digital Health Sciences magazine](#), filled with interactive features, videos and profiles spanning all of our Health Sciences missions—educational, research, clinical and more. It's a great way to learn more about the work our Health Sciences Center is doing for our community, the state, and the globe. [A Spanish language version is also available.](#)

As always, please be sure you are [registered](#) and ready to receive your vaccination. We also encourage you to [report your vaccination status](#) through LoboCheckIn. This will help give us a better sense of the level of immunity in our community and will inform our decisions regarding in-person classes and activities into the summer and fall. Please also continue to wear your masks, maintain a safe physical distance, follow all signage, and wash your hands. New Mexicans are doing a good job flattening the curve, but there's still work to do to keep us all safe as we ensure New Mexicans get vaccinated.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and let's go, Lobos!

Regards,

Garnett S. Stokes
President